8Aidan Hernandez

Mrs. Shore

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AI Won't Be The Death Of Us

Artificial intelligence has been a concept floating throughout the social sphere for decades now; Whether it be through real world technological breakthroughs such as speech recognition and social media, or movies and TV shows depicting them as cold killing robots, there's a seemingly never ending news source for these automations. While most media chooses to depict AI in a very dystopian manner, I believe that it is not only extremely beneficial for the future of our species, but in some ways already permanently ingrained. In mostly unseen ways to the public, artificial intelligence has already had huge impacts in our everyday lives. Whilst taken for granted in our modern age, search engines such as Google, and digital assistants like Siri or Alexa serve as a prime example of how AI has served to benefit humanity. The idea of semi-sentient, fully automated, and completely inhuman programs does sound scary at a glance; However, with the correct regulations I believe that artificial intelligence could single handedly propel us into a new era that was previously unachievable through human power alone.

Like previously mentioned, artificial intelligence without us realizing it, has already been incorporated into our day to day lives. Just going onto your favorite social media apps or looking up a simple fact on Google goes to show how reliant and integrated it has become. The phrase "Google it" wasn't something that existed until about 20 years ago, and apps such as Twitter,

Instagram, Facebook, etc., didn't exist either. These platforms use deep learning algorithms to essentially show you what you'd most likely want to see (Bye). It takes whatever information you give it (liked posts, certain searches, voluntary information) and it over time begins to develop a sense of your interests, eventually spitting back to you results that match those previous data inputs (Search Engines). The AI that run these web pages aren't omniscient however, still needing human supervision and input when necessary.

The future of artificial intelligence is extremely unclear. Multiple professionals in the fields of computer science, psychology, and physics all believe we are headed towards an inevitable technological singularity in regards to this research where humanity will become obsolete in comparison to our creation, with it having detrimental effects on not only humanity, but the universe as a whole. That, because of the lack of a conscience in machines, we will be eliminated by the algorithms we sought to improve the world with. However, contrary to popular belief, the issue of artificial intelligence is in all reality very manageable.

Even before the supposed apocalypse that will be caused by AI, these programs are already causing issues. Because of the easy automation processes that have been implemented in manufacturing jobs, thousands of people across the world have been left displaced without a job (Jobs). However, as AI rolls in, it opens the door for new opportunities, and for the workforce to bring their skills up. Just as humans do, computers also need constant supervision. As much as they seem it, they aren't perfect and need to be monitored and regulated constantly to make sure things continue to move smoothly. This jettisoning into a new era gives workers the chance to educate themselves, and achieve new positions previously unattainable because of how exclusive they seemed. No longer will lower economic class workers have to go through hours of mind

numbing labor with minimum pay, and instead learn to function on their computers as new engineers, software managers, and AI experts.

While the arcane details of AI remain largely unknown to the majority of people, they influence our decision making on a practically hour to hour basis (going as far as making the decisions in some scenarios). Technology is something that the human race practically specializes in. For the past few decades there has been an unprecedented new wave of inventions that have radically and permanently changed our way of life for the better. Artificial Intelligence isn't any different. The fear of it, while justified to some, can be managed through proper regulations through the involvement of larger authorities such as world governments. By taking cautious steps altogether, the present dangers can be avoided, or even used to our benefit.

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