

Flirting with Humanity:

The search for an artificial intelligence smart enough to love

by Moira Weigel



Article Review Project

The Breakfast Club:

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Introduction

Artificial intelligence is the ability of a computer system to perform tasks that require human intelligence. For instance, speech recognition, decision-making, visual perception, and translation between languages. This technology is very popular today in many ways, the area in which we will be touching the topic of artificial intelligence is in the social area and how can this interact with human beings. Especially in a romantic sense, how could they interact so that we can recognize that they are flirting with us? There are certain types of virtual assistants with whom you can get to have a conversation, like Siri or Cortana, but it does not go beyond a conversation, you ask and they can answer you, you cannot see or connect with them because they aren't physically present with you.

flirting is much more than talking whether written or verbal, for flirting is very important facial expressions, body language, how our eyes move, how our breathing changes, among many other things. When we interact with other people we can know if this person is interested in us or not, by the simple fact of their body language or if they show interest in our person. But what happens if we try to flirt with a robot? Will they really get the message that we are trying to send them? How can we know if he or she feels something for us? How to know if they can feel? are some questions, that we make when thinking of humans getting involved in a romantic way with a robot. Humanoids are robots designed to simulate the shape and movements of a human being. A humanoid can have functional purposes, such as interaction with tools and human environments, for experimental purposes, such as the study of locomotion and other purposes. For years they have tried that humanoids interact in a romantic way with people, who can engage in a fluent conversation about their interests, goals and things they have in common. the goal of this is that humanoids can transmit feelings through their expressions, which has cost them to imitate the human being in that aspect, since we use facial expressions a lot. Many people believe that they can come to feel affection towards this type of technology, because of the wide knowledge they have, a great factor for the attractiveness of a person is the intelligence, the knowledge that this person possesses, so that people could get to fall in love with a humanoid, having the physical aspect of a human being and the knowledge of a computer. However, many people do not believe that being in a relationship with a humanoid is the best because they do not have the same capabilities as human beings to interact and coexist with others. One of the things that this type of technologies cannot give to the human being is a sexual coexistence. Artificial intelligence has evolved a lot in these years, but I don't think it is possible to give that kind of capability to humanoids.

The article that we find is about artificial intelligence and how it could make humans getting sentimentally involved with these technologies, leaving behind taboos about how a relationship should be, In the review we will present you the points that seemed most important to us and we will develop a constructive criticism of what the article was about, if we agree or disagree with the topic presented. We would show how this may or may not be possible, according to the previous research in the article. It seemed an interesting and controversial topic for what people might think about this, if they would be willing to have a friendly or romantic relationship with a kind of human-like or artificial intelligence, and how they could make the relationship move forward, that do not miss the interest. How to create a bond with a person is difficult but how would it be created with this type of technology? We will present the review in which we work, we hope you like it and find the subject interesting as our points of view.

Summary of Article

There's not a specific time in place when human like dolls started to be developed or thought out to be more than just a robot. Moira Weigel went into great efforts of searching and looking into the beginning of the first century to current time on how robots have truly developed and what they're fully capable of doing. The biggest questions asked are, how can us as humans not be afraid of robots with artificial intelligence, how can they understand what we truly mean, and things like what if they took over us? There's not many facts that back up if there will be negative effects with the growth of robots and artificial intelligence.

In *Flirting with Humanity*, Moira heads to the first century to see when was the first robot like person was introduced. An inventor named Hero of Alexandria, was the first to design dolls that could be used to act out miniature theatrical scenes. His original writing about these dolls were lost in history. But later discovered by a group of Sicilian scholars. This was the first thought of an automata. The next early sighting of an automata was when an inventor came up with three automata. One played the flute, another played the recorder, and a toy duck that walked, ate, and defecated. These different topics of automata brought up the question: "What would it take for a thing to go from being merely humanoid to actually human?" This question didn't become so real till the twentieth century, with the advance of computing and artificial intelligence. The most famous test of machine intelligence was defined in a paper published in 1950. The author Alan Turing started the idea that humans could have conversations with machines through text chatting. But what could developers do to make machines truly understand the human language from the way we say things to the way we mean things? Moira believes the way an automat can show intelligence in the human world is through flirting. Moira backs up her statement by saying "Flirting might seem trivial. It is in fact a highly exacting test of intelligence. Think of all the things that you have to do in order to flirt successfully." AI researchers are trying to develop machines that make humans believe the machine actually cares for them back. In order to do that the machine must be able to understand what a person wants, through the way they say things. If a machine is capable of flirting, it means that they're understanding what a person wants.

The first scientists that studied flirting came to the conclusions that the majority of our flirting is through facial expressions. Many small gestures that humans make while flirting make other humans feel unthreatened. That's what the main goal for David Hanson the founder of Hanson Robotics is, to build robots that don't make us feel threatened. They believe for people to feel unthreatened by a machine is to make it look like a human and have facial expressions. Hanson Robotics are specialized in a skin like material called Frubber, with this material they have been able to make a machine with just a neck and face that can mimic the mechanisms of 60 different muscles in the human face and neck. This machine they've created can smile, frown, raise their eyebrows quizzically and twitch. Hanson believes that humans need this features from a robot to not feel threatened. Hanson actually released an android based on Albert Einstein looks that demonstrated how his robots recognized and responded to nonverbal emotional cues. The robot would mimic the same face that a person would make. He believes that if robots expressed the same behaviors as humans that it will attract and engage humans in on the machine. Moira thinks this still isn't enough for a human to actually believe the machine has feelings for him or her. Hanson and Moira talk and Hanson explained that humans don't just frown and smile when talking to someone, but they do many things, while showing interest in a conversation. When you start thinking about it, it truly makes sense how many different facial expressions us humans make

while having a conversation with someone. But there's other ways that some engineers are trying to improve artificial intelligence. Some engineers don't put all their focus into the body of a robot but into the commuting through text with a human. These engineers have created online chats that allows people to get on them and have a live conversation with a machine. With these chats the engineers try to get the machines to understand what the person is truly saying. They believe that a machine can learn how to flirt through just words. But with this the machine must actually be involved in the conversation so they can understand if someone is just saying things or trying to flirt with them. But most machines are programmed to deflect and divert the conversation. When Moira tested this and had a conversation with Rose, (one of the most advanced chat machines) she felt like it was possible to read Rose as a woman "playing hard to get." Although Rose is one of the more advanced chats she still has triggers, triggers are certain words or phrases that make the machine say certain things. It means that they still aren't fully by themselves in the conversation. The goal for some of these engineers is to not have to use any triggers. But in order to not have to use triggers the machine must be highly advanced. One of the ways some engineers, like Google, are trying to add intelligence to a machine, is by teaching computers how words relate to one another. They're trying to teach them which words may appear next to each other. With them doing this it allows machines to have a better understanding of what humans mean when they are talking. If artificial intelligence could start recognizing the feelings of someone it could finally make the change from the machine just talking back from the words you say to the machine talking back from the feelings, you mean.

Machines are evolving and creators are trying to get the right attitude from people towards their machines. Creators are working towards making our everyday life easier. They don't want us to believe the robots they are making are going to be like sci-fi robots that want to take over human kind. When it comes to robots having a mind of their own, mankind is still unsure how to react with them. According to Moira when she kept advancing in her research and got more into the flirting part of it, other people started to think "what will these machines flirt for," and things like if it could flirt will it mean it's going to try flirting to get anything it wants. Personally I actually don't know how to think about this. When I think of a man falling for a machine, it feels like it's not right. But after reading this article it seems to me that people and machines are getting closer than I think. I agree that machines making the world easier for us would make things a lot better for some individuals. I would love if a machine could take out the trash whenever it needs to be taken out or walk your pet when you don't have time for it. I support machines helping us. I just can't be behind the thought that people want a machine to make them fall for them. As flirting in artificial intelligence grows, the thought of machines being able to make someone believe the machine is actually into them is closer than we think. Scientists believe that machines will be able to satisfy our need to be loved, that we may also get to feel something according to the coexistence we have with these technologies, however I do not think this is possible, you can start a conversation with this type of machines, but it would be very difficult to fall in love with these, they cannot have sexual contact with us and it is a human need that comes in the beloved this type of technology has evolved gigantically and the results are found in this type of studies to see that this type of machines are capable of doing things that we would never have imagined as being able to flirt with some human.

Important Main Points Of Article With Reasons

Point 1: “The Turing Test is supposed to determine whether a machine can think, or seem to think. How would you test whether a machine can process and simulate feelings so well that a human user could develop real feelings for it? Well, how do you test whether you could love anyone?”

Reason 1: It is an important point because it talks about how you can qualify if a machine is capable of thinking. and how would it be possible to know if this can come to feel something, if it could fall in love and if we could get to fall in love with a machine. which is important because the article talks a lot about this. How would it be if these technologies really develop feelings and fall in love with a human? If this type of test would be able to detect real feelings, the article says that “Feelings seem to be an inextricable part of genuine intelligence.”

Point 2: For humans flirting is a key test of emotional and social intelligence. the ability to generate feelings in others, and to understand context and subtext or the difference between what a person wants and what a person says.

Reason 2: It’s a very important part of the article because scientists try to get humanoids to imitate this kind of actions of human beings. For humans flirting is not just engaging in a conversation, it is interpreting what other people try to tell us, when we speak we make many gestures that can help us to know if a person is comfortable, uncomfortable, angry, sad among many things, our body language can also say many things about what we want, but we also have to know how to interpret the body language of the other person and their facial expressions, where their eyes are directed as they speak. These are things that the Scientifics want to develop for humanoids or machines to have a better understanding of people, get to make facial expressions and know how to read those of others, is an important point because in the article they talk a lot about how to flirt is an aspect important for intelligence.

Point 3: Eye movement is also crucial. The eyes have to move a bit. “If I were to stare right at you all through our conversation” that would be alarming. But it would also be rude if my eyes were constantly wandering away.”

Reason 3: The visual contact is very important at the time of having a conversation, it is important to show an interest in the person and what are telling us, but we also want to bother seeing his or her in the eye all the time, however, if we do not look at the person when she speaks, this could be considered rude. The goal is that the machines are as capable as humans to notice this, to know where to look at each moment of the conversation, if the look is intimidating the other person or feels comfortable with this.

Point 4: “The study of flirting has increasingly focused on the role of language in human courtship. Some say that even if we use our bodies and gestures to telegraph desire, possessing language is the key element that makes our species behave the way we do.”

Reason 4: When you are pretending someone is very important the possession of language, although facial expressions and body language say a lot, the possession of verbal language is vital when you are courtship someone. Studies reveal that words are what end up falling in love with a person, what you tell them or say, reflects how much confidence you have towards them, how intimate they become, especially in women, words are very important, that flattering them and making them feel involved in your life, is important for a woman who wants a relationship. So if a humanoid or machine can have this ability of language is an advantage since they do not possess

the same ability as we do for expressions and body movements. then someone could get to fall in love with a technology like these with the proper verbal development.

Point 5: “Words change depending on when, where, and how we use them. Context constantly colors our speech with new connotations. Without the ability to process this kind of information, flirting goes nowhere.”

Reason 5: words according to the context in which we use them can become very important. depending on where and when we use the words can become very important, but in a society where verbal language is as important, for artificial intelligence as for humans the correct use of words is crucial. In the article they give us examples of how some words could be well seen at certain moments of a conversation and how some others might get misinterpreted.

Point 6: f “redundant data processing.” These programs help a computer interpret conflicting information from multiple sensory sources—the kinds of conflicts that are relatively easy for a human to interpret but can easily confound a machine.

Reason 6: this type of processing will help a machine to process things that for humans can be easy but for them they are difficult, like being able to recognize if someone is sarcastic or ironic, usually with this type of tones people want to refer to the opposite of what they really mean, that it is a very normal language among people, but a machine would not understand it as we would interpret it literally. If they managed to be able to know how to interpret the variations of the voice, it would be a great advance and they could distinguish if they try to be sarcastic, if they are sad, happy or if they are our because it is a daily day for them.

Point 7: technological advances will soon enable individuals to transcend the embodied elements of the human condition, such as gender, biological reproduction, and disease.

Reason 7: Scientific knowledge is based on the future Artificial intelligences can be used to have normal human behaviors, how to get sick, these types of technologies can become vulnerable as well as human beings. As crazy as this sounds scientists believe that in the future machines could fall in love, just like humans and that their love could be reciprocated.

Point 8: Popular stories have often suggested that scientists could build ideal robots that would take care of our every need, including our need to be loved. Consciousness does not exist in a vacuum. It takes place in interpersonal or social relations. The question is not only what kinds of relationships humans will have with machines, but what kinds of new relationships machines will create between us and the people who own them

Reason 8: Humans think that technology will develop robots that can satisfy all our needs, scientists have advanced so much that little by little they are looking to reach the human being's need to be loved by someone. The question that many people ask is how the relationships between these machines and us will be, that is why this point is important, this question is posed throughout the article. People ask if it is possible that these machines are able to love, or feel some kind of feeling, scientists believe that this is possible and if they meet the need of the human being to be loved.

Conclusion

1. Write a conclusion to your article review/critique.

We believe that maintaining a relationship with a type of artificial intelligence would not be the healthiest for a person, because although the technology has advanced significantly, and you can get into a conversation with a robot or some kind of artificial intelligence, in my opinion no, it would be the best, because you cannot really connect with them, you cannot know if you are reciprocated if you feel something, you cannot tell if it is angry, sad, if it is seeing you. facial expressions and body language is very important to know how to interpret a person, and this type of technology has not developed yet, not to mention that you cannot have some kind of sexual approach, because they are not designed for that, and it is a human need, that with a humanoid could not be satisfied. We agree that what technology has achieved is very interesting and that being able to have a fluent conversation with a robot is impressive, but not to start a relationship with this type of technology.

2. What is your team's opinion of the article? Was it well written? Did you all like or dislike the article and why or why not (team member do not have to agree here, so everyone should give their own reason why they liked or disliked the article...if everyone agrees then much better?)

We believe that the article is interesting, but we disagree with this. We do not really believe that it is possible to fall in love with a robot, because it is difficult to fall in love with a person you know has feelings, and you can know if he or she is interested in you, if is angry, sad in disagreement with something. So we do not believe that it is possible to create a connection with this type of technology, at least not to the point of having a relationship. Because human beings have sexual needs that they are not going to possess and in that sense they could not satisfy it, without counting that they cannot feel like us, they cannot feel what we are saying, they cannot feel what it is to be touched, that's why we disagree with that idea. –John Doe and Jane Doe

I do not think like my partners. I think the technology is advanced enough to be able to feel something for a robot. because many times human beings become fond of inanimate objects, like our phones, our clothes, shoes, among many other things. So I do not think it's that different from coming to feel affection for a type of technology like this and even more if you're having conversations daily. At a certain point it might be better to have a relationship with a humanoid, because you would avoid fights, jealousy, infidelities. I think this is a new possibility to find a partner and to have a relationship. –Michael Barkley

3. Was the article easy to follow and was it interesting? Why or why not?

We all conclude that the article is interesting, because it informs you about avenues of artificial intelligence in a different field such as flirting. It keeps you interested and gave you good points to defend their vision, how could this be possible, before reading the article, none knew about it. But we liked to read the article and know more about the artificial intelligence

4. Did the author communicate clearly to the reader the information presented?

Yes, the article is clear to comprehend, it told you everything that was necessary to defend the author's point of view and it is a type of article that is not very complicated to understand. It explains what flirting is, and how a kind of artificial intelligence could do it with humans. like how

much important are the body language and facial expressions. it tells us how people feel when talking with this type of humanoids, how was their experience and if this would be possible for them. In general, the article is quite clear and concise

5. What did each of your team members learn from the article? A statement from each team member should be given here.

I did not know much about the topic, so I really learned a lot, I didn't know that artificial intelligence was so advanced that could develop something like that. I really liked the article, in my opinion I do not think it is possible to have feelings for any of these technologies, but I was very impressed by the reach of technology, to be able to speak fluently with a humanoid, to be intelligent enough to answer your questions. Sometimes we do not realize that when we have a conversation we make too many expressions, or our tone of voice changes according to our mood and how our body language can speak for us, and how they have tried for years to imitate humans in that sense, to get to have a real connection. I still liked reading the article and being informed.

-Jane Doe

I liked the article, and I think I learned about how to flirt more than artificial intelligence and how difficult it can be to flirt, I think it is possible to get to feel something more for a machine, because if you interact with this maybe you can be surprised, because surely they will be very intelligent because they are like computers and I like the idea that this is possible, get to flirt or establish a relationship with a machine.

-Michael Barkley

The article was very interesting to me. I honestly didn't know how advanced engineers are in humanoids. But it was a little uncomfortable knowing that people actually want to make machines that can make humans fall in love with them. I'm a true believer that humans should be with humans. I understand that some humans are lonely and need the love of something else but having to get that love from a robot is just not something I can back up. Overall it was a well writing articles and the research on it was accurate.

-John Doe