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Summary:

Computers excel at solving problems that matches their programmed skill sets but humans remain the champion in doing tasks that machines cannot do yet. Computers are better at storing and recalling information than humans. They also don't sleep and don't get tired. Their decisions are not clouded by emotions, feelings, wants and needs like mortals do. Even though computers are more efficient in some tasks, humans are still superior because we make decisions and do tasks based on instincts, common sense and life experiences. We humans, have creativity, imagination and inspiration which computers do not have at this time, or probably will never have.

Computers can already beat the best chess players, using their fast processors and reliable memory to strategize and plan many moves ahead, learning to narrow down and select the most optimal moves. But according to Professor Shlomo Maital, this is not intelligence, but merely speed at calculating the best possible move to beat chess champions. Computers are exceptional when doing repetitive mathematical task because they don't tire, according to Satya Mallick, the founder of Big Vision LLC, "computers can be trained to do reliable and repetitive visual recognition tasks, which creates plenty of data for the computer to learn"

As Murray Shanahan explains, "Computer cannot (yet) learn to achieve many different types of goals in a huge variety of environments like human do" Computers may mimic creativity by referring through works of art into a database, but that just following an instruction

set, says John Grohol, founder and CEO of PsychCentral.com. Jana Eggers, CEO of Nara Logics argues that computer cannot understand emotions even if they can determine it. Some experts say that future computers will “possess some of the traits that today are uniquely human”. Elon Musk and Ray Kurzweil warned against the potential terminator like future of AI but some thinkers like the author believes that machines are made to improve human lives, fight against deadly diseases like IBM’s Watson, rather than to exterminate humans. It's not man vs machine, it's a collaboration rather than a competition as Mallick says (Whitney, 2017).

Issue and Concern:

A major issue that resonates with me is the potential loss of jobs due to computers. As observed in some supermarkets and fast food restaurants (Peterson, 2017), checkout clerks are being replaced with self-checkout counters with computers. My concern is that if this is already happening right now, what more if the technology advances further. I heard about an AI that codes itself, this might replace (at least some) coding jobs in the future (Mak, 2017). In my friend’s workplace, they are slowly replacing human welders with robot welders which can weld faster and more accurately 24/7. Amazon has its robots to do the job of packing, stocking, and warehouse moving which is previously done by humans (What jobs are being taken over by robots and computers?, 2018). Drivers in general will also be out of jobs due to the advancement of self-driving automobiles (What jobs are being taken over by robots and computers?, 2018).

References

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