



AI does not Exist!???



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One of my learned friend told me the other day that AI is all a BS. Because, real AI doesn't exist.

I agree with him!!!!

You see, my friend is an expert scientist, philosopher and one of the greatest thinkers. I have absolutely no choice than to agree with him. I mean, what chance does a simple engineer like me stand in a profound philosophical debate as this one against one of the most advanced thinker I have ever met? No chance at all. Absolutely, no chance at all.

But, then I thought - may be I should write an article about what AI can actually mean for a common person like me i.e. a dummy like me.

I do apology for rather odd topic from all readers. All of you reading this article are most probably far more knowledgeable than me.

So what is AI for me? AI for a common person? Does AI exist? Or a more advanced question - Does AI exist? Or does Real AI exist?

I asked my friend - What does AI mean to him?

He replied - AI is artificial intelligence. Intelligence that is Artificial. In other words - Intelligence that is Artificial that can replace the natural intelligence - that is us!

I would agree with him philosophically. For something to be called AI - it has to be intelligence as good as nature created intelligence but one that is created artificially. But that AI doesn't exist.

AI as it has come to imply today - is merely a marketing term - term used for selling stuff! And in marketing, as other english terms and phrases get hijacked to give special meaning to specific concept, object, task, functions etc. - AI also has specific meanings.

By now, almost everyone in literate world knows that AI stands for Artificial Intelligence. And to repeat what my friend said - the literal translation of AI would mean Intelligence that is Artificial. Intelligence that is not nature gifted but created artificially by living creatures (which in modern time has come to mean human beings only??!!).

In tis true sense AI can be scary. AI, it may appear that the artificially created intelligence or AI machines may replace the intelligence created by nature - that is US. After all, anytime machines put their hands in, they pretty much take over and drive humans away - Isn't it? That's what happened to the advertisement profession, the media profession, the printing profession, the army of IT professionals and may be to the profession of drivers (MAY BE!!). The list is long.

Following the same trend, this same should happen to intelligence created by nature (THAT IS US !!!!) (Recall the phrase "I think therefore I am")

If this was true - this would be really scary!

But Artificial Intelligence or Machine Intelligence or AI as it exists today or as it would exist in foreseeable future is not a replacement for nature-created master intelligence (our brain!). It is merely a helper. Merely an extension of the master intelligence created by nature - nothing more! Which means may be we should call it subsidiary intelligence (SI) or Intelligence Extension (IE) or something similar! Whatever, we call it the current hype of AI which may seem scary is simply an upgrade in making machines more capable by providing them slightly more intelligence than they have had so far. May be we can teach them some of the great capabilities that we ourselves possess such as learning, adaptability, intuition, sub-consciousness.

Machines have had better capabilities such as more muscle power, bigger size, faster speed, more precision, more steady and predictable control, higher capacity and many more such capabilities, for long time. There is nothing new. But in most part, machines lack advanced intelligence such as consciousness, deceptiveness (not sure if that is bad!), intuition.

Most machines also lack the the efficiency of living creatures - by far!! Technologies of the future will address some of this concern for machines but not likely to supersede human or other living creatures anytime soon - in my opinion.

AI as we know today and as far as we see in future will be a helper technology that would allow machines to adopt to our needs, language, preferences habits etc. It would enable machines to look at past activities and derive inferences from them. For our daily lives - AI would allow machines to become our eyes when we are not looking or are unable to look, extend our vision from two eyes to thousand eyes, become our ears beyond where our ears perform or when our natural ears start tanning out, extend our sensory mechanisms to activities that our sensory mechanisms cannot capture in its natural form, monitor and detect health or dangerous conditions or surroundings for us, help us predict a mechanical failure of other machines or our own muscles including our hearts, help us listen when our ears become weak, enable navigation in dark or storm monitor and predict the impact of slow changing environmental conditions and perform thousand of other activities that would enrich our lives.

On the higher capacity, big data based AI may help in DNA research, allow more pattern based supercomputing, enable large machines to monitor their own health to avert accidents, avoid road accidents, enable better fleet supply chain and fleet management.

Would AI replace some jobs that are currently being done by Humans - yes? But AI is unlikely to enable machines to develop a sub-consciousness or super-consciousness or animal like intuitions to the extent that machines can overpower humans - anytime in near or distant future. Such scary possibilities may arise in future but only after substantially more innovations in material science, compute efficiency, miniaturization, computer and software testing were to take place. But in my opinion those are far away!

There is one doomsday scare from AI powered machines though - their use in warfare! Remember - AI is a helper. It can be a powerful helper. Can we use this powerful helper to help us destroy each other - Absolutely! But then again - that would be our doing. Not that of AI powered machines.

Here, at Ambient Scientific - we are determined to use AI for human life enrichment. not its distraction.

And for my dear friend - yes, I agree. True AI that can replace natural AI doesn't exist. Modern AI is no more than a subsidiary AI (SI) :-)



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