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Artificial Intelligence: A Boon Or A Curse

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Abstract

We are a privileged generation living in this era full of technological advancements. Gone are the days when almost every work was done manually and now we are living in a time where a lot of work is done by machines, software, and various automated processes. In this regard, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has a special place in all the advancements of today. Artificial Intelligence or AI is nothing but the science of computers and machines that develop intelligence like humans. In this technology, machines are able to perform some simple to complex tasks that humans need to perform on a regular basis. Since AI systems are used day in and day out in our daily lives, it would not be wrong to say that our lives have also been upgraded with the use of this technology. AI systems are efficient enough to reduce human efforts in various fields. To perform various activities in the industry, many of them are using Artificial Intelligence to create machine slaves that perform various activities on a regular basis. Artificial Intelligence applications help in completing the work faster and with accurate results. Error-free and efficient world is the main objective behind Artificial Intelligence. In recent years, many sectors have started using AI technology to reduce human efforts and get efficient and faster results. Obviously, the positive potential of Artificial Intelligence is indeed huge and still untapped. One of the major disadvantages of Artificial Intelligence is the potential theft of personal data, especially in healthcare, education and other sectors, as well as the misuse of citizen databases by private companies and security agencies. Artificial Intelligence systems controlling so many aspects of society raise ethical and privacy concerns. Preventing unauthorized access to sensitive information of both citizens and organizations is important. All digital information is vulnerable to hacking and misuse. Hence, there is a dire need for Artificial Intelligence enabled systems to handle data securely with relevant privacy safeguards. AI involves a lot of expense as it requires the latest hardware and software to remain relevant. As of now, AI capabilities are already limited by the data given to it and it lacks creativity. Unlike humans, AI cannot think of anything new or out of the box. Another disadvantage of AI is that it can make humans lazy. If repetitive tasks, calculations and data analysis are permanently handed over to robots, humans will potentially use their brains lesser and their reactions to any task or event will be sloppy.

Key Words: Artificial Intelligence, Autonomous system, Human brain, Unauthorised access, Humanity, etc.

Introduction

Technology is becoming very important in today's world and has changed the way we live. It has always been an essential component of civilization and can be found all around us in the form of interesting devices and gadgets. In fact, we cannot imagine a world without technology. Technology has progressed by going through several stages of development, starting with the discovery of fire by a caveman and ending with the most contemporary rocket science technology. In the early stages of technological development, technology was limited to tools like pulleys, levers, arrows, hammers or other devices that reduce human effort and allow humans to perform physical activities with minimal effort. The next stage, after the industrial revolution, saw a change in the way people viewed technology. Mechanically driven machines like vehicles, steam engines, computers and others appeared. All these machines enabled humans to go beyond their physical constraints. Automation is the final stage of technological development, in which an automated algorithm replaces human intervention. Today, technological breakthroughs have reached unprecedented levels; The World Wide Web did not exist 30 years ago, and as we all know, smartphones have only been in existence for a decade, but now far more sophisticated technology is at the forefront of changing the way people live.

Regardless of whether people know what Artificial Intelligence is and how it works or not, whenever they hear the term Artificial Intelligence, people immediately get a sense of fear and insecurity. The term Artificial Intelligence is often intimidating because of the misconception that Artificial Intelligence will one day overpower humans and robots will run the world. While there are still debates on whether Artificial Intelligence is good or bad, it is just a technology. Any technology is just a tool in the hands of the creator, which can be used as an enhancement tool or a weapon, which lies entirely in the hands of the person who uses it. Artificial Intelligence technology is not just limited to robots; it certainly goes beyond the human mind. In fact, robots or robotics is just one of the many manifestations of artificial intelligence. The manifestation of artificial intelligence is much more wide, deep and complex than we think. Whether the implementation and contribution of advanced artificial intelligence in every stage and field of our life is positive or negative, the undeniable fact we are aware of is that "artificial intelligence is inevitable." From computers, laptops to advanced androids and humanoids, they hold immense importance in almost all the fields like medicine, business, manufacturing, education, banking and many more.

Here comes the next important question. Is artificial intelligence equal to human intelligence? Can artificial intelligence perform human tasks? Can artificial intelligence compete with natural intelligence? The answer to this question is hypothetical and will vary at different times. As of now, artificial intelligence has not reached the level of biological intelligence, maybe it will in the future. Human computing skills and memory seem insignificant compared to the hardware and software mechanism of a machine, but that is definitely not the case; Human intelligence is attributed to experience and adaptive learning. Humans do not depend on previously given information or data to perform any task. The biological structure, layers, and depth of the human brain are unimaginably sophisticated and far more complex than any advanced machine. Machines still lag behind human intelligence. Human intelligence is integrated with several cognitive functions such as reasoning, understanding, learning, critical thinking, and perception, which makes them

different from machines. Even though Artificial Intelligence based machines are able to imitate human actions to some extent, their level of knowledge may shatter when it comes to making logical and rational decisions like humans. Artificial Intelligence enabled systems make decisions based on events and their association; however, they lack common sense. Artificial Intelligence technologies are oblivious to understanding the cause and effect relationship. Meanwhile, a holistic human approach is much more needed in real-world scenarios. However, undoubtedly technologies like Artificial Intelligence can motivate humans to perform various tasks more efficiently and effectively. Artificial Intelligence in Information Technology is a concept that defines the future. Artificial Intelligence technologies have not only changed the ways of computing; rather, Artificial Intelligence has entered almost all the industries and has changed them to a great extent.

Artificial intelligence is making the everyday life of humans easier as well as solving their tasks quickly. Artificial intelligence is playing its role in different ways in the interest of society and country in all these areas like trade, industry, agriculture, medicine, armed forces, health and education, sports, space, research and development. Artificial intelligence is being used in business through online payments, by starting other online startups, by reducing human resources. Artificial intelligence is a revolution in the field of industry because most of the work in the industry is being done by machines through software development, robotics, due to which there will be a reduction in the cost of productivity of industries. Artificial intelligence is being used on a large scale in farming through machines, by spraying pesticide fertilizers through drones so that the fertilizers do not affect the health of the farmers. Artificial intelligence in the field of medicine is a great discovery for humanity because with the help of nano technology and nano robots, doctors will be able to treat even the biggest diseases by giving medicines in a very accurate manner, which was not possible earlier and artificial intelligence can be used in medicine in many other ways. The role of artificial intelligence is also demonstrated in the armed forces in the war field through robots, ultra-modern missiles, fighter aircraft used to serve the country and society. Artificial intelligence is also waving its flag in the fields related to health and education, providing emergency medicines through drones, developing software like Chat GPT and Chat Bot so that the education system can be made more easy. With the help of artificial intelligence in the world of space, scientists are able to speed up their research work and are able to achieve success in making more advanced level discoveries. Due to artificial intelligence, research and development work is also easily benefiting the people of the society, such as; Smart cities, cleanliness drive, face recognition technology, cyber security, banking facility, smart card system, green energy production through solar panels and windmills. In this way, artificial intelligence is very closely associated with human life like a partner because in today's world no person is untouched by its effect.

Everything has two aspects, in the same way artificial intelligence can also be used against humanity, which can become a great threat to human civilization and recently 'Geoffrey Hinton', who is called the 'Godfather of Artificial Intelligence', who was working with Google for a decade, left his job so that he could make the world aware about the dangers of artificial intelligence and tell how it can harm humanity. Due to artificial intelligence, the feeling of belongingness is disappearing from the society, people have started preferring to spend more time with mechanical devices than with their loved ones. Due to artificial

intelligence, the daily tasks of people have become easier, but as a result, laziness and illness have started increasing among people. Artificial intelligence has now replaced human resources, due to which the problem of unemployment is increasing in the economy. With the advent of automation and technology, many jobs are being lost, the work of production and construction which was done by humans is now being done easily by automatic machines. Due to artificial intelligence, humans are not using their intelligence and are completely dependent on artificial chatbots and robots, due to which their innovative and creative intelligence is being lost. The software intelligence power of artificial intelligence is so strong that today it can obtain information related to the personal life of any person in the society, due to which the right to privacy of that person in the society is violated, such as; Pegasus spyware, malware others.

Artificial intelligence can become a huge threat to human civilization. If any information related to it reaches the hands of terrorists, then through terrorism they can destroy humanity by creating an atmosphere of terror in the world. Experts are also speculating that if more advanced technology is used in artificial intelligence, then automatic robots and machines themselves will become a threat to humans and if they develop the ability to think and understand, then they can also harm humans. There are many labour-intensive jobs for which humans get paid to earn a livelihood for themselves and their families. Examples include proof-reading and fact-checking documents, answering emails, planning travel itineraries, packaging luggage, assembly line production, house cleaning, public transport, answering the phone and many more such jobs. Since artificial intelligence can do repetitive tasks faster and better, robots can replace humans in these jobs. Even in specialized fields like art, music, literature and acting, AI is threatening human competitiveness. A recent example is the strike by Hollywood writers and actors against the low compensation being paid to them, where their existence is already under threat due to the use of AI in filmmaking. Humans have a sense of community and team, so a decision can be acceptable only if it proves to be right for the larger good. But AI will have no such hesitation and can even arrive at decisions that can potentially cause more harm than good to humans.

AI is objective, emotionless and rational in its results, while human intelligence is often driven by emotions. AI works only on available data, while humans rely on complete knowledge and life experience. Decisions made by AI and humans in any given situation may also differ due to fundamental differences between algorithms and the human brain. There will be a dilemma as to which decision to take and this situation becomes even more difficult when there is a lack of time to implement the decision or human life depends on it. Moreover, what if the rapid advances in bio-tech, med-tech and chip-tech lead to the creation of a Terminator-style humanoid robot in the near future? How will such a humanoid robot make decisions? These are indeed the important and exciting dilemmas faced by mankind due to the development of artificial intelligence. It is difficult to agree on whether artificial intelligence is a boon or a curse, but what is clear is that artificial intelligence is certainly revolutionary for mankind as a whole, and has the potential to shape human future in unimaginable ways.

Conclusion

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become a significant and influential force in modern society that is trying to give a new dimension to the way we live, work, think and interact with the world around us. Its impact is multi-faceted providing both significant benefits and challenges and giving rise to debates on its role as a curse or blessing. On the one hand, AI has the potential to boost innovation, streamline processes and increase productivity across various industries. It can analyse large amounts of data to inform decision making, optimize logistics and even aid in medical diagnosis, potentially saving lives. In addition, AI applications in areas such as climate change and resource management promise to address some of the most serious global issues. However, the rapid progress of Artificial Intelligence (AI) also raises concerns about job displacement, privacy and ethical considerations. Automation of tasks previously performed by humans may lead to significant changes in the labour market, requiring a re-evaluation of skills and education systems. Privacy issues emerge because artificial intelligence (AI) systems require access to large datasets to function effectively that often include personal information. Ethical dilemmas also arise, particularly in the development and deployment of autonomous systems that must make decisions without human intervention. The societal impact of artificial intelligence (AI) is not predetermined, it is shaped by the choices and policies of governments, industries, and individuals. Public participation and informed discourse are critical in steering the development of artificial intelligence (AI) toward beneficial outcomes while minimizing potential harm. As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to develop, it is imperative that society remains vigilant, ensuring that the technology is used for greater good rather than harmful purposes.

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