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<div align="center">AI: The Arbiter of the Future or of the End</div>

Artificial intelligence is often portrayed in science fiction as the bearer of death, which strives to bring about the end of our civilization. However, this technology has the potential to help humans develop as a species. Artificial intelligence (AI) is the culmination of all technological innovations. Ever since people developed machines and software requiring of human creation, the inevitable next step was to have the technology create itself. Artificial intelligence is equivalent to neural networks. These are trained by accessing large amounts of reference material, which the AI will analyze to make a decision. Next, the AI will find patterns which distinguish the good versus bad choice. This system functions similar to a simplified human brain which is how it is able to improve as it operates for longer periods of time. These continuous changes are AI's greatest strength: the ability to be utilized in nearly any situation. Although deep learning gained prevalence recently, it is not a new technology. It was initially created by Dartmouth professor, John McCarthy; he, along with a group of his peers, spent the summer of 1956 attempting to create [software that posses human-like intelligence.](#) AI has a large potential to improve the human condition, and even with its shortcomings, humans should continue to improve the technology.

Even when neural networks were still in their infancy, they proved themselves superior to human in multiple tasks. In 1997, IBM's Deep Blue beat the world champion chess master. The

AI analyzed recorded games and determined which moves would be the best to achieve victory. It tested every possible game and found the best counter for all of his opponents acts. The computational strength of Deep Blue triumphed over the decades of experience of his human opponent. In 2016, Google's AlphaGo championed the world champion Go player. This feat was far more difficult to achieve as the brute force tactic utilized by Deep Blue is not possible. No computer exists that has the computation power to calculate all possible moves for the game Go. David Silver, the lead developer of AlphaGo, explains, "After the first two moves of a Chess game, there are 400 possible next moves. In Go, there are close to 130,000." There are more possible games of Go than there are atoms in the universe. This meant that AlphaGo had to have the ability to learn techniques and strategies. Unlike many previous AIs which learned by watching recorded games, AlphaGo learned by competing against itself.  This unique approach allows it to grow without relying on assumptions made by other players and can be applied to any other intended goal for an AI.

AI has the ability to work harmoniously with humans rather than surpassing entirely. For example, many groups are striving to create self driving vehicles, but for the foreseeable future, humans have to watch over the driving. AI still can continue to improve in other means than taking complete control over a situation. It is capable to learning traffic levels to optimize your route or traffic light timings. AIs can also participate in the workplace. They can be responsible for menial labor tasks like moving tools and medicines around hospitals in small robots. This allows the doctors and nurses to spend more time with the patients rather than doing basic chores. These jobs are only achieved through AI's ability to improve itself through experience and adapt to any use.

Even with the large strides that have been seen with the capabilities of AI, some people argue that it still has very far to go before deemed complete. There is some validity to this claim; many examples exist of AI not working as intended. Google Photos received the feature that uses AI to determine the subject of the image; this allows it to discern the individual(s) in frame and organize the pictures into folders. However, it has been reported that this feature has mistakenly placed black individuals into a folder title "Gorillas." This demonstrates how AI's cannot understand the meaning of the image, which would have easily allowed any individual to know that the individuals were not in fact gorillas. This distinction between finding patterns in an image and understanding it continue to arise. An AI was tasked with creating unique images of different objects after analyzing digital repositories. The images that were produced demonstrated how differently AI views the world than humans. The produced images of cellos all had a pinkish blob surrounding it as they were unable to differentiate the subject of the image: the cello from the human holding it. This thought experiment shows how AI currently lacks intuition and the ability to separate images into its constituent parts. However, these are skills that can be possessed with continued improvement. Tesla is working on neural networks that would be able to separate the surroundings into its parts which would allow it to better understand the situation, like if there were a police vehicle on the side of the road. This progression once again goes back to AI's inherent adaptability.

Some of the shortcomings of AI are not entirely the fault of the AI, some come from human interactions. A different image recognition software began to connect pictures of kitchens to women. This was the result of the sample images that were used to develop the algorithm for the AI had women located within a kitchen. AI is only capable of learning from what it is

provided.\; as such, it makes human biases even more apparent. This occurred again when Amazon attempted to use an AI to provide a recommendation on who to hire. It was based upon data of the current employees of Amazon and gave them a rating based on how productive they have been. Amazon quickly recognized that the software was more likely to recommend a man to be hired than a woman. Even after preventing the program from detracting points for the word "women" on an application, Amazon could not be certain that it would not find other patterns that would lead to a bias against females or another group. Many female Amazon employees quickly expressed their concerns. They worried that a hurried approach to integrating AI into the workplace could lead to even more hurdles that women in the field of technology had to overcome. The AI could not understand the harm of discriminating against an entire group simply due to their identity. This is especially egregious as a main purpose of AI is to provide information while ignoring any biases or discrimination. This fault can be resolved by teaching the AI through interacting with itself like AlphaGo. The corruption of AIs should push humans remove discrimination and bias to make both software and the world more equal for everyone.

AI has other dangers as well. Elon Musk, the CEO of SpaceX and Tesla, helped sponsor the creation of an AI that would create text based upon imputed examples. It was intended to be able to learn how to speak like a human without having been taught. While testing the AI, the creators found that it was able to imitate the source material too well. It created fake quotes all while using the original writing style. In the end, the developers of this AI decided that it would be too dangerous to have the program open source. Malicious individuals could have used the technology to further spread convincing false information that would increase the spread of fake news. These concerns about the dangers of AI just highlight another strength. AI is able to learn

so well that it is capable of imitating humans. This makes it a valuable asset in the research of

new ideas or theories if it is able to substitute humans in some tasks.

Altogether, AI has the potential to help continue to improve the human condition. Even

so, we need to be careful about AI and not let it get out of control. Elon Musk has published

papers explaining the reasons why we must be deliberate with our use of AI, but he continues to

help fund their development. This cautious progress allows developers to ensure that they are

making positive improvements which help humans more than they threaten. Governing bodies

like the UN should create guidelines for the ethics of developing AI. This will reduce the amount

of AIs functioning in unintended ways. To be able to use AI to its fullest potential, we must be

like Elon and continue to learn more about this technology as it continues to change the world

around us.

Analysis of Lauren Goode

The first article that influenced the writing of my editorial was *AI-Powered Apps Could Make Us More Creative-or Less Human* written by Lauren Goode for WIRED. Goode begins her article with an informative but funny discussion of some of the things that AI are able to accomplish with ease. This sets the tone for the article and provides some introductory info that gives the reader a better understanding of what the technology is capable of. I attempted to provide pathos by tying information in my intro to the hook which informed the reader. She then includes many example of recent occurrences which back up her claims, each of which includes an explanation and relates the information to her claim made earlier in the article. I attempted to include this focus on the purpose of the essay to keep my writing on track and to not lose the reader in an unrelated discussion. The conclusion in this article elaborates on how this development overall impacts the future, and raises the question is it possible to avoid the negative side-effects that come with forward progress. I attempted to apply this forward view to my essay as it gives the reader with instructions for the next steps and nicely concludes the essay as whole. The largest writing technique that I attempted to apply to my editorial was her persistent use of evidence without tiring the audience by ensuring that everything is explained so that readers with limited experience in the topic are able understand and relate.

The second article that impacted my writing was *Ignore 5G, for Now* which was also written by Lauren Goode for WIRED. Her introduction which analysed the validity of the claims of proponents of a new technology influenced my discussion of the opposing viewpoint. Goode compared the alleged abilities versus those that are actually being seen. I did the opposite by comparing the claimed downside with the seen positives. I also utilized her techniques of exploring the impact of events or development and how they relate to her claim. This allowed for an continued focus on the main topic along with allowing logos to provide factual defense for her views. She split her article into multiple parts each of which include related pieces of evidence. This organization allowed me to present the many facets of my claim and kept the reader from getting lost in a sea of words. Just like the previous article, this provides a complete conclusion which provides a developed explanation for how to go forward and think about this topic. I used this to keep the reader involved and influenced, even after finished reading. In the article, Goode uses many examples of diction that presents herself and her evidence as credible sources of information. I attempted to apply this to my editorial by explaining the credentials of the individuals were cited with intentional phrasing. Also, I utilised her style by providing in depth but understandable analysis of the evidence provided, which improved the ethos of my argument.