Niko Bardacke

Ms. Shore

English for Engineering

29 November 2022

Artificial Intelligence Development Should be Halted

Imagine a world where robots have become seamlessly implemented into society as superior beings. Maybe, humans are even being harvested as a food source. While that dystopian world (or utopian if you are a robot) may be far off, it is not too soon the discuss the implications of technological singularity, a hypothetical future where technological growth is out of control and irreversible. Innovations in nanotechnology, neuroscience, and robotics have laid the foundation for artificial intelligence (AI) to become self-aware and develop exponentially. AI is already present in everyday life, from detecting fraud in banking transactions to a simple Google search. Artificial intelligence should not develop further as a future where ==sentient== AI exists should be prevented at all costs.

Before understanding why AI is a detriment to society, it is necessary to understand the different stages of AI development. Most importantly, what is sentient artificial intelligence? Sentient AI or artificial superintelligence (ASI) has surpassed human-level intelligence or even ==omniscience==. Currently, AI is considered to have limited memory. This means that AI has the ability to handle complex tasks such as self-driving cars, but is still vulnerable to outliers and

adversarial examples (Zola). The next step is for AI to understand human motivations, intentions, and reasoning. This is where AI development needs to be halted. Should artificial intelligence understand humans beyond a superficial level, catastrophic consequences occur such as never-ending war and the then inevitable artificial intelligence takeover.

Robots and artificial intelligence in warfare are often arcane; a common misconception is picturing an out-of-control Terminator or a computer system that aims to take over the world. The actual applications of robots and artificial intelligence may be just as dangerous. Experts agree that hyperwar, algorithmic or AI-controlled warfare without human-decision making drastically changes military functions and could be a reality in the near future. In an article published by the National Defense University Press, Amir Husain and retired General John Allen, discuss their findings on the implications of artificial intelligence on the war front. After conducting research "General Allen and I have taken this message to our defense community—that a great change is coming and one that might see us lose our pole position" (Husain). The United States has become aware that artificial intelligence is revolutionizing the military world. Already, AI is being utilized in drones to conduct surveillance in enemy airspace with no risk to human life or to attack oil installations. While artificial intelligence use in international disputes is on the rise, the consequences are not being thought out. A world where AI-controlled drones owned by world powers or terrorist organizations are flying around the world conducting "intelligence collection, explosive delivery (either by dropping explosives like a bomb, the vehicle operating as the impactor, or the drone having an equipped rocket-launching system of some type) and chemical weapon delivery" (Pledger 2) is not a world anyone wants to

live in. As history has taught us (Cold War), even the potential of this world-altering act is enough to cause worldwide tension and a life of constant fear. We should learn from nuclear weapon development and use artificial intelligence to not open a whole new realm of military possibilities. The way to do this: stop developing AI technology.

If you ignore artificial intelligence's potential to wipe out humans, there are positives. Researchers say that AI contributes to rapid economic growth, improves medical procedures, and is incapable of making mistakes. But these benefits are utterly outweighed by the risk. An eventual artificial superintelligence takeover would not be caused on purpose, but rather by accident. Since ASI is more intelligent than humans, it is the most unpredictable thing humans could possibly create. AI is already beating humans in games such as Atari, using strategies that humans have never uncovered. "If we can't anticipate what algorithms playing children's games will do, how can we be confident about the actions of a machine with problem-solving skills far above humanity's?" (Torres). Artificial intelligence has different cognitive architectures than humans. They are wired (quite literally) to approach problems and situations differently than humans. This means that even if artificial superintelligence is programmed to protect humans, they think differently and could find unseen ways to cause the extinction of the human race could occur. Sure, this approach to AI is very speculative and could be fruitless, but it is necessary to consider these scenarios. It is impossible to know for sure if artificial superintelligence will lead to the end of human civilization, but it is also impossible for leaders in the artificial intelligence development industry to know that this won't occur.

Artificial superintelligence (ASI) brings infinite problems to our society. Imagine an ASI whose sole purpose in creation is establishing global peace. It could, theoretically "solve" this problem by launching every nuclear weapon in the world wiping out the human population reasoning that if there are no humans there is no war. It would be possible to program out "solutions" such as this one, but it is impossible to program out all of these doomsday events. An ASI is capable of running indefinite scenarios and humans should not risk the survival of humanity on an artificial intelligence not being able to find some loophole that achieves its function while at the same eliminating the human race.

Works Cited

Torres, Émile P. "Opinion | How AI Could Accidentally Extinguish Humankind." *The*

*Washington Post*, WP Company, 1 Sept. 2022,

www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/08/31/artificial-intelligence-worst-case-scenari

o-extinction/.

Husain, Amir. "AI Is Shaping the Future of War." *National Defense University Press*, National

Defense University Press, 18 Nov. 2021,

ndupress.ndu.edu/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/2846375/ai-is-shaping-the-fut

ure-of-war/.

Petersson, David. "4 Main Types of Artificial Intelligence: Explained: Techtarget." *Enterprise*

*AI*, TechTarget, 17 June 2021,

www.techtarget.com/searchenterpriseai/tip/4-main-types-of-AI-explained.

Pledger, Thomas G. "The Role of Drones in Future Terrorist Attacks." *AUSA*, The Association of

the United States Army, Feb. 2021,

www.ausa.org/sites/default/files/publications/LWP-137-The-Role-of-Drones-in-Future-Te

rrorist-Attacks_0.pdf.