

ALGORITHMIC MALFEASANCE

Why is it that human behaviour when closely observed can shed light about the substance of the system to which it belongs? History is a catalog of work conducted by the people. It is a compilation of events and the study of such from the moment of birth to the moment of death. Technology has rapidly changed the way history as a branch of knowledge is perceived, precisely because the more that the computer sciences advance, the wider the scope there is to archive history; and the more control the public has over what constitutes as “truth”.

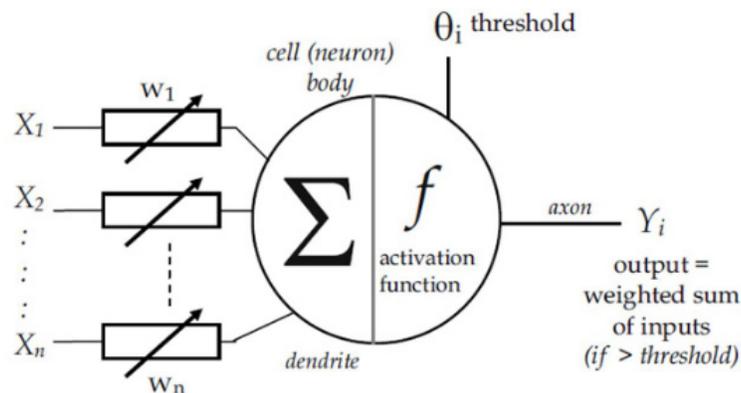


Figure 20 - McCulloch & Pitts neuron model⁸¹

Every articulation is like a whisper from the brain to the consciousness. A ripple of change. It would take more than a discourse analysis approach to decode an entire world. What is an idiosyncratic agenda made of? And how does it challenge institutions? What are the ethics of reform? Who defines norms and the rights and obligations that come with such ability? Today's CI dilemmas are of social, moral and existential value. Considering the state of the world, it is reasonable to predict that the mental health industry of the present will be the great controversy of the future as humankind continues to uncover the perceived malfunctions and malfeasances behind the algorithmic scenes. For instance, the mere fact that the term “mental illness” is used by the government as a way to legitimize the enforcement of conformance when it comes to the neurodiversity of creative thinkers is shocking.

“The anti-psychiatry movement has been idealized and demonized in equal measure. It has been used as an umbrella name to bolster or refute multiple causes in mental health politics... In the spirit of challenging the establishment, be it judicial, academic, political or medical, and to question their right to define the norms by which we are meant to treat one another in a civilized society, the question of madness and reason was resurrected as it has been since time immemorial in times of social turmoil. Who has the authority to tell us what reality is? To define who is sane and who is insane? To determine whether insanity is a social, moral, existential or medical condition and if, when and how the so-called insane should be treated?” (Oakley, 2017).

When madness is not intelligible, the effectiveness of psychotherapy is less reliable. What is a mental institution and how does it damage populations? The way society perceives psychosis is truly concerning due to the fact that much of the legitimized frameworks and procedures are inherently an invalidating signal towards the person's experience. If computer scientists were to reveal their reasonings about stochastic approaches, then the entire industry would get instantly diagnosed with madness for sure. This is of particular importance when case law is explored. Technology has, in a way, become demonized by different types of industries. Furthermore, it has also caused much fear as people struggle to understand the hypercomplexity behind ML and AI. This is of particular relevance to companies like Google, who have gone beyond the collective cognitive capacity to allocate big data into the psyche. In other words, some digital structures are so complex, that the mere existence of these interfaces is a controversial development for the human psyche to take in, process and bring these accelerations of reasoning to the conscious surface. Where does this leave the industry and the relationship it has with mental health? Well, it leaves it in a juxtaposed dilemma of simplicity. It stimulates and relaxes the user in their experience (UX) through a visibly minimal interface, which is actually hypercomplex at its core. Psychologically speaking, what this does to the user is of great interest, considering the fact that most of the time... users are not even aware of the truly complex experience they are having whilst going about their daily lives using the services, or simply when they search for something online.

It wasn't so long ago that Elon Musk expressed his opinions about the status of singularity. What's more, Google has truly, in some way, enforced the acceleration of human consciousness by creating a hypercomplex structure that looks so simple it can definitely fool a customer into thinking it is quite minimal in performance. Because of course, it would be truly controversial to begin explaining that some algorithms got a little bit out of human hand; and basically, all mankind can do now is learn how machines work to survive their online experience. Some people might of course think that this hypercomplex structure of cyber-consciousness won't affect them. And that is precisely when it will have affected subliminally. The ever-changing evolution of cyber-complexity cannot be stopped now that engineers have become Gods. Surely, they could use a computer-science counselor or psychotherapist that can understand their reality. Stochastic systems come with stochastic minds, and stochastic minds- as logical as they can also be- are certainly ahead of time and know that the world will never be sane again about this. It is foreseeable that computer engineers will be inspiring the psychology market as the world continues to demand answers to questions that they themselves are trying to solve.

A relevant case study to further argue this theory is Mark Zuckerberg's senate hearing, where it was clear that many of the specifications that Congress was concerned about were in relation to Facebook's AI algorithms. Mark Zuckerberg seemed surprised about the questions, and at the same time he seemed in a way mind-blown by the very state of such algorithmic acceleration and the effect it was having on the experience of its users. Privacy has always been a true controversy when it comes to the all electronic system, especially because what the public does not understand is that many of the invasions of privacy are not caused by the company itself, but rather these are conducted through law enforcement

originating from the United States government. This also happens to companies like Microsoft, which are frequently intimidated by the authorities to provide them with access to confidential data; and even though there are Oversight Units that regulate the intelligence agencies, these are only able to intervene if the abuse of power is reported. And this is where it gets super tricky, because when intelligence agencies threaten digital market enterprises into complying with security breaches, they are often forced to keep silent about these types of activities under the context of “national security”; and with this excuse Facebook, Google & Microsoft inter alia, are left with little power over the protection of customer data. This is why the meta case deserves an impartial mitigation. Some algorithmic situations are too complex to explain, and equally, it has never been more important to at least attempt to understand these virtual complexities. It is a dilemma because users are concerned about their data and about the correlations and stochastic/iterative coincidences that come with SEO and with SEM. Not being able to fully grasp the picture, many users are experiencing paranoia with their navigations. This leaves digital entrepreneurs and developers in a self-imposed drama, because the algorithms are getting out of control as they continue to evolve and suddenly... there is mass cognitive dissonance in regards to AI. It kinda breaks into two options for the human brain to process: if the SEO’s algorithm is either ML or AI, it can leave people who do not understand these mechanics confused about their experience; whilst it also invites further problem-solving as the human brain attempts to make sense of something that seems magickal, or in paranoid cases... “suspicious”. Hence, it is understandable why Mark Zuckerberg seemed shocked at the hearing.

“As indicated beforehand, computational intelligence makes use of evolutionary approaches, e.g. the imitation of human brain functions by the implementation of ANNs for classification, or the imitation of insect swarms (swarm intelligence) for solving optimization problems. The IEEE Computational Intelligence Society defines the imitation of evolutionary approaches as ‘mimicking nature for problem solving’..Generally, two fundamental approaches to CI can be characterized, namely the left versus the right-brained; the former refers to the traditional logical, rule-based, model-driven algorithmic approach, while the latter (data-driven) connectionist approach mimics the intuitive/creative/artistic side of our brains.”(Neukart, 2017)

So, it is foreseeable that just as humans continue understanding the complexity of a machine, deeper comprehension about the human brain can also naturally occur. ML and AI pose great existential dilemmas for clinical psychology. This is good news for Psychology markets. And it also opens the door of possibility for developing a forensic approach to human-machine interactions. Many postmodernists believe that machines can be the saviours of humankind, and it can also be said that without the psychological understanding of cognitive UX, AI can be just what mass society needs to unexpectedly break the global computational iceberg. It would not be surprising to see ML and AI topics incorporated into the school syllabus in the future. As the social necessity for understanding SEO and SEM increases, learning to develop will be a mainstream necessity of future generations if the world is to prevent a great repressive and recessive state of chaos and confusion ruled by the subconscious need that AI/ML UX evokes which can be described as a neurological acceleration.

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