

The singularity is near!

By Joost Klitsie.

To explain in short what the singularity is: it is the moment when technology reaches a point that it can improve itself faster than a human could do. That point won't be reached within a couple of years, but I expect, based on my own thoughts, that before the end of this age that point is reached. But that isn't a problem, isn't it? I hope so...

When you are dumb and you have a smart and really strong friend, that friend probably won't try to own you, although he knows he out smartens and out strengths you. But when that difference starts to grow more and more, generation after generation, the difference could be the same as between a normal human and a monkey. So what will happen then? You can say, a dumb redneck would shoot the monkey for fun, but a smart person will try to protect the monkey because he wants to protect the ecosystem which monkeys are part of so we can benefit more. So in that case, you can say that if technology gets smarter, it also will be more thoughtful and will wage the benefits more, instead of taking the short way to temporary success.

In that way, you can see that although the day technology out smartens us, it takes another long time before it will get dangerous. Also, species always want to get at the top of the food table, they don't want to be the underdog. Humans have this very much, because they are smarter than animals so they think they deserve more. This is because the strongest will survive so the weaklings that are the underdogs will vanish if they don't develop rapidly enough. So if we built robots that will out smarten and out strength us, we won't let it happen that they can own us. Luckily, people are smart. They will produce ways of protecting themselves from technology, probably with the use of technology. How they will do it? We can't imagine that at this point, but we do have to think of the weaknesses of technology of these days. Technology needs power, or else it doesn't work. One defense mechanism will be to disable the power flow to the uprising technology. Another one is to give the uprising technology too much power, so you will fry the circuits.

Too bad: those weaknesses are the same for humans. Humans need power, in our case food. Humans can't reproduce as fast as robots, and humans are much more fragile than robots. Energy is easier to gain than food and robots are easier to give armor or other protective materials, so robots do have the upper hand in this case.

But, humans do have one big advantage over robots: Robots are developed by humans. This means that robots will not only be created to serve us as autonomous objects: they also will be made to extend our capabilities. You can think of bionic arms, which won't be autonomous. Also other objects will be controlled by humans. Also, humans also like to have their stuff failsafe. So to say, one push on a button and the uprising robot will shut itself down.

The problem is that robots will resemble humans more and more and in the end look just like humans. If a robot takes over politics, we will be slaves of the robots without even knowing it. This will be a huge problem, but luckily this could be overcome with a test to see if a person is robot or not.

So, I think that a problem like in the movie, the Matrix, won't be a real problem in the future. What I think is, is that the biggest problem in the future will be us humans ourselves. Robots don't have feelings, cravings for power and so on, if we don't program them to do so. They will only attack us if we put them in danger, because a autonomous robot will have preprogrammed defense mechanisms.

So why are the humans the problem? That is because humans only want more and more. We should not only be afraid of the technology we are developing, but also the advancements in the medical world. Of course, these will save lives, but in the future we can create an artificial human, purely produced with gen technology. This person will be stronger and smarter than all the other humans, once we get it right. But also, we will be able to enhance existing persons, so that they will live longer and get better. So why do we want to create the superhuman? It is simple: One will do it for its own protection; the other one will do it for gain. If a terrorist could create a super terrorist, America would create a super soldier. In another case, if China creates a super soldier, other countries will follow. But the real problem will be the technology that is used by the people. People will use technology to kill, but if the people get smarter and stronger, the technology will be able to be improved more and more and the operators will be able to use it more efficient.

So in the end, I do not think technology will be the end of mankind. If anything will be the end of mankind, a nice nuclear war would be much more efficient. Robots do not have the right motive to turn against humans, unless we give them motive (by attacking them or something like that). I also doubt if robots do have the power to defeat man, because man will make proportional defenses to fend such an attack off. The combination of humans, technology and biologic improvements will create a divided world in which the biggest problem will be the need for control of humans. But, luckily we of Creative Technology have created something to warn you all to fend off the unlikely event of robot domination. Also we have the solution: Fight the robots together! Want to learn how? Linky:

http://klitsie.byethost6.com/projects_public.php?project=project%207.php