

Artificial Intelligence: Fools Rush In

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Google introduced Duplex this week -- a digital assistant that "horrified" those confused about the distinction between humans and machines. Duplex is able to "converse" with a human caller with such sophistication that in a normal, limited, exchange there would be no way to detect the person is talking to a machine. The horrified ones want mandatory machine identification in order to prevent a rift in human identity that will be the equivalent of something like space-time going kablooey.

If AI in the narrow form of Duplex can create such hysteria one can scarcely imagine what lunacy AGI (Artificial General Intelligence), a machine intelligence equal to that of humans, will produce. What is left out of the equation is that AI researchers not only have so much to do, but have a slight additional problem -- because they haven't a clue as to what human intelligence is, there is no chance they can duplicate it.

Humans have created devices that can do much damage to humans since the dawn of homo sapiens. There is no doubt that advances in AI can be good or bad, and if it's bad it can be very bad, but it is readily countered by human species intelligence which is vastly superior than anything AI researchers can even imagine. The mathematical physicist Roger Penrose (partners with Stephen Hawking in Black Hole research) has written extensively on the distinctiveness of human consciousness and mind and that it cannot be recreated mathematically (algorithms and such). The Nobel winning neuroscientist Gerald Edelman has described the complexity of the human brain and body interacting with other humans and the natural world as equivalent to a second nature.

People have long been entertained by stories of mental confusion; of things appearing to be one thing when they really quite something other. From the Invasion of the Body Snatchers to the more all-encompassing Matrix-like fantasies. People who have seen the Matrix films can ramble on about all the clues they've discovered that reveal reality beneath the depicted scenario, yet they have no understanding that they actually live in such a world.

Humans live in a natural world like all other life forms, but they over the millennia have also developed a complex society, an artificial world, apart but within nature, that has its own laws and is the reality of our lives as it is lived.

Nothing can be more damning for the AI advocates than that they have yet to learn that humans, beginning from a quirk in primate development, have created and advanced the human intelligence that we have at the present. That we, using brain and body, thinking and doing, are the original makers of artificial intelligence and the world that we live in. But there is a reason why many have missed the obvious. All the peoples of the world live under repressive regimes. The more advanced the nation, the more sophisticated the means created to maintain that repression. From them we are told that what seems a product of our own making is really a product of a genetic program that we have no choice but to live through. So forget about liberation, don't bother to look for the cause of your condition in that special class of people that

rules the world. That is the system and those are the people who are the real threat to human existence.

Its FTSE closed at 7724, at or about an all time high even though every main area of its economy is in decline.

Argentina also presents an interesting example of how shitty right-wing rulers are blessed no matter what damage their slavish submission to capital has caused. That is Macri its current leader. The previous one resisted IMF demands, pulled out of that organization, and allowed its debt to default, for which she was vilified. So Macri now goes begging for \$30 billion which will be reimbursed at the cost of the well-being of the Argentinian. He is much like the right-wing criminal Temer who rules Brazil with 7% popular support but is loved by the few that matter.

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