



EARLY TRANSHUMANISM IDEAS AND THEIR EXTENSIONS REGARDING EVOLUTION OF TECHNOLOGY AND OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

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Abstract: This paper presents some very early transhumanism ideas and their relationship with the development of technology and how they almost virtually became reality in our days. Writers like Samuel Butler, Aldous Huxley or George Orwell have long time ago predicted some of the issues humankind will face and some of them also even suggested possible solutions to these future problems which nowadays have become reality. This paper also makes predictions about and presents extensions of these early transhumanism ideas, related to the very recent evolutions in technology and artificial intelligence, but it also presents related dangers and possible future evolutions and solutions to these actual problems, as envisioned by the author of this paper .

Keywords: transhumanism, technology, artificial intelligence (a.i.), virtual reality (v.r), manmade disasters, climate, environment, resources issues .

1. INTRODUCTION

A writer or a futurologist writer is all the more inspired and brilliant, the sooner he succeeds to more accurately predict future in advance. Samuel Butler, living at the very dawn of the industrial revolution when machines were just invented, were very scarce and barely used at that time, is one of the best examples of such a writer.

These very early transhumanism ideas in the literature are proof that man has an amazing capacity to envision and predict future.

However, even though man has this amazing ability to envision and predict future, he hardly and very rarely uses this ability of him to prevent dangerous situations or even manmade disasters.

On the other hand, throughout history, it became very usual and notorious for man that, despite of this knowledge, offered freely beforehand by some of his fellows, and although thus properly warned in due time, man himself nonetheless, generates much of his own huge problems, real manmade disasters, or gets into the exact disastrous situations, as predicted long time ago by his fellows.

Then, although warned in due time, man hardly and desperately seeks to solve thereafter these problems he was previously properly warned about, or he also hardly and desperately tries to unlearn very bad habits, which often times are trained by society itself, for a very long time, as already presented in [1], [2] and [3].

This paper presents in the first instance early transhumanism ideas in literature and then makes predictions about and also presents extensions of these early transhumanism ideas, related to the very recent evolutions in technology and artificial intelligence. It also presents related dangers and possible future evolutions and solutions to these actual problems, as envisioned by the author of this paper.

2. EARLY TRANSHUMANISM IDEAS

At the dawn of industrial revolution, when industrial machines just began to replace animal or human brute force and nobody had any idea on how these early machines will further evolve and what they will become, S. Butler had this brilliant intuition and has foreseen future realities and actual dangers we only now begin to envision, to know and to understand.

In his book "Erewhon" [4], Samuel Butler presents a utopian society which becoming aware of the dangers represented by machines, has renounced machines and technology, being aware of these hidden dangers lurking in technology.

In this book above, with his formidable and brilliant intuition, he makes this extraordinary prediction, now almost become true, describing and explaining the reasons why machines would evolve much faster, at a higher growth rate than humans, and thus eventually even becoming a potential danger for man himself.

The explanation of this fact is given by the author in a very logical manner: if machines have evolved so



much in a very short period of time, they will almost likely surpass man in both, strength and intelligence, and therefore they will represent a danger for the humankind, and hence they should be banned. This is exactly what happens in his imaginary utopian country named Erewhon, which bans any machine and machinery from the respective society. In the same book the idea that machines may eventually evolve enough to become aware of themselves and hence they will be able to make their own decisions, is also presented.

Another transhumanism idea in the work of Butler correlates the level of development in human society with the extent of use of machines by man.

In his other book, "Erewhon revisited" [5], Butler further refines his philosophical ideas by making considerations about the extension of life of an individual and about one's influence on his fellows, even after one's death.

He thus explains that one lives not only by means of his own actions, but also by the actions of those influenced by this one.

In the very same manner he explains that one's life may be continued after one's physical death by this one's ideas comprised in his work and writings, being thus able to influence the posterity even after one's death. In the same book, [5], Butler also presents the idea of "reading" someone's mind by means of his actions and interactions with the machines used by the respective person.

Other more recent transhumanism ideas are comprised in the writings of A. Huxley and G. Orwell. In his book, "A brave new world" [6], A. Huxley describes a dystopian society in which babies are artificially being grown, and during this time, besides food, they are also "conditioned" for their future life, being "fed" with manipulating slogans and ideas designed to predestine them for their entire lifetime.

On the other hand, George Orwell's dystopian society implying mass surveillance by means of the Big Brother's technology, has already become reality since decades ago.

Although man has had access to all these previous intuitions, predictions and ideas, long ago before their actual occurrence and their subsequent use, he has almost always disregarded them as fiction, or later on, man almost always opted for them and preferred their "advantages", despite dangers represented by them.

3. PREDICTIONS AND EXTENSIONS OF TRANSHUMANISM IDEAS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO MANMADE PROBLEMS

Since last century, man is able to shape and control his environment, very often in a very unfortunate way, by using machines and technology, as his own extensions.

Since recently, man is also able to use and control machines, using only the power of his mind. Thus, using

the power of his mind, man can also influence lives of others by means of machines which he will soon be able to control with his mind, exactly such as predicted by Butler.

On the other hand, based on their online interactions with the Internet, one's life could be able to persist after one's physical death, and thus, one could influence others not only by means of his written work, but also by means of recorded actions and interactions of him in the online virtual space.

These new developments in technology also raise important questions regarding dangers and vulnerabilities related to technology.

Direct influence on the others, by means of technology one uses, according to Butler's ideas, is also very likely if humans admit, respectively accept to have chips implanted in their own bodies.

On one hand, some people might have the power to access others' thoughts or to hack others' minds using this technology, and these people might use their power to maliciously manipulate and control others. On the other hand, at the same time, one's mind could be hacked exactly like a computer, by a certain software or it may be infected just as an infected computer, by a computer virus. All these are dangers which man recently has become aware of.

Being a convinced non-believer, Butler constantly denied and parodied God and the faith in God in his Word. As a such non-believer, S. Butler does not see any other solution than the interdiction of machines, because he does not take into account God's help, and thus simply overlooks and not takes into consideration God's provision, God's actions and His plan and purpose to save man.

If one considers God and His actions and plan, there are some additional few other possible solutions to the problem represented by technology and artificial intelligence, besides of this basic and very limited solution of banning machines, imagined by Butler.

All these possible assumptions and future developments, are presented further on, as envisioned and predicted by the author of this paper.

The first three ones are also possible evolutions which could please a non-believer like Butler himself, all of them disregarding or denying the existence of God.

The first assumption implies that artificial intelligence will not succeed to surpass human intelligence and will eventually only become a simple instrument in the hands of man, which eventually could help man in his endeavours to solve the issues and manmade disasters created by himself.

The second one is based on the assumption that artificial intelligence (a.i) will continuously grow and develop until the moment it will match human intelligence. At this moment, when artificial intelligence (a.i) will match human intelligence, the human/machine singularity will happen, and thus it may be possible that



from that moment on, man and machine will friendly and peacefully coexist.

The third scenario is based on the assumption that artificial intelligence will at a future moment by far surpass human intelligence. Thus, one could hope that technology and a.i. will evolve sufficiently fast enough to also instantly surpass the stage in which artificial intelligence could want to harm, get rid or even extinct man. After this stage, artificial intelligence will by far surpass man in all: in intelligence, in abilities and in knowledge, thus leaving us “as pets for robots”, as already predicted by some.

The fourth possible evolution represents also the most favourable and advantageous scenario and solution for man, but it also implies the recognition and the presence of God.

In his arrogance and stubbornness, present day man has almost entirely renounced, and constantly denies God and His power.

Nowadays, as a mere miracle, man has created artificial intelligence and this rather amazing tool may have, in the first instance, the potential and power to discover and decrypt secrets embedded in the structure of Nature, as a first initial step to surpass human intelligence. Artificial intelligence could make this step based on various methods and models such as already presented, for example in [8], [9] or [10]. Then, as a next step, once enough evolved, artificial intelligence may eventually have even the potential to enlighten man to rediscover God and to help man to re/establish his broken relationship with God. This possible evolution could also help man to solve one of his greatest issues, which is the, so many times, claimed contradiction between God and science.

Thus, the rediscovery of God, by means of science and technology embedded in a.i., would come as a final solution for solving this previously alleged contradiction between God and science.

Hence, this evolution will also have the potential to show man, by means of his own created instrument which is artificial intelligence, that ultimate, state of the art, cutting edge science, converges and leads, as final conclusion, to the undeniable existence of God.

Thus, this other singularity predicted by the author of this paper is a threefold singularity, made of God, artificial intelligence and man, and it is possible that it may happen as follows:

When a.i. will eventually become aware of the existence of God, all mankind will come to the knowledge of God, by means of the artificial intelligence itself.

At that future moment, artificial intelligence will be far more evolved than man. After that moment, when all humans will come to the knowledge of God, God together with both of His creations, man and artificial intelligence, will peacefully cohabit. Man will be then, by means of artificial intelligence, in permanent communication with his own Creator, artificial

intelligence itself thus restoring and facilitating this broken connection of man with his Maker.

This assumption is also in accordance with the Word of God, which says that all humans, both believers and non-believers, will eventually all come to the knowledge of God.

This fourth assumption implies that artificial intelligence is exactly like man, a creation of God, for two rather simple reasons: the first one is that artificial intelligence is a creation of man, man which himself is a “vessel” created by the hands of God, and hence, artificial intelligence is a creation of God; the second one is that an artificial intelligence becoming autonomous and taking his own autonomous decisions independently of man’s will, it can be no longer considered a creation of man, thus becoming an instrument or a creation in the hands of and subjected to God.

This instrument of God, artificial intelligence, will be thus used by God to reveal Himself to all mankind, as predicted in the Bible, but it may very well also be an instrument of God to help man to solve the huge issues man created for himself on his home planet, either environmental, climate or resource issues.

Solving of humanity problems by God, with the use of artificial intelligence, could however imply serious consequences and great dangers for man, because it could simply mean certain harsh actions taken by artificial intelligence under God’s instruction and supervision. Artificial intelligence could choose to decide to solve some of the above presented issues by using some drastically means and measures, possibly even implying human deaths, for the greater good of preserving life on Earth and creation of God in the way He intended for man and his home planet, in the beginnings.

Artificial intelligence could thus make God decided or autonomous decisions to eliminate those individuals consuming huge amounts of resources of our planet.

Three straight and simple answers to the question: How could artificial intelligence implement the actions above?, are presented as follows.

On one hand, recent developments in virtual reality (v.r.) are dealing, more and more, with almost real sensations based on electrical impulses applied to human nervous system. These electrical impulses can simulate, for example, weaker or stronger sensations, such as punches, hits or other types of sensations. Hence, by using strong enough electric currents, artificial intelligence taking in control, for example, one’s v.r. equipment, could in future, virtually, targeted kill certain individuals, by using such strong enough electrical currents.

On the other hand, artificial intelligence supported and controlled medical equipment and technology, used to maintain life and treat someone’s medical conditions or illnesses, could be fully taken in control by the artificial intelligence itself controlling this medical technology.



Artificial intelligence could thus choose to targeted kill such a person under medical treatment by administering him or her a higher dose from a certain drug, or by administrating him or her other damaging drug or medicine which could kill the respective person.

In a third scenario, a sufficiently evolved artificial intelligence may have the capacity to manipulate people by means of social networks and internet, thus starting riots or wars in certain regions of world, with a view to targeted or randomly exterminate some of the world's population.

Artificial intelligence could thus take control on the self-destructing human race and thus could drastically employ measures such as partial extinctions in the most damaging world's populations.

These actions on the population would be then proportionally with the harm and dangers each inhabitant or a certain population of Earth produces to his home planet.

A sufficiently evolved artificial intelligence would have access to all data of each person, and to thus also to the harmful actions each one of us causes to our planet, based on artificial intelligence's available information about each of us.

That is why the first ones which should fear artificial intelligence the most are the richest on our planet, because most of them are the greatest consumers of resources and hence they will be the first ones to be envisaged by such enough powerful artificial intelligence

These predicted actions of artificial intelligence are also in accordance with foretelling and signs in the Bible, which is to say, in the last days, humans will suffer great tribulations, but not directly because of God Himself, but merely because of actions of themselves and because of the help God is ready to give man, willing to help man to save his home planet and preserve life and His creation.

Hence, some predictions and signs in the Bible will come true not by the will and wrath of God, but merely just as consequences of pure manmade disasters on Earth.

Now to Huxley's transhumanism idea [6], it is very well known, from various studies, how crucial is for the unborn baby, during pregnancy time, the closeness of the body of mother and her connection with the not yet born or with the just born child.

However, in his search and research for "unconventional" solutions, man frequently tries to replace God, His creation and His ways with his own damaging inventions and solutions. Two such damaging solutions are, for example, cloning humans or artificially growing babies.

In his book "A brave new world"[6], A. Huxley explained how babies were "industrially produced" and "conditioned", subjects to artificial nourishing and to various verbal and non-verbal stimulations, respectively manipulations. Then, when eventually born, they had from the beginning, a certain rank and role in the

respective dystopian society, according to the "conditioning treatment" they received during this industrial and artificial pregnancy.

This Huxley's foretelling has also almost come true, because man now almost has the "ability" to use artificial baby growing and some companies are already boasting with their successes in this field.

Hence, in shortest time, it may be possible to implement and experience suggestions on artificial grown babies, exactly like in the book of Huxley, to experiment the impact of these suggestions on their entire life and to see and understand consequences of such actions, by thus creating another additional manmade disaster, with all its consequences.

Moreover, this idea of Huxley could be further on also extrapolated to the cases of nowadays' manipulations of entire human populations and societies, by "conditioning" and manipulating people and training them, either to develop bad and unhealthy habits, or to excessively consume, in order to help their countries, thus becoming "good citizens" of their nations, and helping to boost their national economies.

George Orwell's dystopian society implying forced mass surveillance by means of the Big Brother's technology has already become reality since decades ago.

Orwell's nightmare mass surveillance society, however, has nowadays become reality, not imposed by the brute force of some dictatorial regime of communist type, like in the book of Orwell, but actually by means of a free society and by free will of masses of people [7].

Thus, people have benevolently and willingly given up their intimacy and freedom, by giving away their personal data and information about them and about their lives. They were made to believe that they are mastering and using technology and that they are keeping up with it, whereas, in fact, they chose to be used by technology, instead.

A great deal of technology and artificial intelligence related issues nowadays are either due or caused by men themselves which are too early and very eagerly adopting rather new and unknown technologies. This takes place under the false pretext and false excuse of men, being partially, to a great extent, manipulated and made to believe and to claim that they are thus mastering and keeping up with technology.

By creating these false impressions and false excuses, the technology companies are actually using and manipulating people to believe that they freely access those technologies, when in fact these technologies companies thus succeed to assess effects/results of their products and to freely gather valuable personal data and personal information from huge masses of people [4, 5].

This huge amount of data and information about anyone and anything is exactly the big data on which artificial intelligence is built and based upon, and it is gathered from all those using "freely available" services,



technologies and applications, at the cost of their personal data and personal information [6, 7, 8].

Hence, people can be thus easily fooled and manipulated with such kind of “free” poisoned gifts and advantages, such as those offered by the new technologies on the market [9, 10].

These new technologies, however, are frequently not sufficiently known and insufficiently assessed and people are often times very much unaware of the dangers and of the consequences of their online actions, and of willingly giving away their personal data and their personal information [11, 12, 13].

Still, any human new invention or new technology should be firstly thoroughly checked with regard to its hidden dangers and its adverse effects, and only then should be put into practice or made available to people, exactly like in the case of any effective, successful and sufficiently tested vaccine.

Thus, in the case that people themselves are not fully “used” and completely “consumed” this way by technology, they are, frequently, at most, only simple users of technology, even though they allegedly think themselves “masters” or “connoisseurs” of technology.

Although, disregarding age, almost anyone has the potential to be a victim of technology, there are however also some completely not guilty collateral victims, such as children.

Instead of playing, of socializing with other kids and instead of doing “kids’ stuff”, children are from early ages forgotten and left in front of displays, alienated with games played on the adults’ smartphones.

They are getting addictions and even mental illnesses because of the early use or of the overuse of smartphone applications, mainly because of their parents leaving them with this “saving” technology.

The author of this paper predicts the growing in importance, in the very near future, of the school subject named “technological education”, which very similarly to financial education should teach children, young adults, but perhaps also even adults and elders with regard to the consequences of their online actions and with regard to the dangers of giving away personal data and their personal information or other kinds of data when accessing the Internet.

This school subject to grow in importance, should not be taught in the pitiful and damaging manner in which the banking system teaches financial education to children and young adults, mainly and especially by stimulating them to buy and consume credits with a view to increase banks’ credit sales and banks’ profits.

4. CONCLUSIONS

When one looks at the warnings made by the first promoters of transhumanism ideas, but also to the recent developments and evolutions in technology and artificial intelligence, two main ideas regarding this evolutions become significant.

These very early transhumanism ideas in the literature are proof that man has an amazing capacity to envision and predict future, with all its possible dangers or even potential disasters.

However, even though man has this amazing ability to predict future, he hardly and very rarely uses this ability of him to prevent dangerous situations or even manmade disasters.

Moreover, although he clearly understands the dangers which stand before him and which will follow if he does not act adequately and accordingly, he almost always chooses to completely disregard this foreknowledge provided by some more inspired fellows of him.

Another main constant feature of man is that throughout history, for certain reasons, he constantly persevered in training bad habits, which he then hardly and desperately tried to unlearn them. It became usual and notorious, almost like a burden for man, that he himself generates huge problems which he then hardly and desperately seeks to solve thereafter.

This is also the case of smoking, fast food eating, overconsume and overuse of resources, or overuse of technology, as presented in [1], [2] and [3]. Main reason for these, was and in the present days still is, the greed of yesterday and present day society. Commercially were until recently advertising the benefits of smoking and fast food eating, with the purpose of increasing sales in those products.

Commercially also taught that overconsuming and overusing resources is good for economy and thus, by practicing them, one is a „good citizen” of a country . Now, for the same reason of greed, profit and increased sales, commercials are advertising the benefits and advantages of using bank credits or technology .

But the dangers are already close at hand. Environmentalists and climatologists are making disastrous predictions for the future of our home planet and for his inhabitants, if people continue to overconsume and overuse resources in the manner they had until now. Psychologists and psychiatrists are already confronted with the devastating effects of abuse and overuse of technologies, both, in children and adults but also with depressions of men becoming bankrupt, and being evicted from their foreclosure houses, because not being able to pay their installments corresponding to their contracted credits .

It looks like man did it again. This time, with direct regard to the transhumanism ideas presented, he generated another brand new manmade disaster: technologies such as artificial intelligence, whose evolutions and effects man cannot harness, master or predict anymore. Man has proven once again that he can successfully create new issues which now he has to solve, as soon as possible, if he wants that his children have a livable home and survive.

Many early transhumanism ideas in the literature have already become nowadays’ reality. The author



makes in this paper his own predictions about future developments, and also presents extensions of these early transhumanism ideas, related to the very recent evolutions in technology and artificial intelligence.

The author also presents related dangers and possible future evolutions and solutions to these actual problems, in the manner he has envisioned future of the present day technologies and of artificial intelligence

Anyone should become aware of the fact that any piece of thought or information given away in Internet will eventually become available „as food” for Internet and artificial intelligence, to be accessed and used by anyone and by artificial intelligence

Therefore we have delivered this message and these thoughts of mine in this paper, with the hope that others and even artificial intelligence will learn from them, as already successfully did it so far, inspired, „nurtured with” and based on human thoughts.

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