



Artificial intelligence: will we still have freedom of choice?

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1. The super computer algorithm, is not an artificial intelligence: the example of Finance

The Financial sector has very deep pockets and can invest readily in innovation and in niche markets. Right now, 50% to 70% of the stock market trades are managed by algorithms. Financial journalists are trying to explain financial shifts without having any clue of the underlying rationale. Their approach to explaining the phenomenon does not make sense.

Algorithms must not be confused with artificial intelligence. An algorithm compiles data and draws conclusions. It is not part of a learning process like artificial intelligence.

In stock markets, when an algorithmic tool identifies a profitable niche, it is quickly spotted by other algorithmic tools. There is a rush on that opportunity. And margins evaporate.

2. Artificial Intelligence may be used in Law Firms for decision making assistance, but it can't replace the lawyer in his role as a decision-maker

At IBM's initiative Artificial intelligence started being used by Law Firms in 2016. The Ross tool can review the Case Law, but not take the place of a lawyer. It will analyze the documents in a very short time and can suggest a strategic option. Ross is an efficient assistant and / or librarian. Only the lawyer can have a cognitive approach. He is the only one that can assess the value of the case and make up his mind based on all the components of the context.

3. The role of artificial intelligence in the physician's decision-making process

Doctors could see their role fading if they were confined to decide on specific medical procedures. They must not be limited to deciding on specific procedures. They must be able to prescribe the medical care needed by the patient. Artificial intelligence may then, help the doctor reach a decision taking into account a considerable number of variables. With the emergence of Artificial Intelligence, physicians have to question the role they want to play in the patient's medical care.

4. IBM's tools for decision making assistance: Augmented Intelligence

The IBM Company is currently developing tools to assist physicians in their decision making. With the new tools, physicians should be able to review - in a very short period of time - a large number of variables and make an informed decision. The idea is to help physicians making their decisions completely freely. They will decide freely if they have all the information they need. Part of the reflection is assigned to a tool, but not blindly. The machine does not take the place of the human being, but it helps him and provides additional information. This is why IBM speaks about "Augmented Intelligence" rather than "Artificial Intelligence". Algorithms don't prescribe, but they help doctors prescribe. Physicians make fully informed decisions thanks to the IBM tool that research the scientific sources on which they can rely to come up with a qualified advice.

5. In summary we are questioning the role of physicians with their patients

The development of artificial intelligence must lead doctors to question their current role in dispensing medical care. Artificial Intelligence will never be able to provide care to a patient or dialog with cancer victims. Still, artificial intelligence is not a spontaneous phenomenon. It is the product of a program in which medical professionals have a role to play.

6. Autonomous Artificial Intelligence does not exist yet

IBM would rather speak of augmented intelligence. Its objective is to work on tasks that can be automated to make more time available and let humans concern themselves with creativity and imagination. Some sell brain time, others want to free up the brain and listen to it.