The power of the machine

Imagine if... machines became smarter than us

Artificial intelligence

By 2071, developments in artificial intelligence had resulted in sentient machines and general intelligence. Machines have already started to excel in specific disciplines, for instance, empowering sustainable secure technology with low carbon emissions. AI has begun to reshape our world, changing the nature of work. Effective exploitation of AI has created competitive advantage in many areas for nations and corporations.

The sophistication of AIs has disrupted our society. At best we establish a beneficial partnership with AIs, at worst they have a potential for social disruption akin to the industrial revolution as people are disenfranchised and discarded.

The frameworks to oversee and monitor the application of AI must evolve quickly and will inevitably involve oversight of AIs by other AIs. Societal debates over the limits of AI capability and the moral complexities of their application will lag the evolution of the technology itself.

Legal debates on the corporate status of AIs and their agency in acting on behalf of people continue, along with responsibility for harm caused by the use of AI technology.

The application of AI technology has the potential to create a new arms race.Some regimes will use AI to reinforce their national security and advantage; other societies will collaborate to innovate around AI but will struggle to establish regulatory norms given the pace of technology development.

Organized crime will exploit the technology through adversarial AIs, but so will nation states in defending their interests. The AI to AI interactions will outpace the ability of people to understand and constrain their interactions and emergent behaviors.

"Instilling trust in AI models involves proactively ensuring smart systems are built responsibly and following international standards that protect the privacy and security of nations and governments."

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