

Artificial Intelligence and the Self-Aware Mind

I Over E: I think, therefore I am, magnified!

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Artificial intelligence is defined as the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems. Almost everyone is searching for a way to augment their intellectual processes. The market is inundated with natural and not so natural intelligence boosters, all purporting to raise human consciousness to the next level, or at least to improve intellectual functioning, and help prevent the typical effects of neurological aging such as dementia and Alzheimer's.

Presently, though machine driven human neurological enhancement is very certainly in development, much of what we see relating to artificial intelligence is directed toward businesses with the goal of making them more efficient and more profitable. Machines at that level are being taught to “think”, and we can see examples of this form of artificial intelligence right in our homes with machines like Alexa, Siri, and Google running some of the basic household functions.

Make no mistake about it, the eventual goal will be to see artificial intelligence evolved to the point where it becomes self-aware. In the human versus animal kingdom, we often talked about the kind of awareness humans possess as an “I think, and I know I am thinking” level of intellect. The human mind understands what it is thinking about, but also understands that it is, in fact thinking. The typical assumption is that in the animal kingdom, the first level applies. The animal thinks, however, we don't have a significant body of research evidence to conclude that the animal is aware that it is thinking.

All of humanity exists on a continuum, and all of it is subject to natural laws. We progress through various stages of existence, beginning at the most primal levels, and have evolved to higher order processes of thought and consciousness. We are a physical species, so at our most primal level, we operate in accordance with the physical demands of our bodies. From there, we progress to the emotional level of existence where we feel, and express what we feel. At these two levels, we have a more defined relationship with our animal friends.

At the third level, where we think, and where our consciousness exists and expresses itself, the separation from the animal kingdom begins to show itself. We think, we are aware that we think, we can apply out thinking to forecast future

events, and we can apply thought to higher levels of consciousness. We can become intelligent. This level of thinking helps us expand our consciousness into more abstract modes of thought. This is the level where artificial intelligence will be applied. Machines that do rudimentary chores have evolved into machines that think, and they are beginning to think for us. We can tell our home-based machines what we want them to do, and they will carry that action out with no further thought on our parts. Call this AI-101.

Preparing The Palate

Suffice it to say, the dye is cast for the movement into the more advanced forms of artificial intelligence. In all of my writings, and all of my teachings, I preach the notion of intellect over emotion. Where emotion continues to be a fundamental part of human existence, it should never supersede the power of the intellect. It's good to have feelings, but those feelings should be expressed in healthy terms, and should always serve our intellects. We, however, have not evolved sufficiently enough to see I over E (intellect over emotion) as our default way of functioning. We still acquiesce to our feelings. All too often, doing this introduces us to our own human frailty, and paves the way for difficult situations we experience in our lives.

The world, and all of us in it, will continue to evolve. As long as there is human existence, that will never change. Human evolution will continue. Roughly thirty years ago, computers became a staple in our homes, and since that time we have seen the initial evolution into those computer home assistants which help us organize our day, and our world. *We are letting them think for us.* This process will continue. As artificial intelligence moves through the business world, and continues to make its way into the more personal parts of our lives, we can only expect continued artificial intellectual evolution. Eventually, those little computer chips will be implanted routinely into our primal human bodies.

Human implementation is already being used on a routine basis to address injury, disease, and other life-threatening circumstances. As it becomes a normalized way of living, it will be expanded into the realm of enhanced quality of life, and finally into a more routine way of living. Artificial intelligence will become the human norm, with specialized features that can be made to order. When this happens, emotional expression will be remarkably affected. Maybe it will help us to become healthier expressors, or maybe the programming will

consist of reducing emotional expression in favor of enhanced intelligent thought as influenced by the inevitable marriage of computers and the human mind.

Building the Stronger Marriage

In my writings, I've expressed how unhealthy emotions, those born of fear, anger, protection, and at times, for personal profit, effect the human organism the same way viruses impact your home computer. Our natural human programming is designed for survival, longevity, and comfort. It allows us to live, to stay alive for a reasonable amount of time, and to be happy as we continue to live. Our intellects are well equipped with all the processes that are necessary to make this programming come alive and flourish. Emotions, especially those that interfere within intellectual processing, can throw a hot-blooded monkey wrench into the magnificence of the human intellect, seriously affecting the brain's ability to carry out these sophisticated life-enhancing processes.

As the movement toward more global and more comprehensive versions of artificial intelligence continues to gain momentum, it will be imperative that we become stronger intellectual beings. We must prepare our intellects for the inevitable infusion of artificial intelligence into the human life-force. Learning how to control our emotions, and to use them to assist in the implementation of our neurological processes can prepare our minds to accept the challenges which will accompany the evolution into computer driven, mind assisted intellectual functioning, and continued human evolution, now artificially enhanced.

Attempting to introduce artificial intelligence into the human neurological processing system will, in fact, be a marriage between the host and the machine. Two will become one. In any life-system, unification yields a new product. The strength of each partner has much to do with the quality of the finished product. The angry, aggressive, quick to respond way of living must give way to more subdued and rational ways of thought. We must focus our efforts on giving our intellects enough time to gather information which will help us gain a more realistic perspective regarding the people and events which enter our lives, and the decisions we must make based on that information. We must do everything we can to increase both our intellectual and our emotional IQs. We must prepare ourselves, the human host, to be a capable recipient of the artificial evolutionary component we are preparing to introduce into our lives.

Attempting to infuse emotionally driven intellects with the sophistication of the marriage between our minds and artificial intelligence could produce disastrous

results as we empower angry and aggressive thinkers with the limitless parameters of computer driven intellects. However, if we focus our efforts on enhancing our rational intellects, the marriage between our already sophisticated human neurological systems and the implantation of artificial intelligence could pave the way for a world that is not only free of suffering and disease, but whose potential for growth will be magnified beyond our wildest dreams.

In all aspects of human change and evolution, there is the change, and there is how the change will be used. The marriage of artificial intelligence and the human intellect will change the way the world operates, forever. We have control not only over what we are changing, but how we use what we are changing. Albert Einstein wrote that the true sign of intelligence is not knowledge, but imagination. Imagine what the human fraternity can do when the concepts of artificial intelligence unite with the human mind whose internal parameters are healthy, organized, and dedicated to the improvement of the human condition. The potential gains are limitless.

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