

The Creator and the Creation: When the Human Mind Meets its Mirror

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It all began with an intriguing conversation amongst friends and colleagues regarding the main theme of this issue—Minds & Machines. A thought came up during our discussion that *when we think about any AI system, the first thing that comes to our mind is which algorithm is used and its other ripples, like complexity, efficiency, etc. What does this AI system do, and what does it not do? But we are rarely concerned about the intention behind the creation of that AI system.* If the intention is considered as the source of any AI system, the system will mirror that intention—except for any potential side effects. At the same time, the creation of any AI system also offers a unique opportunity for self-reflection. It shows a potential path toward transcending the very limitations it exposes, given that AI can process data on a level that humans cannot. The best example of this is the famous Turing Test created by Alan Turing in the year 1950 (Turing, 1950). Most of us know what the Turing Test is and what it does. In fact, it is considered the birth of artificial intelligence.

Some believe (Kurzweil, 2005) that the development of AI will eventually lead to the following chain of events: AI passing the Turing test (Warwick & Shah, 2015) → AI achieving superintelligence (Gill, 2016) → AI replacing humanity (Nowak et al., 2018). Others believe that the Turing test has not been passed yet by AI (Ingram, 2014). A lot of debate

between these two sides is already underway. What we want to emphasize is, *what was the core intention behind the invention of the Turing test?* Alan Turing wanted to understand humanity through machines. He wanted to learn more about self-reflection and the nature of our own thinking. Like every coin with two sides, AI presents dual perspectives—an existential risk on one hand and a reflection of the human mind on the other. Together, they form two dimensions of the same evolving story: humanity's quest to understand itself through the very minds it creates.

The discussion further led the path to philosophical doorways of “AI as a human mirror” or “AI as an existential threat.” Much like the short film “Humans through the AI Looking Glass,” it is often discussed that the AI doesn't have a sense of self-preservation; it can only mimic human identity to some extent (The Science & Human Dimension Project, 2022). Humans are wonderful creatures capable of sensing nature, like feeling sunlight, which machines cannot. AI has a limited capability to acquire human values, biases, and a proclivity for inclusivity and justice. But it has the capacity to mimic digital inclusivity practiced by its creators (humans). Humans will always be a step ahead of AI, and we will see how remarkable they are as creators of their own replica (The Science & Human Dimension Project, 2022).

On the other hand, the film “The Matrix (1999)” (Wachowski & Wachowski, 1999) portrayed “AI as a potential threat.” The film depicts how machines could enslave humanity inside a simulated reality, known as the Matrix. The movie brings us to a question: Is AI in pursuit of the perfection of the human mind, or has it begun revealing how imperfect its maker still is? It reflects how human ingenuity in AI systems has begun to mirror the human mind itself—forcing us to question when creation becomes conscious and who truly holds power, the creator or the creation.

The dialogue between minds and machines is not merely about creation and control but also about understanding and intention. Every algorithm, no matter how advanced, begins as a reflection of human thought and purpose. If we remain mindful of why we built an AI system instead of focusing only on what we built, this system of intelligence can mirror our consciousness instead of being an attempt to replace humanity. This would help us see our own patterns, biases, and potential for growth.

Conflict of Interest

The author have no conflict of interest to declare.

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