

Negative Alienation of Artificial Intelligence and Its Solution

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[**Abstract**] In the era of artificial intelligence, the negative alienation of artificial intelligence has become increasingly prominent, which has delayed the development of human beings to a certain extent. The main reason is that human beings gradually ignore their own subjective initiative and lack rational understanding of human civilization, which is a problem that human beings need to face and solve. From the perspective of philosophy, to overcome the negative alienation of artificial intelligence, it is necessary to clarify the dominant position of human beings and rationally understand human civilization, so as to better promote the harmonious development of human beings and artificial intelligence, nature and society.

[**Key words**] artificial intelligence; negative alienation; solution

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[**DOI**] <https://doi.org/10.62662/kxwxy0103010>

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1 Introduction

The vigorous development of artificial intelligence has brought human beings into the era of intelligence. Many boring, tedious and dangerous work can be completed by the products of artificial intelligence. From human to intelligent human, there is a process of “alienation” from human to non-human. Of course, we do not deny that there are positive aspects in the alienation of artificial intelligence, as many people believe that artificial intelligence liberates people’s body and spirit. However, in the process of alienation, artificial intelligence gradually drives human away from real productive labor and creation, making them a “parasitic group” attached to artificial intelligence. The negative alienation of artificial intelligence leads to serious impact on human’s initiative and understanding of human civilization. Therefore, the harmfulness of artificial intelligence alienation to human development cannot be ignored. This paper studies the origin of negative alienation of artificial intelligence, and further puts forward ways to overcome the negative alienation of artificial intelligence.

2 Connotation of artificial intelligence and its negative alienation

2.1 Artificial intelligence

Artificial intelligence is called AI for short. “Artificial” is a series of manufacturing activities carried out by human beings. This series of manufacturing activities are not only the simulation, extension and expansion of human intelligence, but also the creation of other animal intelligence. The research on animals or other artificial systems also belongs to the related research of artificial intelligence, but it’s mainly about human intelligence. Therefore, some scholars directly understand artificial intelligence as “artificial human intelligence”. For “intelligence”, it is usually understood as wisdom and ability. What does wisdom and ability (intelligence) specifically include? American educational psychologist Howard Gardner divides human intelligence into eight parts in his theory of multiple intelligence: language, space, music, interpersonal relationship, mathematical logic, body movement, self-cognition and natural cognition. Obviously, we can find that these are not all human intelligence. Human beings also have the abilities of imagination, will, insight and aesthetics. With so much human

intelligence, the research field of artificial intelligence is very extensive, including language recognition, image recognition, genetic transformation and other fields. The disciplines involved in research are also very extensive, including computer, mathematics, medicine, bionics, psychology, philosophy and so on. In fact, artificial intelligence can be regarded as an emerging technology science that studies and develops technologies and application systems for simulating and extending human intelligence. In this sense, artificial intelligence is an intelligent machine that humans create through a series of manufacturing activities. It has similar functions with human intelligence and can respond like humans, and even surpass human intelligence.

2.2 Negative alienation of artificial intelligence

During the development of “alienation”, there has been a historical evolution. The word “alienation” is used as a verb in German, which means “to alienate and disengage”. Its general meaning refers to the loss of the subject’s self-state and the transformation into “the other”, while its narrow and negative meaning indicates that the other is alienated from itself. Here Hegel’s “alienation” gives a positive meaning, that is, the subject (spirit) objectifies itself. The power of the object confronts itself and becomes an alien, which separates thing from itself, but the subject must struggle to retrieve the lost self from the alienated object. This is to re-consider the power of the object as its own power, to regard “other things” as “things for me”, to sublate the objectivity of the object and return to itself. Nowadays, in the era of rapid development of artificial intelligence, we do not deny the benefits of artificial intelligence to human beings, that is, the alienation of artificial intelligence has a positive side, but the harm it brings to human beings cannot be ignored. Artificial intelligence has controlled human beings to a certain extent, not all of which, as Hegel said, can turn the “other” of artificial intelligence into a “thing for me”. From this level, we can understand the negative alienation of artificial intelligence, that is, artificial intelligence is originally human, but gradually become an anti-human alien force. Human beings have gradually lost the dominant ability to control artificial intelligence, but have become a tool forced to adapt to the development of artificial intelligence. That is to say, intelligence not only promotes the free and complete development of human beings, but also hinders the development of human beings and makes human beings lose their freedom. As the main body, human beings are in turn ruled and “enslaved” by artificial intelligence.

3 Essence of negative alienation of artificial intelligence

The essence of the negative alienation of artificial intelligence is a negative alienation of human beings themselves. In the process of artificial intelligence development, the negative alienation of human beings is caused by their improper use of intelligent products. The human nature constituted by the two no longer has the most authentic meaning of human beings. The essence is not entirely the development of artificial intelligence itself, but the reason of human beings themselves.

3.1 Ignoring the exertion of subjective initiative

With the continuous development of artificial intelligence, human’s consciousness and behavior have been negatively alienated, which is a transformation of human’s consciousness and behavior. Human beings exist as the subject of cognition and practice. Subjectivity is the subject consciousness and essential power shown by human beings in cognition and practice. Subject consciousness shows initiative in behavior. However, in the era of artificial intelligence, artificial intelligence can almost help human do everything. As a result, human’s consciousness and behavior no longer distinguish human from animals’ life activities as Marx said. That is, human can take the initiative to think, master knowledge, play a subjective initiative to understand and transform the world, with thinking and action to show the reality and authenticity of themselves, rather than living like animals, which are necessary conditions for generation and inheritance. However, the reality is that humans are in an

intelligent society, which promotes the rapid expansion of inertia. The idea of getting something for nothing occupies people's brain. They think that they do not need to study hard, think deeply, strengthen their memory, practice and so on when doing a lot of things, but use intelligent products to search and use them whenever needed. If most people realize that everything depends only on the virtual world created by a few people, and the ability to work becomes dependent on intelligent people, they will lose their unique subjective initiative to explore problems and put them into practice, resulting in the continuous decline of creativity and innovation ability.

In real life, many people directly use intelligent products as communication and knowledge carriers, and intelligent people deprive ordinary people of labor opportunities. These behaviors weaken people's language expression ability, writing ability, logical thinking ability, imagination ability and labor ability, and strengthen their dependence on tools. Excessive dependence on artificial intelligence will make people dehumanized, gradually lose themselves and lose their subjectivity. Human beings should be the main body of the world and play a leading role in the world. But the reality is that many people have been alienated into controllers who will only use the results provided by artificial intelligence, rather than creators and inheritors who have subjective initiative in knowledge and civilization.

3.2 Lacking rational understanding of civilization

In Marx's view, the development of human historical civilization is like this: "History is nothing more than the alternation of generations. Each generation uses the materials, capital and productivity left over from previous generations. For this reason, each generation continues to engage in the activities of the ancestors under completely changed conditions on the one hand, and changes the old conditions through completely changed activities on the other hand." That is to say, the development of human civilization has a certain law of inheritance, and the inheritance of civilization has the characteristics of continuity and coexistence. However, from the perspective of the development of artificial intelligence, the spiritual beliefs in human civilization are gradually lost, and the ethics and morality are declining, which lead to a more perceptual path of human understanding of civilization. Therefore, human beings are induced and controlled by the development of artificial intelligence.

In the process of human historical civilization, the yearning for spiritual belief is the driving force of civilization inheritance, and the leader of civilization spirit is indispensable. In the era of intelligence, many people's needs for spiritual belief have gradually shifted from concept to material rights and interests. Through the media, people have seen many news reports on events such as money worship, fetishism, and flaunting wealth; as for intelligent games, many people are addicted to them; in intelligent entertainment, as Postman warned, "Today, our politics, religion, journalism, sports, education, and business are willingly subservient to entertainment, uncomplaining, and even silent, with the result that we become a species that lives to death". That is, the elements of human civilization are being entertained, and even spoof, gradually destroying human beings. The emergence of these makes people constantly pursue material satisfaction and spend more time in vulgar entertainment. For this reason, many people's spirit is gradually lost, their belief is materialized, their value is lost and etc., and their time is also occupied by artificial intelligence. There is no extra time to enrich the spiritual world and cannot find the lost self.

When lacking spiritual beliefs, human's ethics will decline. The widespread use of artificial intelligence products has made many people hide behind intelligence, gradually forgetting human nature and becoming indifferent about others. For example, the "Keyboard Man" who only makes a bluff behind the intelligence, angrily scolds and holds others accountable, and also carries out moral kidnapping. In addition, in artificial intelligence, robots simulate human emotions. The marriage problem between people and robots is approaching, which is not in

line with the normal development of human normal ethics. Scientists use gene editing technology to change human genes, and even edit new humans. Without control, there will be unisexual humans without gender distinction, synthetics of humans and machines, and hybrids of humans and organisms. Human development is regular, and it is based on human beings. Making artificial intelligence as a part of the human body, then people will eventually be manipulated and “enslaved” by machines. Artificial intelligence as such does not develop in a favorable direction as human beings initially expected, but poses an inherent threat to the development of human beings and civilization.

4 Solution to the negative alienation of artificial intelligence

Jan Tali, Luke Millhauser et al. , as leading scholars in artificial intelligence, issued an open letter warning that “if there are no security measures against artificial intelligence, it may lead to the future that human beings become bleak or even perish”. Therefore, how will human beings overcome the negative alienation of artificial intelligence and resolve the crisis caused by it? This requires scientists, experts, governments, etc. to make a joint effort. This paper mainly analyzes from the philosophical level, and discusses the solution to the negative alienation of artificial intelligence from two aspects: human subjectivity and human civilization.

4.1 Defining the dominant position of human

To overcome the negative alienation of artificial intelligence, we should mainly start from the human body to clarify the dominant position of human beings. Artificial intelligence is the product of human’s initiative and creative manufacturing in practical activities. Its functions are also explored by humans through existing knowledge and imagination. It can be seen that the functions of artificial intelligence are based on human’s creativity. Although artificial intelligence has the creativity given by human beings, it does not have subjective initiative. Humans cannot rely too much on the creativity of artificial intelligence. Instead, it can only be used as a tool to help humans understand and transform the world. When using artificial intelligence, human beings should maintain the dominant position, without inertia, dependence or loss of subjectivity. Human subjectivity is a key factor in the development of human society. Once the subjectivity is lost, artificial intelligence becomes the subject of controlling people. At this time, people have no initiative to transform or develop artificial intelligence that is conducive to human development, and its negative alienation will be further deepened. Human beings do not create artificial intelligence for the development of artificial intelligence itself and the short-term development of society, but for the long-term development of human beings, artificial intelligence and society. The ultimate goal is to realize the free and comprehensive development of human beings.

It is extremely important to clarify the subject status of human beings to overcome the negative alienation of artificial intelligence. Therefore, how to clarify the subject status of human beings? The subject status of human beings is embodied in specific practical activities, and the subject of practice is human beings. More practical activities by human beings can reduce the control of artificial intelligence, and realizing the full development of human practical ability, rather than hiding behind artificial intelligence, will promote human development. The development of human beings can promote the development of artificial intelligence at the same time, which in turn promotes the development of human beings. Such a virtuous cycle is the key to overcoming the negative alienation of artificial intelligence.

4.2 Rationally understanding the essence of civilization

According to Marxism, human civilization is a practical activity to transform nature and society, including spiritual civilization and material civilization. The lack of civilization has a huge impact on human development. Engels pointed out that it is absurd and anti-natural to oppose spirit and material, human and nature, and soul and

body. It can be seen that material and spirit are interdependent. The development of human civilization needs to conform to the laws of nature, and needs to be based on the spiritual and material production of human perfection.

In human civilization, humans are the unity of spirit and life. If people have no spirit and belief, their existence is no different from the survival of animals, which will lead to human failure. Only with spirit and belief can people have reason and awe. In the world of artificial intelligence, people need to treat human civilization rationally, and use artificial intelligence with awe. Any behavior of spoofing or entertaining the classic civilization and its inheritance rules is the alienation of human nature in the era where it is located. People need the power of spirit and belief to resist the vulgarization of intelligent entertainment civilization to a large extent or be induced by vulgar culture, and even inhibit the human spirit and change the human belief. To this end, human beings should rationally treat the entertainment culture, not drifting with the flow; develop artificial intelligence with awe, so that the development of artificial intelligence in line with ethical and moral requirements; the construction of excellent spiritual civilization promotes the production of material civilization.

Engels once pointed out that “it is not enough to rely solely on understanding, a complete revolution on our existing mode of production and the whole social system that is linked to this mode is also needed”. Similarly, in the era of artificial intelligence, we should not only build excellent spiritual civilization, but also produce material civilization—innovative artificial intelligence on the basis of the development law of human civilization. With the progress of the times, the manufacture of society has gradually turned to intelligent manufacturing. People are increasingly relying on artificial intelligence to solve the crisis of human existence, and the more they do, the more they need to innovate in artificial intelligence, that is, to maximize the realization of the humanization of artificial intelligence and weaken the negative alien force of artificial intelligence on people. In general, overcoming the negative alienation of artificial intelligence requires everyone’s spiritual life, material production, scientific and technological creation behavior to consciously follow the development law of human civilization and promote the harmonious development of human and artificial intelligence, human and nature, and human and society.

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