

1 *Review*

2 **From Homo Sapiens to Robo Sapiens: The Evolution** 3 **of Intelligence**

4 **Anat Ringel Raveh and Boaz Tamir**

5 Faculty of interdisciplinary studies, S.T.S. Program, Bar-Ilan University, Ramat-Gan, Israel

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7 **Abstract:** In this paper we present a review of recent developments in AI towards the possibility of
8 an artificial intelligence equals that of human intelligence. AI technology has always shown a
9 stepwise increase in its capacity and complexity. The last step took place several years ago, with the
10 increased progress in deep neural network technology. Each such step goes hand in hand with our
11 understanding of ourselves and our understanding of human cognition. Indeed, AI was always
12 about the question of understanding human nature. AI percolates into our lives, changing our
13 environment. We believe that the next few steps in AI technology, and in our understanding of
14 human behavior, will bring about much more powerful machines, flexible enough to resemble
15 human behavior. In this context, there are two research fields: Artificial Social Intelligence (ASI) and
16 General Artificial Intelligence (AGI). The authors also allude to one of the main challenges for AI,
17 embodied cognition, and explain how it can be viewed as an opportunity for further progress in AI
18 research.

19 **Keywords:** Artificial Intelligence (AI); artificial general intelligence (AGI); artificial social
20 intelligence (ASI); social sciences; singularity; complexity; embodied cognition; value alignment

21

22 **1. Introduction**

23 *1.1. From intelligence to super-intelligence*

24 In this paper we present a review of recent developments in AI towards the possibility of an
25 artificial intelligence equals that of human intelligence. So far AI technology has shown a stepwise
26 increase in its capacity and in its complexity (section 2). The last step took place several years ago,
27 due to increased progress in deep neural network technology. Each such step goes hand in hand with
28 our understanding of ourselves and our understanding of human cognition (section 3). Indeed AI
29 was always about the question of understanding human nature.

30 There is still a long way to go before we can talk about a singularity point. AI is still a weak
31 technology, still too rigid, and too specific to become similar to human intelligence. However, we
32 believe the next few steps in AI technology and in our understanding of human behavior, will bring
33 about much more powerful machines, flexible enough to resemble human behavior. An important
34 major research project in this context is Artificial Social Intelligence (ASI), which we shall shortly
35 describe (section 4). The second project is a new challenge which is known as Artificial General
36 Intelligence (AGI) (section 5). AGI brings about a new approach which is much more flexible and
37 closer to human intelligence. It also suggests a model of consciousness, a new approach to the
38 question of learning, a model of self-referential machines, etc.

39 One of the biggest challenges for AI is that of embodied cognition. If AI could surpass this
40 hurdle, it will get even closer to true human intelligence. Embodied cognition was first presented as
41 the main reason why AI is impossible. We propose to view embodied cognition as a new challenge
42 to AI and not as an imposition (section 6).

43 We end the discussion by demonstrating a way to overcome our fears of singularity, by the
44 process of value alignment, which is expanded upon in section 7.

45 1.2. *The Human-Machine eco-system*

46 From ancient myths of inanimate objects coming alive to the creation of artificial intelligence,
47 philosophers, scientists, writers, and artists have pondered the very nature and boundaries of
48 humanity. Humans are fascinated by machines that can imitate us but also feel an existential
49 discomfort around them- an uneasiness that stems from their ability to obscure the line between the
50 living and the inanimate.

51 Claude Levi-Strauss (1969) has examined how the individual process of constructing reality is
52 related to how an entire society develops and maintains its worldview. He argued that the most
53 common way in which both an individual and a community put together a structure of reality is
54 through the use of binary categories. An individual makes sense of the world by organizing things
55 in a series of dual oppositions such as dark/light, living/dead, feminine/masculine, emotion/logic,
56 and so on, which lead to the community's development of more abstract concepts like, chaos/order,
57 natural/unnatural, normal/abnormal, subjectivity/objectivity, and moral/immoral. Such a
58 predetermined schema of reality provides the confidence people need to face the world and explore
59 its boundaries.

60 As far as our relationship to thinking machines is concerned, it seems that the worldview we
61 have developed for ourselves over time has become pessimistic as the pace of technology
62 development increased. While in the past automata have entertained us mainly because they
63 mimicked human behavior in an inaccurate and ridiculous way that revealed the fact that it was a
64 trick, artificially intelligent machines today can successfully mimic an increasing number of the
65 human's traits, such as natural human language and thought patterns. These traits have always
66 separated us from all the other living creatures; and the fact that this primal distinction between
67 human beings and technology is blurrier than it has ever been, mostly creates fear (Kang 2011).

68 However, as Strate (2017) explains, "At the very least what ought to be clear is that the physical
69 universe and the biophysical environment are not entirely different and distinct from technology, but
70 are part of a continuum." (p. 70). The view underling this argument is an ecological or systems view
71 which "emphasize the interdependence and interactive relationships that exist, as all forms of life
72 alter their conditions simply by their very presence, by their metabolism, for example, and through
73 their reproduction." (p. 62).

74 Hence, instead of the dichotomous narrative of us- human beings- vs. them- super-intelligent
75 machines, we should understand both ourselves and AI as parts of a complex and dynamic eco-
76 system. While it might be that we are only a stepping stone on the path of the universe towards an
77 even greater complexity, we have an important and special role; as argued by McLuhan (1964),
78 technologies and media "also depend upon us for their interplay and their evolution" (p. 57), and if
79 we carefully examine their actions, we will see that there is no reason to fear.

80 2. State of the Art: Stepwise incremental AI

81 In our view, the best way to describe the developmental process of AI so far is as a stepwise
82 incremental progress, and using an analogy from physics, AI "percolates" into our lives. It could
83 indeed make a phase transition into a higher level of complexity above our own, a process we will
84 shortly discuss. But first we want to describe the ongoing process of stepwise incremental AI.

85 In January 2017 McKinsey (Manyika et al. 2017) published a comprehensive report that maps
86 the progress of artificial intelligence in a variety of areas. The five areas, described herein, are further
87 broken down into other sub-tasks and sub-capabilities:

88 **Sensory perception-** "This includes visual perception, tactile sensing, and auditory sensing, and
89 involves complex external perception through integrating and analyzing data from various sensors
90 in the physical world." (Ibid, p. 34). In this area the performance level is median compared to humans.

91 Take machine vision as an example. The creation and assimilation of visual capabilities that
92 surpass human vision in cameras, have been relatively easy. However, the more complex part was

93 to add AI technology to the cameras. One such project is Landing.ai (<https://www.landing.ai/>),
94 formed by Andrew Ng, a globally recognized leader in AI. This startup focuses on solving
95 manufacturing problems such as Quality Control (QC). It offers machine-vision tools to detect
96 microscopic defects that may be found in products such as circuit boards, and which the human eye
97 simply cannot detect.

98 Another recent and interesting project deals with machine touch. In the paper “Learning
99 Dexterous In-Hand Manipulation” (Andrychowicz et al. 2018), a team of researchers and engineers
100 at OpenAI have demonstrated that in-hand manipulation skills learned with reinforcement learning
101 in a simulator can evolve into a fairly high level of dexterity of the robotic hand. As they explain:
102 “This is possible due to extensive randomizations of the simulator, large-scale distributed training
103 infrastructure, policies with memory, and a choice of sensing modalities which can be modelled in
104 the simulator.” (p. 15). The researchers’ method “did not rely on any human demonstrations, but
105 many behaviors found in human manipulation emerge naturally, including finger gaiting, multi-
106 finger coordination, and the controlled use of gravity”. (p. 1).

107 **Cognitive capabilities-** “A range of capabilities is included in this category including
108 recognizing known patterns and categories (other than through sensory perception); creating and
109 recognizing novel patterns and categories; logical reasoning and problem solving using contextual
110 information and increasingly complex input variables; optimization and planning to achieve specific
111 objectives given various constraints; creating diverse and novel ideas or a novel combination of ideas;
112 information retrieval, which involves searching and retrieving information from a large range of
113 sources; coordination with multiple agents, which involves interacting with other machines and with
114 humans to coordinate group activity; and output articulation and presentation, which involves
115 delivering outputs other than through natural language. These could be automated production of
116 pictures, diagrams, graphs, or mixed media presentations.” (Manyika et al. 2017, p. 34).

117 By using these capabilities, AI can amplify our own abilities: “Artificial intelligence can boost
118 our analytic and decision-making abilities by providing the right information at the right time. But it
119 can also heighten creativity”. (Chui & Francisco 2017, p. 34). Consider for example Autodesk’s
120 Dreamcatcher AI which enhances the imagination of designers. As explained in the company’s
121 website:

122 “Dreamcatcher is a generative design system that enables designers to craft a definition of their
123 design problem through goals and constraints. This information is used to synthesize alternative
124 solutions that meet the objectives. Designers are able to explore trade-offs between many alternative
125 approaches and select design solutions for manufacture.”
126 (<https://autodeskresearch.com/projects/dreamcatcher>)

127 Some of the cognitive capabilities **have achieved human level performance** “such as
128 recognizing simple/complex known patterns and categories other than sensory perception; Search
129 and retrieve information from a large scale of sources- breadth, depth, and degree of integration.”
130 (Manyika et al. 2017, p. 35). However, other capabilities **are currently below median performance**
131 such as create and recognize new patterns/categories; solve problems in an organized way using
132 contextual information and increasingly complex input variables other than optimization and
133 planning; create diverse and novel ideas, or novel combinations of ideas. (Ibid).

134 **Natural language processing-** “This consists of two distinct parts: natural language generation,
135 which is the ability to deliver spoken messages, including with nuanced human interaction and
136 gestures, and natural language understanding, which is the comprehension of language and nuanced
137 linguistic communication in all its rich complexity.” (Ibid, p. 34). As for Natural language generation,
138 although there is progress in this area (such as Google duplex), the levels of performance according
139 to the report are at best median. When it comes to Natural Language understanding, there is a long
140 way ahead of us.

141 Yet, an example for an effective implementation of these capabilities (and more) is Aida
142 (<http://aidatech.io/>), a virtual assistant that is being used by SEB, a major Swedish bank. Aida interacts
143 with masses of customers through natural-language conversations, and therefore has access to vast
144 amounts of data. “This way she can answer many frequently asked questions, such as how to open

145 an account or make cross-border payments. She can also ask callers follow-up questions to solve their
146 problems, and she's able to analyze a caller's tone of voice and use that information to provide better
147 service later." (Wilson and Daugherty 2018, para. 16).

148 *Physical capabilities*- This includes gross motor skills, navigation (these two have reached
149 human level performance), fine motor skills and mobility (these are more difficult and hence the
150 performance levels are currently still median and below). "These capabilities could be implemented
151 by robots or other machines manipulating objects with dexterity and sensitivity, moving objects with
152 multidimensional motor skills, autonomously navigating in various environments and moving
153 within and across various environments and terrain." ((Manyika et al. 2017, p. 35).

154 While AIs like Cortana are essentially digital entities, there are other applications where
155 "intelligence is embodied in a robot that **augments** a human worker. With their sophisticated sensors,
156 motors, and actuators, AI-enabled machines can now recognize people and objects and work safely
157 alongside humans in factories, warehouses, and laboratories." (Wilson and Daugherty 2018, para. 16,
158 our emphasis).

159 "Cobots" are probably the best example here. Collaborative robots, as Gonzalez (2018) explains,
160 "excel because they can function in areas of work previously occupied only by their human
161 counterparts. They are designed with inherent safety features like force feedback and collision
162 detection, making them safe to work right next to human operators." (para. 2).

163 Based on a white paper that Universal Robots- one of the leading companies in the robot market-
164 has published (2018), Gonzalez lists the seven most common applications for Cobots. One of them,
165 for example, is "pick and place": "A pick and place task is any in which a workpiece is picked up and
166 placed in a different location. This could mean a packaging function or a sort function from a tray or
167 conveyor; the later [sic] often requires advanced vision systems." (para. 3).

168 *Social and emotional capabilities*- "This consists of three types of capability: social and
169 emotional **sensing**, which involves identifying a person's social and emotional state; social and
170 emotional **reasoning**, which entails accurately drawing conclusions based on a person's social and
171 emotional state, and determining an appropriate response; and social and emotional **action**, which is
172 the production of an appropriate social or emotional response, both in words and through body
173 language." (Manyika et al. 2017, p. 34).

174 Let us Consider Mattersight as an example. The company provides a highly sophisticated data
175 analysis system that tracks customer' responses on the telephone. The software analyzes varied
176 communicative micro-features such as, tone, volume, word choice, pauses, and so on. Then, in a
177 matter of a few seconds, A.I algorithms interpret these features, compare them to the company's
178 databases, and come up with a personality profile for each customer. Based on this profile, the
179 customer will be referred to the most appropriate service agent for him. (Stevens 2013).

180
181 To sum-up the report, Manyika et al. (2017) notes that from a mechanical point of view, they are
182 fairly certain that perfection can be achieved. Because, already today, through deep reinforcement
183 learning for example, robots can untie shoelaces and remove a nail from the back of a hammer.
184 However, from the cognitive point of view, although the robot's "intelligence", has progressed, this
185 is still where the greatest technical challenge lie:

186 "While machines can be trained to perform a range of cognitive tasks, they remain limited. They
187 are not yet good at putting knowledge into context, let alone improvising. They have little of the
188 common sense that is the essence of human experience and emotion. They struggle to operate without
189 a pre-defined methodology. They are far more literal than people, and poor at picking up social or
190 emotional cues. They generally cannot detect whether a customer is upset at a hospital bill or a death
191 in the family, and for now, they cannot answer "What do you think about the people in this
192 photograph?" or other open-ended questions. They can tell jokes without really understanding them.
193 They don't feel humiliation, fear, pride, anger, or happiness. They also struggle with disambiguation,
194 unsure whether a mention of the word "mercury" refers to a planet, a metal, or the winged god of
195 Roman mythology. Moreover, while machines can replicate individual performance capabilities such

196 as fine motor skills or navigation, much work remains to be done integrating these different
197 capabilities into holistic solutions where everything works together seamlessly." (Ibid, pp. 26-7).

198 3. A.I. goes hand in hand with our understanding of ourselves

199 Singularity is based on several assumptions: first, that there is a clear notion of what is human
200 intelligence; and second, that AI can decrease the gap between human intelligence and machine
201 intelligence. However, both of these assumptions are not clear yet. What is becoming more and more
202 apparent is that AI goes hand in hand with our understanding of our own human intelligence and
203 behavior.

204 "Intelligence" is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that has for years interested
205 researchers from countless fields of study. Among others, intelligence is studied from psychological,
206 biological, economical, statistical, engineering, and neurological perspectives. New insights emerge
207 over time from the various disciplines, many of which are adopted into the science of AI and
208 contribute to its development and progress. The most striking example is the special and fruitful
209 interrelationship between artificial intelligence and cognitive science.

210 Cognitive science and artificial intelligence arose at about the same time, in the late 1950s, and
211 grew out of two main developments: "(1) the invention of computers and the attempts soon thereafter
212 to design programs that could do the kinds of tasks that humans do, and (2) the development of
213 information-processing psychology, later called cognitive psychology, which attempted to specify
214 the internal processing involved in perception, memory, and thought. Cognitive science was a
215 synthesis of the two, concerned both with the details of human cognitive processing and with the
216 computational modeling of those processes." (Collins and Smith 1988, p. 1).

217 What AI does best is **analyze, categorize, and find the relationships** between large amounts of
218 data, quickly and very effectively, coming up with highly accurate predictions. These capabilities, as
219 Collins and Smith explained in 1988, were the outcome of three foci that have turned out to be three
220 major bases for progress in AI: **formalisms**- such as mean-ends analysis, which are standard methods
221 for representing and implementing cognitive processes; **tools or languages** for building intelligent
222 programs such as John McCarthy's LISP (1978); and **programs**- beginning with the Dendral project
223 (Lindsay, Buchanan, Feigenbaum and Lederberg 1980), the first expert system to allow the formation
224 of a scientific hypothesis.

225 "By contrast, psychology historically has made progress mainly by accumulating empirical
226 phenomena and data, with far less emphasis on theorizing of the sort found in artificial intelligence.
227 More specifically, psychological theories have tended to be constructed just to explain data in some
228 experimental paradigm, and have tended to be lacking a well-founded mechanism, probably a relic
229 of the behavioristic or stimulus-response approach that dominated psychology from the 1920s
230 through the 1950s." (Collins and Smith 1988, p. 2).

231 At first, AI was mistakenly identified with the mechanical psychological viewpoint of
232 behaviorism. The physicalism of stimulus and response looked similar to the action of computers, a
233 reduction of man into its gears (Boden [1977] 1978). In psychology, a more 'humanistic' view of the
234 science was demanded. It was agreed by all 'humanistic' psychologists that a good theory should be
235 irreducible, its terms cannot be reduced to simple physical constituents, and that terms such as
236 'intention' should have a major part in the theory. Moreover, any action should have some meaning
237 to the actor, and the meaning should be subjective. The 'humanistic' approach to psychology was a
238 scientific revolution against positivistic psychology (in the Kuhnian sense, Ibid, p. 396). It turned out
239 that AI came to be very similar to the 'humanistic' viewpoint. Both AI and cognitive science were
240 beginning to ask similar questions and to use many similar terms.

241 What was needed for a science of cognition was a much richer notion of knowledge
242 representation and process mechanisms; and that is what artificial intelligence has provided.
243 Cognitive psychologists gained a rich set of formalisms to use in characterizing human cognition.
244 (Collins and Smith 1988, p. 2). Some of the early and most important formalisms were *means-ends*
245 *analysis* (Newell and Simon 1963), *Discrimination nets* (Feigenbaum 1963), *Semantic networks* (Quillian
246 1968), *Frames and scripts* (Minsky 1975; Schank and Abelson 1977), *Production systems* (Newell and

247 Simon 1972), *Semantic primitives* (Schank 1972; Norman and Rumelhart 1975), *Incremental qualitative*
248 *analysis* (de Kleer 1979). Through the years a wide range of formalisms were developed for analyzing
249 human cognition, and many of them are still in use today.

250 Moreover, artificial intelligence has become a kind of theoretical psychology. Researchers who
251 sought to develop a psychological theory could become artificial intelligence researchers without
252 making their marks as experimentalists. Thus, as in physics, two branches of psychology were
253 formed- experimental and theoretical- and cognitive science has become the interface where theorists
254 and experimentalists sort things out. (Collins and Smith 1988).

255 Boden ([1977] 1978) suggests that AI can be used as a test-lab for cognitive science. It raises and
256 exposes psychological questions that were deeply implicit. It suggests new terms, ideas and questions
257 that were otherwise hidden. In that sense we dare say that computation is playing the role of language
258 for cognitive science. Similar to the role of mathematics in physics, computation has become a
259 language for constructing theories of the mind. Computation is a formal language that imposes a set
260 of constraints on the kind of theories that can be constructed. But unlike mathematics, it has several
261 advantages for constructing psychological theories: while mathematical models are often static,
262 computational models are inherently process-oriented; while mathematical models, particularly in
263 psychology, are content-independent, computational models can be content-dependent; and while
264 computational models are inherently goal-oriented, mathematics is not. (Collins and Smith 1988).

265 Questions that we should ask includes; is the use of the same terms and the same language in
266 AI and cognitive sciences only an analogy? Could it imply something deeper? Can we insert true
267 'intention' and true 'meaning' into computer agents? How can we define such terms in AI? In fact,
268 this is the main question of strong AI. This would bring AI and cognitive science much closer.

269 In an attempt to answer these questions, we refer to the viewpoint of Dennett (2017). Let's define
270 the notion of 'meaning'; to put things very simplistically, we will say that an action of a computer
271 agent has a 'meaning' (for the agent) if the action is changes some part of its environment and the
272 agent can sense that change. For example, if the agent is a ribosome, then the transcription of an RNA
273 into a series of amino-acids, later to become a protein, has a meaning since the protein has some
274 function in changing the agent's environment. The action of the ribosome has a 'meaning' in the
275 cytoplasm environment. Similarly, we can embed a 'meaning' in computer agents. It was suggested
276 by Dennett that we human can insert a derived 'intention' in computers, and computers can derive a
277 lower type of 'intention' in other computers. This was also brought up years ago by Minsky (2006),
278 using a different language.

279 It was suggested by Boden ([1977] 1978) that we can bridge the gap between 'humanistic'
280 approach to cognitive science (in the sense discussed above) and physical mechanism. The way to do
281 so is by introducing an inner representation of the self into the computer. Intentionality and meaning
282 could be aimed (given a context) into this inner representation; the reduction or mechanism of the
283 intentionality will be enabled by the design or architecture of the inner representation. Hence, in
284 order to describe what is going on in the computer, the language of intentionality will be the most
285 appropriate, in the same sense that we talk about our dog's intentions when we wish to describe or
286 explain its behavior, without the need for a behavioristic language, or other physical terms. It will not
287 be 'natural' or efficient to describe the action of the computer in the language of the state of its
288 switches, we will say that this particular action was 'intended for' to comply with the 'state of mind'
289 that the computer had. This sounds a somewhat pretentious goal, however it is based on the
290 assumption that any future advancement in AI must stand on a basic cognitive architecture, much
291 more basic and deeper than what we have today.

292 Most of the recent progress in AI have been driven by deep neural networks and these are related
293 to the "connectionist" view of human intelligence. Connectionist theories essentially perceive
294 learning—human and artificial— as rooted in interconnected networks of simple units, either real
295 neurons or artificial ones, which detect patterns in large amounts of data. Thus, some in the machine
296 learning field are looking to psychological research on human learning and cognition to help take AI
297 to that next level. Although the concept of neural networks has existed since the 1940s, only today,
298 due to an enormous increase in computing power and the amount and type of data available to

299 analyze, deep neural networks have become increasingly powerful, useful and ubiquitous.
300 (Winerman 2018).

301 The theory of consciousness was recently investigated by AI researchers. It was suggested by
302 Dennett (2017) that consciousness is an emergent property of many small processes, or agents, each
303 struggle for its homogeneity. Consciousness is not a stage with spotlights in which all subconscious
304 processes are the audience. Consciousness is a dynamical arena where many agents appear and soon
305 disappear. It resembles an evolutionary process occurring in a very short timescale (Calvin [1996]
306 2001). On this very basis a few AI models were suggested, the Copycat model (Hofstadter 1995) and
307 its more advanced Learning Intelligent Distribution Agent (LIDA) (Fagihhi and Franklin 2012)
308 model. These two are examples of a strong reciprocal interaction between AI and cognitive science.

309 Similar reciprocal relationships are now beginning to form between social sciences and artificial
310 intelligence to become the field of artificial social intelligence (ASI). ASI is an interdisciplinary science,
311 which was introduced years ago by Brent and others (Bainbridge et al. 1994), and is only now
312 becoming prevalent. ASI is a new challenge for social science and a new arena for the science of AI.
313 It deals with the formalization of delicate social interactions, using it in AI to implement social
314 behavior into robots. The prospects for social scientists were suggested years ago by Anderson (1989):

315 "It is time for sociology to break its intellectual isolation and participate in the cognitivist
316 rethinking of human action, and to avail itself of theoretical ideas, techniques and tools that have
317 been developed in AI and cognitive science " (p. 20).

318 "My argument is that sociologists have a great deal to learn from these disciplines, and that the
319 adoption of concepts, methods and tools from them would change sociologists' working habits [...]"
320 (p. 215).

321 4. ASI, a new challenge

322 While artificial cognitive intelligence has become a well-established and significant field of
323 research, and has been heavily invested by both cognitive and artificial intelligence researchers,
324 artificial social intelligence is in its early stages and has great potential for the advancement of smart
325 machines in a new and essential way.

326 While cognitive artificial intelligence scientists "essentially view the mind as something
327 associated with a single organism, a single computational system, social psychologists have long
328 recognized that this is just an approximation. In reality the mind is social, it exists, not in isolated
329 individuals, but in individuals embedded in social and cultural systems." (Pennachin and Goertzel
330 2007, p. 24).

331 It is well established now that there are sets of brain regions that are dedicated to social
332 cognition. It was first shown on primates (Brothers 1990) and later on humans (Adolphs 2003). As
333 Frith (2007) explains: "The function of the social brain is to enable us to make predictions during
334 social interactions." (p. 67). The social brain includes a variety of mechanisms, such as the amygdala
335 which is activated in case of fear. It is also connected with the mechanism of prejudice, stereotyping,
336 associating values with stimuli. It concerns both people- individual and group- and objects. Another
337 such mechanism is the medial prefrontal cortex, which is connected with the understanding of the
338 other's behavior in terms of its mental state, with long term dispositions and attitudes, and with self-
339 perception about long term attitudes.

340 From the social point of view, Mead (1934), in his book, *Mind, Self and Society*, defines the "social
341 organism" as "a social group of individual organisms" (p. 130), or in modern language, as an
342 emergent phenomenon. This means that each individual, as an organism in itself, is also a part of a
343 larger system, the social organism. Hence, each individual's act must be understood within the
344 context of some social act that involve other individuals. The social act is therefore viewed as a
345 dynamic and complex system within which the individual is situated. As such, the social 'organism'
346 actually defines the individual acts, that is, within it these acts become meaningful.

347 In his book *Artificial Experts* (1990), Collins argues similarly **that intelligence cannot be defined**
348 **without considering social interactions.** This is because "[...] the locus of knowledge appears to be
349 not the individual but the social group; what we are as individuals is but a symptom of the groups

350 in which the irreducible quantum of knowledge is located. Contrary to the usual reductionist model
351 of the social sciences, it is the individual who is made of social groups." (p. 6).

352 Our intelligence, as Yudkowsky (2007) clarifies, "includes the ability to model social realities
353 consisting of other humans, and the ability to predict and manipulate the internal reality of the mind."
354 (p. 389). Another way to put it is through Mead's concept of the 'Generalized other' (1934). As Dodds,
355 Lawrence & Valsiner (1997) explain, "**to take the role of the other involves the importation of the**
356 **social into the personal**, and this activity is crucial for the development of self-consciousness and the
357 ability to operate in the social world. It describes how perspectives, attitudes and roles of a group are
358 incorporated into the individual's own thinking in a way that is distinct from the transmission of
359 social rules, and in a way that can account for the possibility of change in both person and society."
360 (p. 495, our emphasis).

361 Hence, as Collins (1990) argues, "The organism into which the intelligent computer supposed to
362 fit is not a human being but a much larger organism; a social group. The intelligent computer is meant
363 to counterfeit the performance of a whole human being within a social group, not a human being's
364 brain. **An artificial intelligence is a 'social prosthesis'.**" (p. 14, our emphasis).

365 All the above suggests the emergence of a new interdisciplinary discipline. The main concern of
366 this new field of science is the formalization of delicate social modules, using them in AI to implement
367 social awareness (perhaps a type of social common sense understanding) and social behavior into
368 robots. Because of the dynamic nature of social interactions, these ASI systems face difficult
369 challenges, some of which are not even predictable. In order to address these challenges, ASI systems
370 will have to be dynamic by continuously reviewing and evolving their interaction strategies in order
371 to adapt to new social situations. Moreover, it is essential to examine and assess these strategies in as
372 many contexts as possible, in which ongoing, continuous interactions are taking place.

373 For making ASI come true, there are some fundamental steps which needs to be solved
374 (Microsoft Research India workshop on ASI 2007). Firstly, there is a need to discover the principles
375 of socio-culture interactions in which the ASI system could have a role. In order to formulate those
376 principles there is considerable importance for conducting large data-driven studies aimed at
377 validating these principles, as well as identifying and characterizing new behavioral traits. Such
378 studies are already being conducted, using the enormous amounts of socially grounded user data
379 generated and highly available from social media; as well as the significant advancements in machine
380 learning and the wide variety of data-analysis techniques. One such project is "Mark my words!"
381 (Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, Gamon and Dumais 2011). This project demonstrates the psycholinguistic
382 theory of communication accommodation according to which participants in conversations tend to
383 adapt to the communicative behavior patterns of those with whom they converse. The researches
384 have shown "that the hypothesis of linguistic style accommodation can be confirmed in a real life,
385 large scale dataset of Twitter conversations." (p. 754). A probabilistic framework was developed,
386 which allowed the researchers to measure "accommodation and, importantly, to distinguish effects
387 of style accommodation from those of homophily and topic-accommodation." (Ibid).

388 Once the relevant socio-cultural principles have been extracted and defined, the next step will
389 be to understand how they can be assimilated into ASI systems such as chatbots, recommender
390 systems, autonomous cars, etc. One such system is the *virtual receptionist*, "which keeps track of users
391 attention and engagement through visual cues (such as gaze tracking, head orientation etc.) to initiate
392 the interaction at the most appropriate moment (Bohus, Andrist & Jalobeanu 2017). Further, it can
393 also make use of hesitation (e.g., "hmmm... uhhh") to attract the attention of the user, buy time for
394 processing or even to indicate uncertainty in the response (Bohus and Horvits 2014)." (Microsoft
395 Research India workshop on ASI, 2007, para. 6).

396 ASI systems have no clear definition of goals, there is no specific task the machine is oriented
397 towards. In a sense, the machine's social behavior is the goal. In other words, it is impossible to
398 defined clear goals in advance, and these may even emerge dynamically. This means that
399 measurement and evaluation methods are very difficult to apply to a socio-cultural intelligence of
400 such a system. This is one of the biggest challenges the ASI field has to deal with.

401 5. AGI, an overview, is it enough?

402 An important concept to dwell on is that of artificial general intelligence (AGI). AGI constitute a
403 new step towards strong AI. General intelligence is not a fully well-defined term, but it has a
404 qualitative meaning: “What is meant by AGI is, loosely speaking, AI systems that possess a
405 reasonable degree of self-understanding and autonomous self-control, and have the ability to solve a
406 variety of complex problems in a variety of contexts, and to learn to solve new problems that they
407 didn’t know about at the time of their creation.” (Pennachin and Goertzel 2007, p. VI).

408 There is a clear distinction between AGI and narrow AI research. The latter is aimed at creating
409 programs that specialize in performing specific tasks, such as ordering online shopping, playing GO,
410 diagnosing diseases or driving a car. But, despite their great importance and popularity, narrow AIs
411 core problem is that “they are inherently narrow (narrow by design) and fixed. Whatever
412 capabilities they have, are pretty much frozen in time. It is true that narrow AI can be designed to
413 allow for some limited learning or adaptation once deployed, but this is actually quite rare. Typically,
414 in order to change or expand functionality requires either additional programming, or retraining (and
415 testing) with a new dataset.” (Voss 2017, para. 4-5).

416 Intelligence, in general, “implies an ability to acquire and apply knowledge, and to reason and
417 think, in a variety of domains” (Goertzel and Pennachin 2007, p. 15). In other words, intelligence in
418 its essence has a large and dynamical spectrum.

419 “Narrow AI systems cannot adapt dynamically to novel situations – be it new perceptual cues
420 or situations; or new words, phrases, products, business rules, goals, responses, requirements, etc.
421 However, in the real world things change all the time, and intelligence is by definition the ability to
422 effectively deal with change.” (Voss 2017, para. 6).

423 Artificial general intelligence requires the above characteristics. It must be capable of performing
424 various tasks in different contexts, making generalizations and tapping from existing knowledge in
425 a given context to another. Hence, as Voss (2017) explains, “it must embody at least the following
426 essential abilities:

- 427 1. To autonomously and interactively acquire new knowledge and skills, in real time. This includes
428 one-shot learning – i.e. learning something new from a single example.
- 429 2. To truly understand language, have meaningful conversation, and be able to reason contextually,
430 logically and abstractly. Moreover, it must be able to explain its conclusions.
- 431 3. To remember recent events and interactions (short-term memory), and to understand the context
432 and purpose of actions, including those of other actors (theory of mind).
- 433 4. To proactively use existing knowledge and skills to accelerate learning (transfer learning).
- 434 5. To generalize existing knowledge by forming abstractions and ontologies (knowledge
435 hierarchies).
- 436 6. To dynamically manage multiple, potentially conflicting goals and priorities, and to select the
437 appropriate input stimuli and to focus on relevant tasks (focus and selection).
- 438 7. To recognize and appropriately respond to human emotions (have EQ, emotional intelligence),
439 as well as to take its own cognitive states – such as surprise, uncertainty or confusion – into
440 account (introspection).
- 441 8. Crucially, to be able to do all of the above with limited knowledge, computational power, and
442 time. For example, when confronted with a new situation in the real world, one cannot afford to
443 wait to re-train a massive neural network over several days on a specialized supercomputer.”
444 (para. 12).

445 In conclusion, general intelligence is a complex phenomenon that emerges from the integration
446 of several essential components. “On the structural side, the system must integrate sense inputs,
447 memory, and actuators, while on the functional side various learning, recognition, recall and action
448 capabilities must operate seamlessly on a wide range of static and dynamic patterns. In addition,
449 these cognitive abilities must be conceptual and contextual – they must be able to generalize
450 knowledge, and interpret it against different backgrounds.” (Voss 2007, p. 147).

451 From the point of view of strategy and methodology AGI sometimes uses a top down approach
452 on cognition, as Wang and Goertzel (Ibid) explains, “An AGI project often starts with a blueprint of

453 a whole system, attempting to capture intelligence as a whole. Such a blueprint is often called an
454 "architecture"." (p. 5).

455 Cognitive architecture (CA) research "models the main factors participated in our thinking and
456 decision and concentrates on the relationships among them. In computer science, CA mostly refers
457 to the computational model simulating human's cognitive and behavioral characteristics. Despite a
458 category of loose definition, CAs usually deal with relatively large software systems that have
459 numerous heterogeneous parts and subcomponents. Typically, many of these architectures are built
460 to control artificial agents, which run both in virtual worlds and physical robots." (Ye, Wang and
461 Wang 2018, p.1).

462 Symbolic systems are one important type of cognitive architecture. "This type of agents
463 maintains a consistent knowledge base by representing the environment as symbols." (Ibid, p. 2).
464 Some of the most ambitious AGI-oriented projects in the history of the field were in the symbolic-AI
465 paradigm. One such famous project is the General Problem Solver (Newell and Simon 1961), which
466 used heuristic search (means-ends analysis) to solve problems. Another famous effort was the CYC
467 project (Lenat 1995). The project's aim was to create human-like AI by collecting and encoding all
468 human common sense knowledge in first order logic. Alan Newell's SOAR project (1987) was an
469 attempt to create unified cognition theories, based on "logic-style knowledge representation, mental
470 activity as problem-solving carried out by an assemblage of heuristics, etc." (Pennachin and Goertzel
471 2007, p. 3). However, the system was not constructed to be fully autonomous or to have self-
472 understanding. (Ibid).

473 These and other early attempts failed to reach their original goals, and in the view of most AI
474 researchers, failed to make dramatic conceptual or practical progress toward their goals. Some (GPS
475 for example) failed because of exponential growth in computational complexity. However, more
476 contemporary AGI studies and projects offer new approaches, combining the previous knowledge-
477 both theories and research methods- accumulated in the field.

478 One such integrative scheme described by Pennachin and Goertzel (2007), was given the name
479 'Novamente'. This scheme involves taking elements from various approaches and creating an
480 integrated and interactive system. However, as the two explain: "This makes sense if you believe that
481 the different AI approaches each capture some aspect of the mind uniquely well. But the integration
482 can be done in many different ways. It is not workable to simply create a modular system with
483 modules embodying different AI paradigms: the different approaches are too different in too many
484 ways. Instead one must create a unified knowledge representation and dynamics framework, and
485 figure out how to manifest the core ideas of the various AI paradigms within the universal
486 framework." (p. 5).

487 In their paper, "Novamente: an integrative architecture for Artificial Intelligence" (2004),
488 Goertzel et al. suggest such an integrative AI software system. The Novamente design incorporates
489 evolutionary programming, symbolic logic, agent systems, and probabilistic reasoning. The authors
490 clarify that "in principle, integrative AI could be conducted in two ways: Loose integration, in which
491 different narrow AI techniques reside in separate software processes or software modules, and
492 exchange the results of their analysis with each other. Tight integration, in which multiple narrow AI
493 processes interact in real-time on the same evolving integrative data store, and dynamically affect
494 one another's parameters and control schemata. Novamente is based on a distributed software
495 architecture, in which a distributed processing framework called DINI (Distributed Integrative
496 Intelligence) is used to bind together databases, information-gathering processes, user interfaces, and
497 "analytical clusters" consisting of tightly-integrated AI processes." (p. 2).

498 Novamente is extremely innovative in its overall architecture, which seeks to deal with the
499 difficulty of creating a "whole brain" in a completely new and direct way. The basic principles on
500 which the design of the system is founded are derived from the "psynet model"- an innovative
501 complex-systems theory of mind- which was developed by Goertzel (1993a; 1993b; 1994; 1997; 2001).
502 "What the psynet model has led us to is not a conventional AI program, nor a conventional multi-
503 agent-system framework. Rather, we are talking about an autonomous, self-organizing, self-evolving
504 AGI system, with its own understanding of the world, and the ability to relate to humans on a "mind-

505 to-mind” rather than a “software-program-to-mind” level.” (Pennachin and Goertzel 2007, pp. 64-
506 65).

507 Another interesting project is the Learning Intelligent Distribution Agent (LIDA) (Ramamurthy,
508 Baars, D’Mello and Franklin 2006). The LIDA architecture is presented as a working model of
509 cognition, a Cognitive Architecture, which was designed to be consistent with what is known from
510 cognitive sciences and neuroscience. Ramamurthy et al. argue “that such working models are broad
511 in scope and could address real world problems in comparison to experimentally based models
512 which focus on specific pieces of cognition. [...] A LIDA based cognitive robot or software agent will
513 be capable of multiple learning mechanisms. With artificial feelings and emotions as primary
514 motivators and learning facilitators, such systems will ‘live’ through a developmental period during
515 which they will learn in multiple ways to act in an effective, human-like manner in complex, dynamic,
516 and unpredictable environments.” (P. 1).

517 In a nutshell, LIDA is a modified version of the old COPYCAT architecture suggested years ago
518 by Hofstadter (1995). It is based on the attempt to understand consciousness as a working space for
519 many agents. The agents compete one another and those that dominate the workspace are identified
520 as the ones that constitute our awareness. The process is dynamic, information flows in from the
521 environment, and action is decided by a set of heuristics, which are themselves dynamic.

522 The LIDA architecture is partly symbolic and partly connectionist; part of the architecture “is
523 composed of entities at a relatively high level of abstraction, such as behaviors, message-type nodes,
524 emotions, etc., and partly of low-level codelets (small pieces of code). LIDA’s primary mechanisms
525 are perception, episodic memory, procedural memory, and action selection.” (Ramamurthy, Baars,
526 D’Mello and Franklin 2006, p. 1).

527 With the design of three continually active incremental learning mechanisms- perceptual
528 learning, episodic learning and procedural learning- the researchers have laid the foundation for a
529 working model of cognition that produces a cognitive architecture capable of human like learning.
530 As the authors (Ibid) explain:

531 “The architecture can be applied to control autonomous software agents as well as autonomous
532 robots “living” and acting in a reasonably complex environment. The perceptual learning mechanism
533 allows each agent controlled by the LIDA architecture to be suitably equipped so as to construct its
534 own ontology and representation of its world, be it artificial or real. And then, an agent controlled by
535 the LIDA architecture can also learn from its experiences, via the episodic learning mechanism.
536 Finally, with procedural learning, the agent is capable of learning new ways to accomplish new tasks
537 by creating new actions and action sequences. With feelings and emotions serving as primary
538 motivators and learning facilitators, every action, exogenous and endogenous taken by an agent
539 controlled with the LIDA architecture is self-motivated.” (p. 6).

540 A third project worth mentioning is Schmidhuber’s Gödel Machines (2006). Schmidhuber
541 describe these machines as “the first class of mathematically rigorous, general, fully self-referential,
542 self-improving, optimally efficient problem solvers. Inspired by Kurt Gödel’s celebrated self-
543 referential formulas (1931), such a problem solver rewrites any part of its own code as soon as it has
544 found a proof that the rewrite is *useful*, where the problem-dependent utility function and the
545 hardware and the entire initial code are described by axioms encoded in an initial proof searcher
546 which is also part of the initial code. The searcher systematically and in an asymptotically optimally
547 efficient way tests computable *proof techniques* (programs whose outputs are proofs) until it finds a
548 provably useful, computable self-rewrite.” (p.1).

549 In other words, the Gödel machines “are universal problem solving systems that interact with
550 some (partially observable) environment and can in principle modify themselves without essential
551 limits apart from the limits of computability. Their initial algorithm is not hardwired; it can
552 completely rewrite itself, but only if a proof searcher embedded within the initial algorithm can first
553 prove that the rewrite is useful, given a formalized utility function reflecting computation time and
554 expected future success (e.g., rewards).” (p. 2).

555 A completely different approach to AGI suggests imitating the complex architecture of the
556 human brain and creating its exact digital simulation. However, this method is questionable since the

557 brain has not been fully deciphered yet. Another, more abstract way to create AGI is to follow
558 cognitive psychology research and to emulate the human mind. A third way is to create AGI by
559 emulating properties of both aspects- brain and mind. But, as Wang (2012) stresses, the main issue is
560 not “whether to learn from the human brain/mind (the answer is always “yes”, since it is the best-
561 known form of intelligence), or whether to idealize and simplify the knowledge obtained from the
562 human brain/mind (the answer is also always “yes”, since a computer cannot become identical to the
563 brain in all aspects), but on *where* to focus and *how much* to abstract and generalize.” (pp. 212-213).

564 One of the unsolved problems of AGI research is our lack of understanding of the definition of
565 “Generalization”, but what Perez (2018) suggests “is that our measure of intelligence be tied to our
566 measure of social interaction.” (para. 7). Perez calls his new definition for generalization
567 “Conversational Cognition” and as he explains:

568 “An ecological approach to cognition is based on an autonomous system that learns by interacting
569 with its environment. Generalization in this regard is related to how effectively automation is able to
570 **anticipate** contextual changes in an environment and perform the required context switches to ensure
571 high predictability. The focus is not just in recognizing chunks of ideas, but also being able to recognize
572 the relationship of these chunks with other chunks. There is an added emphasis on recognizing and
573 predicting the opportunities of change in context.” (para. 11).

574 The most sophisticated form of generalization that exists demands the need to perform
575 conversations. Moreover, Perez (Ibid) clarifies that this conversation “is not confined only to an
576 inanimate environment with deterministic behavior. [...] we need to explore conversation for
577 computation, autonomy and social dimensions. [...] The social environment will likely be the most
578 sophisticated system in that it may demand understanding the nuisances of human behavior. This
579 may include complex behavior such as deception, sarcasm and negotiation.” (Para. 13-14).

580 Another critical aspect of social survival is the requirement for cooperative behavior. But as
581 Perez (Ibid) argues, effective prediction of an environment is an insufficient skill to achieve
582 cooperative behavior. The development of language is a fundamental skill, and conversations are the
583 highest reflection of intelligence. “They require the cognitive capabilities of memory, conflict
584 detection and resolution, analogy, generalization and innovation.” (para. 15). But at the same time it
585 is important to keep in mind that languages are not static – they evolve over time with new concepts.

586 Moreover, Perez (Ibid) clarifies that “effective conversation requires not only understanding an
587 external party but also the communication of an automaton’s inner model. In other words, this
588 conversation requires the appropriate contextualized communication that anticipates the cognitive
589 capabilities of other conversing entities. Good conversation requires good listening skills as well as
590 the ability to assess the current knowledge of a participant and performing the necessary adjustment
591 to convey information that a participant can relate to.” (para. 16). For Perez, the ability to effectively
592 perform a conversation with the environment is the essence of AGI. Interestingly enough, what most
593 AGI research avoids is the reality that an environment is intrinsically social- i.e. that there exist other
594 intelligences.

595 As we have argued above, we believe that the next step to take to make human and machine
596 intelligence come closer together, is to focus on the social aspect of human intelligence and on the
597 ways to integrate social behavior in machines.

598 6. Embodiment

599 One of the biggest challenges for AI is the challenge of embodied cognition. If AI could surpass this
600 hurdle it will be very close to true human intelligence. Embodied cognition was first presented as the
601 main reason why AI is impossible. We propose to view embodied cognition as a step towards better
602 AI and not as an imposition. Let us make a small detour to the history and philosophy of
603 computation.

604 Dreyfus (1979) claimed that true AI is impossible since it implicitly assumes that human intelligence
605 is symbolic in its essence. Some AI researchers are attempting to build a context-free machine that
606 manipulates symbols, assuming the human mind works similarly. Dreyfus claimed that the symbolic
607 conjecture is a fault, basing his arguments primarily on philosophical grounds. AI assumes that we

608 have a type of 'knowledge representation' in our brain, a representation of the world, this idea is
609 based on Descartes' theory, and has a long tradition. Moreover, Descartes claimed that there is a
610 duality, a separation between our body and our mind, therefore the mind cannot be embodied. So
611 far, claimed Dreyfus (Ibid), all AI research is based on these assumptions that we have a model of the
612 world in our mind and that the mind is separated from the body.

613 Could these assumptions be wrong? Could it be that some part of our intelligence is embedded in
614 our body? We interact with the world with our body, we perceive with our body, we sense with our
615 body. Could it be that symbolic intelligence is not enough?

616 For Dreyfus (Ibid), embodiment is enrooted in the deep philosophical grounds of existentialism.
617 Existentialism discusses the notions of involvement and detachment. Most of the time, humans are
618 involved in the world, they interact, they solve practical problems, they are involved in everyday
619 coping, finding their way about in the world. However, when things become difficult, the individual
620 retracts into detachment. For most of the things you do, there is no need for any type of awareness;
621 while climbing stairs you do not think about the next step. If you do you will probably fall. Only
622 when the stairs are too steep, you might consider your next step, and then you retract to a state of
623 detachment. For Heidegger (1962) there is the World where we live, where everything has 'meaning',
624 and there is the Universe where detachment and science lives. Science is the outcome of our
625 involvement in the world, and not the other way around. Science cannot explain the 'meaning' of
626 things. Existentialism is therefore the opposite of Descartes' dualism.

627 Part of our intelligence is therefore somewhere in our bodily interactions with the world. In addition
628 to our senses of sight, smell, hearing etc., we have 'senses' of time, space, surroundings, etc. The
629 discovery of neural place cells (O'Keefe and Dostrovsky 1971; O'Keefe 1979; Moser, Kropff and Moser
630 2008) emphasizes the embodiment of our sense of space. A good example to illustrate embodiment
631 is the proven connection between movement and intelligence in baby development. Free movement,
632 such as rolling, crawling, sitting, walking, jumping, etc., is associated with the development of the
633 frontal cortex, the area where higher-order thinking occurs (Hannaford [1995] 2005).

634 We can coin the above set of 'senses' as 'environmental intelligence'. The question is how much of
635 our intelligence is grounded in our body, and how much is 'context free' in our mind? If we had no
636 body, could we think the same way we think? Could we think at all? Would we have anything to
637 think about? What is the connection between our 'environmental intelligence' and our 'context free
638 symbolic manipulation intelligence'?

639 Dreyfus (1979) thought that neural network computations are indeed a step in the right direction. It
640 is an attempt to formalize our perceptions in terms of virtual neurons which have some parallel in
641 our brain and body.

642 There were computer scientists that took Dreyfus' stand seriously. Brooks (1990) came up with the
643 idea that there is no need for knowledge representation at all: "The key observation is that the world
644 is its own best model" (p. 6).

645 Brooks' robots were able to wander around, to avoid obstacles and to perform several basic tasks. A
646 more modern version would be an intelligent swarm, where a set of simple agents interact and can
647 bring about some emergent property (Kennedy 2006).

648 Brooks and Dennett cooperated in a project involving a humanoid named COG (Dennett 1995; Brooks
649 1997), where they tried to implement the above ideas by letting the COG computer (with a torso,
650 camera eyes, one arm, and three fingers) interact with its environment, trying to learn new things as
651 if it is a newborn. Brooks used a 'subsumption architecture' where several simple modules were
652 competing for dominance. A few years later, the science of Embodied Cognition was born (Lakoff
653 and Johnson 1999; 2003) and reached similar conclusions from a different point of view, the point of
654 view of cognitive psychology.

655 The science of embodied cognition has several basic assumptions. First, humans have a set of atomic
656 and primitive cognitive abilities that are embodied. These abilities build our perceptions of the world.
657 Lakoff and Johnson (1999) used the term 'image schema'. Such a schema is a small process, which
658 therefore could also be dynamic. Furthermore, any higher feature, any concept that we form, is the
659 result of aggregations of the above primitives. Finally, we think by using Metaphors and Frames and
660 these are formed using associations of schemas.

661 As for Frames, many words have a large and natural context and cannot be understood without their
662 context, for example prisoner, nurse, doctors, etc. These are the Frames. Frames were suggested in
663 social science by Goffman (1974), and they were also referred to in the context of AI by Minsky (1974).
664 Minsky was also interested in issues such as: the symbolic aspect of vision, the relation of his theory
665 of Frames to Piaget's theory of development, language understanding, scenarios etc. Dreyfus (1979),
666 on the other hand, stressed the fact that real frames are infinite in nature and could not be truly
667 described in AI. This was coined the 'Frame Problem'.

668 Metaphors are formed using Hebbian learning (Hebb 1949). In early childhood we learn to associate
669 between several concepts, such as 'warm' and 'up', or 'cold' and 'down'. The more these associations
670 of schemas are presented to us in childhood the stronger we relate the schemas. Later we use more
671 elaborated metaphors to reason. We solve real situations by using homeomorphisms into a world of
672 metaphors, solving the imaginary situation first. This is 'thinking by metaphors' (Lakoff and Johnson
673 2003).

674 To prove all of the above, embodied cognition scientists search for clues in language where they look
675 for invariants. The existence of such invariants can imply that something deep, common to all
676 languages, underlies. In many examples a word has several meanings, one is environmental and
677 embodied, the other much more abstract. For example 'to grasp' is first of all 'to catch', however it
678 also has the meaning of 'to understand'. We 'see' things in the sense of understanding, we talk about
679 a 'warm' or 'cold' person, etc. Old proverbs are a good source for such examples.

680 Lakoff and Johnson's (Ibid) argument is that the more abstract meaning is the secondary one, it is the
681 derived meaning. We derive such meanings from the simpler ones, the embodied and primitive
682 meanings. It is a bottom up process.

683 Artificial Social Intelligence is also concerned with the environment of the intelligent agent, in
684 particular its social environment. However, there is a difference between the theory of ASI and
685 Embodied Cognition. ASI is rooted in social science, and the notion of a 'social brain'. Embodied
686 cognition is rooted in the intersection of cognitive sciences and linguistics, it is also based on
687 philosophical grounds. Embodied cognition focuses on universal principles of understandings, or in
688 other words, *the* cognitive architecture.

689 Can we follow the way from the embodied primitives upwards to the abstract concepts? Can we use
690 AI to boost such research? This was attempted by several researchers; Regier (1995) used the theory
691 of deep neural networks (and recurrent neural networks) to identify the primitives of cognition used
692 in relation to our sense of space. In deep neural networks we take very simple and primitive features
693 and build upon the next layer of more complex features. This is a multi-step process. This bottom up
694 process happens until a global pattern can be recognized and it resembles the process that was
695 defined by Lakoff and Johnson (1999) for schemas. Regier (1995) was struggling with old methods of
696 back propagation to tune his network. Today we can advance Regier's idea by using new techniques
697 in Deep Neural Networks.

698 Another way in which we can implement embodiment cognition is by formalizing the idea of
699 metaphors. To be able to use metaphors we need to enable the computer the capability to simulate a
700 situation in which the machine itself resides. This was already done in the context of value alignment.
701 Blum and Liu's (2014) defined a 'consequence machine' that could simulate a situation, but could
702 also observe itself in that simulation. The machine then had to decide on a 'moral' dilemma.

703 Embodied cognition is a new hurdle to overcome, it is the missing bridge between robotics and AI.
704 It should not be thought of as an imposition on AI but as a new challenge.

705 7. The way to overcome our fears: Value alignment

706 In an article called “How Do We Align Artificial Intelligence with Human Values?” (2018), Conn
707 explains that “highly autonomous AI systems should be designed so that their goals and behaviors
708 can be assured to align with human values throughout their operation”. (para. 5).

709 One of the main challenges in aligning AI with values is to understand (and to agree upon) what
710 exactly these values are. There are many factors that must be taken into account which depend mainly
711 on context - cultural, social, socioeconomic and more. It is also important to remember that humanity
712 often does not agree on common values, and even when it does, social values tend to change over
713 time.

714 Eliezer Yudkowsky offered the first attempt at explaining AI alignment in his seminal work on
715 the topic, “Creating Friendly AI” (2001), and he followed this up with a more nuanced description of
716 alignment in “Coherent Extrapolated Volition” (2004). Nearly a decade later Stuart Russell began
717 talking about the value alignment problem, giving AI alignment its name and motivating a broader
718 interest in AI safety. Since then numerous researchers and organizations have worked on AI alignment
719 to give a better understanding of the problem.

720 As Tegmark (2017) explains: “aligning machine goals with our own involves three unsolved
721 problems: making machines learn them, adopt them and retain them. AI can be created to have
722 virtually any goal, but almost any sufficiently ambitious goal can lead to subgoals of self-
723 preservation, resource acquisition and curiosity to understand the world better- the former two may
724 potentially lead a superintelligence AI to cause problems for humans, and the latter may prevent it
725 from retaining the goals we give it.” (p. 389).

726 How to implement Value Alignment? Wilson and Daugherty (2018) describe three critical roles
727 that we, humans, need to perform:

728 **Training:** Developing ‘personalities’ for AI requires considerable training by diverse experts. For
729 example, in order to create Cortana’s personality, Microsoft’s AI assistant, several human trainers
730 such as a play writer, novelist and poet, spent hours in helping developers create a personality that
731 is confident, helpful and not too ‘bossy’. Apple’s Siri is another example. Much time and effort was
732 spent to create Siri with a hint of sassiness, as expected from an Apple product.

733 Creating AI with more complex and subtle human traits is sought after by new startups for AI
734 assistants. Koko, a startup born out of the MIT Media Lab, has created an AI assistant that can display
735 sympathy. For example, if a person is having a bad day, it will not just say ‘I’m sorry to hear that’,
736 but will ask for more information and perhaps provide advice like ‘tension could be harnessed into
737 action and change’. (Hardesty 2015).

738 **Explaining:** As AI develops, it reaches results through processes that are unclear to users at
739 times, a sort of internal ‘black box’. Therefore, they require expert, industry specific ‘explainers’ for
740 us to understand how AI reached a certain conclusion. This is especially critical in evidence-based
741 industries such as medicine and law. A medical practitioner must receive an explanation of why an
742 AI assistant gave a certain recommendation, what is the internal ‘reasoning’ that led to a decision. In
743 a similar way, law enforcement investigating an autonomous vehicle accident, need experts to
744 explain the AI’s reasoning behind decisions that led to an accident. (Wilson and Daugherty 2018).

745 **Sustaining:** AI also requires sustainers. Sustainers oversee and work on making sure AI is
746 functioning as intended, in a safe and responsible manner. For example, a sustainer would make sure
747 an autonomous car recognizes all human diversity and takes action not to risk or harm any human
748 being. Other sustainers may be in charge of making sure AI is functioning within the desired ethical
749 norms. For example, when analyzing big data to enhance user monetization, a sustainer would
750 oversee that the process is using general statistical data and not specific and personal data (which
751 may generate negative sentiment by users) to deduce its conclusions and actions. (Ibid).

752 The unique roles of human values presented here, have been linked to the workplace
753 environment, but they are undoubtedly relevant to all spheres of life. As we claimed earlier, we are

754 at the beginning of a new developmental stage in AI, the one of artificial social intelligence. Within
755 this realm, new questions concerning human values may arise.

756 8. Summary

757 In his book *Technopoly* (1992) Postman writes that “[...] once a technology is admitted, it plays
758 out its hand; it does what it is designed to do. Our task is to understand what that design is- that is
759 to say, when we admit a new technology to the culture, we must do so with our eyes wide open.” (p.
760 7). For “technological change is neither additive nor subtractive. It is ecological. I mean ‘ecological’
761 in the same sense that the word is used by environmental scientists. One significant change generates
762 total change.” (p. 18).

763 AI is woven into our lives, changing our environment. The short history of AI has shown that
764 developments in AI go hand in hand with our understanding of ourselves. Although there is still a
765 long way to go before we can talk about a singularity point, it is almost clear that the next few steps
766 in AI technology (e.g. ASI and AGI) will bring about a much more powerful machines, flexible
767 enough to resemble human behavior.

768 A major part of human intelligence is social, we interact with others, we compete, we cooperate,
769 we imitate, etc. A symbolic ‘context free’ intelligence cannot be complete without this social
770 constituent. ASI is therefore necessary for building ‘true’ human intelligence.

771 One of the most complex challenges that AI faces is the issue of embodiment. At first, one should
772 recognize that part of our intelligence is indeed embodied. We are physically situated in the world;
773 we move in space, perceive, feel and communicate through our bodies. We argue that embodied
774 cognition should be dealt with as a new challenge to AI and not as an imposition.

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