

I'm building a world-sized robot.

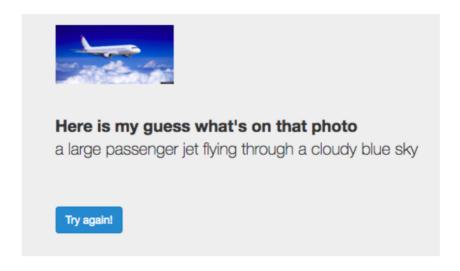
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So today I started building a robot - it's not the sharpest kid yet, but already a lot smarter than a mattress. Meet Marvyne, a refreshingly depressed robot that might remind you of a certain mechanoid from the "Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy". Hit him up on Twitter and have a chat!



While I'm writing this post, one of my friends is having a hilarious conversation with Marvyne on Twitter and I can't stop snickering. Again - at this point in time he can't do a lot, the interesting part is that it doesn't take a lot to bring him to the next level. Of course, Marvyne is a piece of software, and in this new internet of everything, he can interact with a growing list of services using APIs and machine learning.

I have already experimented with the Microsoft Cognitive Services where the system can *see*, *understand* and *recognize* things like photos, faces, speech, language, sentiments. Usually, once we understand how a piece of software works from the inside, we no longer think of it as intelligent. In this case, I'm already clueless as to how it can

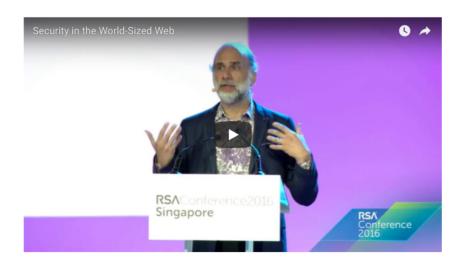


We can have Marvyne look at your profile photo, your recent tweets and he'll comment on them, based on what he believes you feel like, look like or what interests you. The possibilities are endless - whatever has an API can be integrated. Switching on the lights, scheduling a meeting, booking a flight.

There's a lot of use cases you can think of, I'm particularly excited about the ones that help you get stuff done faster at work. How about robots that create reports and email you a nice Excel sheet every morning? A chatbot you can ping on Skype when you're looking for information? How about robots that know how to fix minor IT issues and email or call you when they're stuck, and next time they'll have learned how to do it themselves?

Try this yourself: some of these things you can build by using the Azure Logic Apps, a workflow & integration engine on the cloud that connects with Twitter, Instagram, Office 365, SharePoint, Dropbox, Google Drive and many more. Try it for free, no signup needed. If you're a developer, check out the Microsoft Bot Framework and start building chatbots today!

The world-sized robot is an idea from Bruce Schneier - I was intrigued by his dark, but very relevant presentation at the RSA Conference in Singapore. Here's the video, and it really is worth watching.























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