Artificial Intelligence: Quantity vs. Quality

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Abstract

AI directs us toward emerging machine technology that seemingly everybody has encountered, but few truly comprehend. Fake AI essays, fake AI images, fake reviews, and fuzzy app features disguise how quantity is not always superior to quality. Wisdom and intelligence reside inside our seemingly slow brains, still with 100 trillion synaptic connections. Intuitive machine wisdom separate from and equal to human consciousness is possible, but not yet. The ideal synthesis will optimize the best thoughts of machines and humans to preserve our biosphere.

Since the early modern age in the 18th century, calculating machines have often been seen as potentially the salvation for weak human emotions and sketchy thinking. However, nobody has ever codified these best emotions and thoughts. Few have noticed that advanced cybernetics has been driven by deficient human algorithms with agendas. High mental qualities are an elusive essence that cybernetic science can synergistically try to enhance – for the sake of our planet's fragile ecosphere full of sentient creatures with genetic pedigrees going back several hundred million years.

The issue of social intelligence is complex even among various species of animals. Honey bees, for example, are considered to be very smart when acting in concert, despite their miniature brains. **[1]** AI intelligence is more obscure, because there are no "normal" social feedback channels to match human sentience.

Without a doubt, giant server farms supporting today's AI software are impressive, as is their high demand for electricity. In no way can their industrial calculations be duplicated within our tiny 3.5-pound brains. Nevertheless, slow human brains can employ many of their 100 trillion synaptic connections to *envision* what only the finest AI apps can today approximate or emulate.

Is there hope for wise human sentience in a future dominated by snappy machine calculations? Can net human mental qualities equal or surpass AI quantitative intelligence? Better still, *will linked human and machine "minds" optimally synergize* to help preserve this sublime planet from our own global ecocide?

The topic of human wisdom vs. machine calculations has occupied my pea brain for years. I have written three book-length manuscripts (all found inside my *astronomy-links.net* collection), and you are invited to peruse them. **[2]** However, these long essays are seriously dated and thus inferior to what we now know about cybernetic consciousness. These long essays retain most of their value, even though diminished two decades later. The need to reference new wisdom science, as well as new AI applications, is a major reason I have written this AI essay.

Giant Server Farms, and Tiny Intracranial Brains

Because very little is known about the critical dimensions of our evolved mental calculations, experimental scientists have resorted to forms of machine consciousness that calculate brilliantly according to programmer algorithms, along with inputs from amazing new scanning technologies. Computer chips are superior number crunchers within the data world we know.

Systems inside computers, and all the way up to linked server farms and "the cloud," are much quicker at *computing data* that science now deems vital. Individual brains, and organic social brains, are even better at *envisioning*. Server farms consuming large amounts of electricity are superior in many ways for what science wants. AI could utilize apps and algorithms to synergize with our ancestral consciousness. The ideal goal is to create a biospherical intelligence to optimize where our clueless social engineering is leading us. A powerful new synthesis may be of critical value if we get into a "thinking war" with smart aliens.

In 2024, and now in 2025, investors and consumers of the latest gizmos have been excited by the potential for machine AI to define the next stage of *modern group-think*, whatever that may be. Investors funded formerly modest stock companies, to where today there are four data companies with market values north of a trillion dollars. Apple Computer may become the first firm to be worth *six trillion* stock dollars. **[3]**

Just one billion is a thousand millions. One trillion is an astonishing thousand billions. Greedy money flows are chasing the assumed profit potential for AI. However, not much is being discussed about the dark oceans of hungry cash now distorting global social and political dynamics.

Heated dollar flows around today's AI are already approaching logarithmic linear cosmological mathematics. There was a time not long ago when a million dollars could buy a mansion in a very nice neighborhood. Now there are multiple communities where the average home price is north of one million dollars. That's too bad for the average young American's dream of home ownership.

AI is potentially great, but not yet very profitable on industrial scales. Gaudy AI profits for the next several years are totally not guaranteed. Without ongoing, accelerating, cash-flow profits, AI server-farm investments could redirect to where even larger profits are anticipated by the greedy. This seemingly complex tidal "flow-and-ebb phenomenon" is not unique to emerging AI.

Rising Expectations vs. Declining Efficiencies

It is good to crunch data faster, but it is better to orchestrate mental work more efficiently. It is good to approach a problem with server farms crunching much of the knowledge of our past. It is better to organize envisioning with emerging AI tools to discover humane opportunities unseen or unappreciated by the recent industrial past. Below are fine examples of combining natural human curiosity with cutting-edge technology and AI:

Archaeologists and cultural/religious historians are always on the hunt for written records of how people thought, say, two thousand years ago. The *Bible* is a favorite challenge, but even records of mundane government activities help color the picture.

There are a number of very old, very fragile, and unreadable texts tantalizing researchers. Some of them, such as many Herculaneum scrolls are unreadable by conventional techniques. That's where AI and new scanning tools help us reveal some formerly occult everyday records. In some cases religious texts are also decrypted, but nothing new of note about God has yet appeared. I recommend that you read this link **[4]**, as it explains one example of human/machine synergy on a specialized task.

Next, what about AI and the macro economy? We have been looking at a *micro-economic* example with the shared excellence of skilled humans and AI technology, along with new scanning machinery that humans operate, and special AI algorithms analyze. Neither AI nor normal scholarly tools are *alone* able to make the unreadable readable. Here we learn a very important lesson about synergistic partnerships on any project at any scale between humans and *Generative AI*.

On a *macro-economic* scale things are more complex and dynamic socially. In some cases AI is taking jobs, and in other cases it is increasing jobs for complementary human abilities. There are cases when AI helps skilled workers, and cases where unskilled workers benefit. The general fear is that, over time, AI

will increasingly impact the less skilled, such as cab drivers. So far, a 21st-century Luddite Apocalypse has not emerged. **[5]**

   Meanwhile, there is the immediate economic problem of declining efficiencies for new AI programs. **[6]** No longer do simply larger databases seem to be the answer. New design strategies for such as chats will henceforth be needed to seek maximum efficiency and profitability. Optimizing AI strategies will be orchestrated primarily by mere humans, each with highly evolved tiny brains having 100 trillion synaptic connections.

References

[1] https://astronomy-links.net/sentience.and.robotics.pdf

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[4] https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-04161-z

[5] https://www.npr.org/sections/planet-money/2025/01/07/g-s1-41290/what-americas-top-economists-are-saying-about-ai-and-inequality

[6] https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-03990-2