

## **Paradox Artificial Intelligence: Encourage Innovation or Kill Thoughts?**

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### **Abstract:**

Artificial intelligence (AI) has brought about major innovations in various fields, from technology to education. However, behind these advances, there are concerns about the impact of AI on human thinking abilities. This article examines the dilemma humans face in adopting AI, likened to a paradox—between beneficial innovation and the potential destruction of critical thinking. To discuss this topic, this article focuses on two discussions. First, how society and individuals can balance the benefits of AI innovation with the risks of weakening critical thinking abilities and autonomy of thinking? Second, whether ethical boundaries need to be applied in the use of AI to avoid negative impacts on human intellectual abilities. By combining theoretical reviews and case analysis, this article highlights how AI can optimize productivity and innovation while questioning whether excessive dependence on technology can hinder humans' ability to think independently and critically. The discussion also touches on ethical aspects, where considerations need to be made in setting limits on the use of AI so as not to threaten human cognitive abilities and creativity. Ultimately, this article aims to provide a deeper understanding of how AI can be a tool for innovation as well as a potential threat to human intellectual development.

**Keywords:** *Artificial Intelligence; Innovation; Destruction of Thought; Ethics; Critical Thinking*

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## Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become one of the main pillars in the development of innovation in various sectors, from industry to education. With its ability to analyze data quickly and accurately, AI has brought significant changes in increasing efficiency, creativity, and productivity. In the industrial sector, AI can automate production processes that previously required time and human resources (Eka Puji Astutik, Nur Afif Ayuni, 2023). Meanwhile, in education, the use of AI supports more personal and interactive learning methods, allowing access to broader and more diverse learning materials. All of this shows the great potential of AI in advancing human civilization.

However, along with the various benefits offered by AI, there are increasingly real concerns about its impact on critical thinking skills and human autonomy. The use of AI in decision-making and problem-solving may lead to over-dependence, where humans rely more often on technology than on their cognitive abilities (Dendi & Sanjaya, 2024). This phenomenon raises the question, are we sacrificing the ability to think deeply and critically for the efficiency and speed offered by AI? As AI continues to advance, the challenge for humans is how to maintain the balance between harnessing AI and maintaining the autonomy of thought that is the essence of human intelligence.

In a world that is increasingly dependent on technology, the question of the impact of AI on human intellectual abilities becomes increasingly relevant. How can humans maintain analytical and creative abilities amidst technological advances that offer instant solutions to various problems? Are we creating a society that is too dependent on AI, thereby eroding the ability to think independently? This article will examine the paradox that arises from the use of AI—a technology that drives innovation but has the potential to erode one of the core human strengths: the ability to think critically and autonomously.

AI is increasingly used in decision-making, both at the personal and institutional levels. From virtual assistants used to schedule daily activities to pattern recognition and machine learning systems in business, healthcare, and government sectors, it has revolutionized the way humans interact with the world (Dendi & Sanjaya, 2024). This AI technology allows humans to simplify complex processes, speed up data analysis, and produce more efficient solutions. At the institutional level, AI helps reduce human workload and enables faster and more accurate data-driven decision-making. However, there is a price to pay for this convenience and efficiency.

The convenience and automation offered by AI raise concerns that humans may experience a decline in cognitive skills, especially in terms of critical thinking and decision-making (Gruetzemacher & Whittlestone, 2022). As humans increasingly rely on AI to solve problems, does this mean they will use deeper analytical and reasoning skills less and less? For example, when AI is able to provide instant recommendations based on preferences or historical data, humans may be more likely to accept those suggestions without questioning the logic or alternatives behind them (Jelahun et al., 2021). This process has the potential to reduce the intellectual challenges that have been an important part of human cognitive development.

With the increasing use of AI in various aspects of life, the challenge that arises is how humans can maintain a balance between utilizing technological advances and training their critical thinking skills. While AI offers faster and more efficient solutions, humans must still maintain the capacity to assess, process, and evaluate information independently (Gruetzemacher & Whittlestone, 2022). This article aims to explore how the interaction between humans and AI can affect an individual's intellectual development, and to what extent reliance on this technology may impact broader cognitive skills.

On the one hand, artificial intelligence (AI) has become a catalyst for innovation that can accelerate solutions to global problems. AI technology has succeeded in

improving the quality of life, for example through discoveries in the fields of health, improvements in transportation systems, and energy and environmental optimization. In this context, AI helps humans achieve breakthroughs that were previously difficult to achieve, such as faster and more accurate medical diagnoses, mitigating climate change, and finding solutions to the challenges of urbanization and sustainable development. These innovations open up new opportunities and provide hope for a more efficient and sustainable future.

On the other hand, however, the advancement of AI technology also raises profound questions about how this affects humans' ability to think independently. Reliance on AI, especially in everyday decision-making, can lead to a weakening of humans' cognitive abilities in solving complex problems. When AI can provide answers and recommendations instantly, humans may be tempted to rely on this technology without making critical assessments. As a result, independent thinking processes and the ability to analyze deeply can be eroded. This phenomenon raises concerns that innovations that should advance civilization risk reducing human creativity and innovation in the long term. The question that arises then is: how does this innovation affect the overall human thinking process? The increasingly widespread use of AI is encouraging humans to redefine their role in solving problems. Will we as a society retain the ability to think independently, or will we slowly hand over more aspects of decision-making to technology? In this article, we will further analyze how AI not only drives innovation but also affects human mental and intellectual development—either providing space for new creativity or, conversely, eroding the critical thinking capacity that is fundamental to human progress.

The use of artificial intelligence (AI) not only brings innovation but also raises complex ethical issues. One important question that arises is whether there needs to be a limit on the use of AI, especially to prevent the degradation of human critical thinking skills. In various sectors, AI has been able to take over most of human cognitive functions, from administrative decision-making to strategic assessments. If the use of this technology is not regulated wisely, there is the potential that humans will become increasingly alienated from deep thinking processes, which could ultimately result in a decline in analytical and critical skills. Ethical limits are needed to ensure that AI remains a tool that strengthens, rather than weakens, human intellectual abilities.

Given that AI has a great capacity to influence the way humans think, work, and make decisions, discussions about the application of ethical principles in its development are becoming increasingly urgent. Do we need to regulate the extent to which AI can replace human problem-solving or decision-making abilities? Is there a risk that AI will reduce the intellectual challenges that have been driving human development? Some argue that there needs to be an ethical framework that regulates the use of AI so that this technology remains used responsibly, without eliminating the role of humans as the final decision-makers.

Furthermore, the application of these ethical principles is not only important to protect human thinking ability, but also to maintain a balance between the benefits of technology and its negative impacts. AI used without considering ethical aspects can lead to unhealthy dependency, where humans lose their autonomy and capacity to evaluate information independently. This article will highlight the importance of ethical discussions in the development and application of AI, and how these ethical boundaries can help prevent potential negative impacts on human intellectual and critical abilities in an era increasingly dominated by technology. This study aims to examine the impact of AI on human thinking capacity and formulate ethical steps that may be implemented to

prevent intellectual degradation in the era of artificial intelligence. To discuss this, this article will explore two main questions, namely (1) How can society and individuals balance the benefits of AI innovation with the risk of weakening critical abilities and autonomy of thinking? and (2) Do ethical boundaries need to be applied in the use of AI to avoid negative impacts on human intellectual abilities?

## Methods

This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach to analyze the phenomenon of artificial intelligence (AI) in the context of its impact on human thinking ability and the ethical implications that arise. This method was chosen because it is in accordance with the purpose of the study, namely to understand in depth how AI plays a role in creating a paradox between encouraging innovation and weakening critical ability and autonomy of thinking (Creswell, 2009). The qualitative descriptive approach allows researchers to explore the phenomenon through in-depth interpretation of relevant data sources, without being tied to quantifying the results, but rather focusing on understanding the context, processes, and meanings generated by the use of AI in society.

Data collection in this study was carried out through text and literature study methods. Text study involves a critical review of various written sources relevant to the research topic, including scientific articles, books, reports, and previous research results that focus on AI innovation and its impact on human thinking abilities. This study also includes an analysis of literature related to technology ethics, especially those discussing ethics in the use of AI and its impact on intellectual abilities (Saldana, 2011). The main focus of this data collection is on understanding how AI affects human thinking patterns at large and how society can balance the benefits of AI innovation with the risks of reducing critical thinking skills. The data analysis process in this study is carried out inductively. The researcher will begin by reviewing various literature sources to identify key themes related to the research topic, such as the impact of AI on thinking autonomy, the degradation of critical thinking skills, and ethical challenges in the application of AI. Once these themes are identified, the researcher will map the relationships between the themes and interpret the meaning of the patterns that emerge. This analysis aims to provide a clear picture of how AI, although encouraging innovation, can pose risks to the development of critical thinking skills and individual autonomy. Thus, this research method seeks to provide a deep and comprehensive understanding of the paradox presented by AI: whether AI actually encourages innovation or actually erodes human critical thinking skills. The results of this study are expected to provide important contributions to academic studies in the field of technology ethics and AI innovation.

## Results and Discussion

### ***The Artificial Intelligence Dilemma: Between Innovation and the Risk of Critical Thinking Weakening***

Artificial intelligence (AI) has become an innovation that makes human life easier, especially in aspects such as automation of routine work, increasing process efficiency, and improving services. AI allows many tasks that previously took a lot of time and resources to be done faster and more accurately. For example, in the industrial sector, AI is used to simplify production chains, speed up data analysis processes, and automate administrative functions (Mulianingsih et al., 2020). In the service sector, AI has improved the user experience through personalized services, such as recommendation systems or virtual assistants that can adjust services according to individual needs.

Artificial intelligence has a very large ability to provide a significant positive impact on all aspects of human life, from increasing business efficiency to improving the quality of life. Artificial intelligence has several main goals and benefits. First, AI will

automate repetitive and mechanical tasks. Using algorithms and machine learning models can automate tasks such as data processing, pattern recognition, and language processing. Second, AI increases efficiency and productivity which can result in significant cost and time savings in various industries and sectors, including manufacturing, logistics, and financial services. Third, AI is also able to make good decisions. Artificial intelligence can help in making better and more accurate decisions in every context, such as medical diagnosis, financial risk management, and strategic business planning.

AI will further be able to improve the quality of life by providing solutions to complex problems in various fields such as health, education, and the environment. Artificial intelligence can also trigger innovation in technology and create economic opportunities. Technological innovation can produce new products and services that enrich human life. Improvement of public services, by providing more effective and efficient solutions in various fields such as transportation, education, and health services are also positive impacts of the development of artificial intelligence (Dendi & Sanjaya, 2024).

A popular example of AI today is ChatGPT, which is an artificial intelligence chatbot that offers many benefits, including increased student engagement, collaboration, and accessibility (Jačisko et al., 2024). ChatGPT is now an AI tool that has attracted over 100 million monthly active users in a short time. The use of ChatGPT in various fields brings many benefits. Among others, increasing engagement, motivation, and skills. ChatGPT is one of OpenAI's latest artificial intelligence technologies that has a positive impact, especially in increasing personal and business productivity. With better access to information on various topics, get answers quickly without having to search for information manually from various sources (Eka Puji Astutik, Nur Afif Ayuni, 2023).

The use of artificial intelligence in education has a very broad positive impact. One of the main contributions of artificial intelligence is the ability to align learning approaches with the needs of individual students, realizing the concept of personalized learning. In analyzing data, artificial intelligence can understand the level of understanding of each student and present learning materials according to learning objectives. In the field of education, artificial intelligence contributes significantly to education in Indonesia by creating virtual classrooms. With the existence of virtual classrooms, AI technology can be utilized to simulate a physical classroom environment that allows students and teachers to interact in real time. This aspect is very relevant in the Indonesian context, where distance learning is becoming increasingly important due to geographical challenges such as rural schools. By replicating the experience of a physical classroom, AI-powered virtual classrooms encourage active participation, collaboration, and engagement between students. Artificial intelligence also plays an important role in the development of educational curricula in Indonesia (Rochmawati et al., 2023).

The positive impact of artificial intelligence also includes the field of education. Artificial intelligence allows learning to be tailored to the needs and preferences of individual students. AI systems can also provide quick feedback and automatically evaluate student performance. Artificial intelligence systems automatically perform administrative tasks such as exam grading, scheduling, attendance, and assessments. Making it easier for educators to increase efficiency in learning. Artificial intelligence is also able to help create a personalized and effective learning experience for each student. Artificial intelligence technology can encourage communication and collaboration between students and educators as a tool. Artificial intelligence can provide students with

access to innovative resources and tools that stimulate creativity and critical thinking (Arisanti et al., 2024)

In the digital era, artificial intelligence with a significant impact has a good influence. One of the benefits of AI is the ability to provide information and advice quickly and efficiently so that it can help humans, especially those who are very curious. By using AI, they can easily and quickly find answers to their questions. Because the majority of humans in the millennial era already have electronic devices. In addition, AI can help education through online learning platforms, where AI technology can be found on smartphones, which is a vital need for the millennial generation (Isti'anatul Mashlahah & Syamsul Arifin, 2023). AI memengaruhi banyak aspek kehidupan manusia, seperti ilmu komputer, etika, hukum, dan ilmu sosial. Oleh karena itu, sangat penting untuk memiliki pemahaman yang mendalam tentang masalah etika yang berkaitan dengan penggunaan AI. Kecerdasan buatan dapat mengumpulkan data sensitif yang dapat digunakan secara tidak etis. Hal ini akan memungkinkan pencuri cyber untuk mencuri atau mengambil data pribadi seperti identitas atau informasi keuangan yang dihasilkan selama model digunakan. Peningkatan kasus pencurian data telah dikaitkan dengan penggunaan media sosial seperti Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, dan Instagram (Najwa Fathiro Cahyono et al., 2023).

As this development progresses, society is increasingly relying on AI to simplify everyday tasks. Recommendation systems on shopping, entertainment, and social media platforms, as well as virtual assistants such as Siri and Google Assistant, have become part of many people's daily lives. The use of AI in this context provides significant convenience, allowing individuals to save time and effort in making small decisions that previously required manual consideration. However, behind this convenience, there is a risk that needs to be watched out for, namely the tendency for humans to become too dependent on technology and lose the opportunity to practice critical thinking skills (González-Esteban & Sanahuja-Sanahuja, 2023).

While AI can simplify many tasks, society needs to find a balance between leveraging technology and maintaining the ability to think independently. Cognitive skills, such as critical analysis and decision-making, can be weakened if humans rely too much on AI in every aspect of their lives. Therefore, individuals need to remain actively involved in more complex decision-making processes and not allow AI to completely replace these cognitive roles. Thus, while AI brings great benefits in making life easier, awareness of its limitations and risks must be taken seriously, so that human critical thinking and autonomy are maintained.

Artificial intelligence (AI) can indeed provide many benefits in making life easier. However, there are serious risks to human critical thinking skills, especially when AI begins to replace complex decision-making. When tasks that previously required deep human judgment are now outsourced to AI, individuals tend to lose the opportunity to practice analytical and problem-solving skills. The use of AI in this context not only reduces cognitive load but also has the potential to hinder the development of critical thinking skills needed in everyday life (Ouyang & Jiao, 2021). For example, in situations that require strategic judgment or moral judgment, reliance on AI can lead to humans losing the ability to process information critically and holistically.

AI often provides instant answers or solutions that are highly efficient, but this poses the risk that users become less engaged in the process of deep analysis or reflection. For example, when an AI system makes automated recommendations based on data or user preferences, people tend to accept the advice without questioning other alternatives or digging deeper into the reasons behind the decision. This automation process can lead humans to fall into a passive mindset, where decisions are made with little or no active



involvement in the process of reflection or problem-solving. As a result, the less people practice critical thinking skills, the more vulnerable they are to the negative impacts of over-reliance on technology.

Therefore, the risk of weakening critical thinking skills in the AI era should be a major concern. Although AI can provide efficiency and convenience in many aspects of life, society and individuals need to remain actively involved in complex decision-making that requires deep analysis (Ramadhan et al., 2023). Maintaining a balance between the benefits of AI and maintaining important cognitive skills, such as critical thinking and reflection, is a step that must be taken to avoid the long-term negative impacts of over-reliance on technology.

In the face of the risk of weakening critical thinking skills due to the increasingly widespread use of AI, the role of education is very important in maintaining and developing individual cognitive skills. Technology-based education that integrates AI must continue to strive to encourage the development of critical thinking skills, including the ability to analyze problems, think logically, and reflect critically. Curricula designed for the future must pay attention to this balance by ensuring that even though AI is part of the learning process, students are still invited to actively analyze, evaluate, and solve problems independently. The use of AI technology should be seen as a tool that enriches the learning process, not as a total replacement for human thinking skills.

In addition, the educational curriculum needs to emphasize the wise use of AI. This means that students must learn how to use technology to accelerate understanding or gain new insights, but still involve critical thinking skills in assessing the results provided by AI. For example, students can use AI to collect data or complete complex calculations, but must still involve personal analysis in interpreting the results and considering broader implications. In this way, education can harmoniously combine AI technology and human critical thinking skills, ensuring that technology does not replace important cognitive functions, but rather enhances them. Education needs to emphasize that AI is not a substitute for human thought processes, but rather a tool that can help expand analytical skills. The curriculum should focus on how students can use AI to deepen their understanding and not simply find quick solutions without critical consideration. (Yufei et al., 2020). Thus, the role of education in maintaining critical thinking skills is crucial in this AI era, so that humans are still able to think independently and do not become too dependent on technology in decision-making and problem-solving.

In addition to the role of education in maintaining critical thinking skills, it is also important for the wider community to have adequate technological literacy, especially in understanding how artificial intelligence (AI) works and its impacts and limitations. A technologically literate society will be better able to use AI wisely, without being too dependent on it. Technological literacy is not only about the ability to use AI-based tools or applications, but also about understanding how AI works, how it produces decisions, and knowing the risks involved. With this knowledge, the public can optimize the benefits of AI while maintaining control over the decisions they make.

Good technological literacy also plays an important role in helping individuals judge when it is appropriate to trust the results provided by AI and when they need to use their critical thinking skills and autonomy (Korteling et al., 2021). AI, while capable of analyzing data quickly and providing efficient solutions, does not always provide the right answers or ones that are in line with moral contexts and human values. A society that has a good understanding of the limitations of AI will be better able to critically consider AI outcomes, choosing when to use technology for efficiency, and when to involve deeper human analysis for complex decision-making. With increasing technological literacy, society will be better prepared to face the challenges that arise

along with the development of AI, including the risk of declining critical thinking skills. This literacy allows individuals to utilize AI as a tool that enriches the thinking process, without replacing human cognitive abilities. Thus, technological literacy becomes an integral part of building a balance between AI innovation and the human ability to think critically and independently, so that AI can be utilized more responsibly and effectively in everyday life.

### ***Ethical Limits of Artificial Intelligence Use: Avoiding Negative Impacts on Critical Thinking***

In the development and use of artificial intelligence (AI), ethics plays an important role in ensuring that this technology does not harm human intellectual abilities. AI technology has the potential to influence the way humans think, work, and learn, so its impact on human cognition cannot be ignored. With its ability to take over functions previously performed by humans, such as data analysis, decision-making, and even learning processes, AI risks weakening the active involvement of individuals in intellectual activities (Salvagno et al., 2023). Therefore, it is necessary to apply ethical standards that guide the use of AI so that it continues to strengthen, not reduce, human intellectual abilities.

Ethics in AI development aims to ensure that this technology is not only oriented towards efficiency or profit but also considers the long-term interests of humans. AI innovations must be designed with consideration of their impact on the development of human critical and cognitive skills. Without clear ethical guidelines, AI can encourage humans to rely too much on technology in making decisions, which can ultimately weaken the ability to think independently and critically reflect (Bakiner, 2023). With ethical standards, technology developers and AI users can be more aware of the social and intellectual impacts of this technology, so that AI remains on the side of human development as a whole, not just optimizing productivity.

Technology ethics help direct AI innovation to align with human interests, ensuring that technological developments continue to aim to improve the quality of life without sacrificing intellectual abilities. AI innovations that are not regulated by ethical boundaries have the potential to create excessive dependence, where humans slowly hand over intellectual functions to machines. Thus, the application of ethical boundaries in the use of AI is very important to avoid negative impacts on human intellectual abilities, maintaining a balance between technological progress and human cognitive development in the future.

The use of AI without ethical boundaries can pose various risks, one of which is the degradation of human cognitive abilities. AI that is designed to facilitate automated decision-making can reduce human involvement in the process so that critical and analytical thinking skills are increasingly rarely used (Bakiner, 2023). When humans rely too much on AI to solve problems, they risk losing the opportunity to practice deeper thinking skills, both in personal and professional contexts. This can lead to a decline in the quality of independent decisions and a weakening of people's ability to deal with complex situations without the help of technology.

One of the main risks of using AI without ethical rules is an over-reliance on this technology to solve everyday problems (González-Esteban & Sanahuja-Sanahuja, 2023). AI, with its ability to provide instant solutions, can tempt users to continue to rely on the system without further questioning or analysis. As a result, humans' ability to think critically and creatively can potentially decline, as they are no longer accustomed to facing challenges that require reflection or creative problem-solving (Abrams et al., 2019). In the long term, this can erode the autonomy of human thought and limit their intellectual potential.



In addition, the use of AI without ethical boundaries can also eliminate opportunities for creative thinking, especially in increasingly automated professional contexts. Many industries are turning to AI to optimize creative processes, such as content creation or design, which can ultimately reduce human involvement in the innovation process. If humans are accustomed to handing over creative aspects to machines, there will be a decline in the ability to generate new and original ideas (Nguyen et al., 2023). Therefore, the application of ethics in the development and use of AI is not only important to maintain human cognitive abilities, but also to protect the creativity and innovation that are characteristic of human intellectual development.

In facing the risk of using AI without ethical boundaries, the application of ethical principles is very important to ensure that this technology can be used wisely without harming human intellectual abilities. Some ethical principles that must be applied in the development and use of AI include transparency, fairness, responsibility, and autonomy (Hwang et al., 2020). These principles aim to protect humans from the negative impacts of AI while ensuring that the technology is used for the benefit of humanity as a whole, not just for efficiency or economic gain.

The transparency principle emphasizes that AI algorithms should be understandable to users so that they know how decisions are made. This is important because complex algorithms often operate as “black boxes,” where users only see the results but do not know the process behind them. Transparency allows individuals to be more critical in assessing the results that AI produces so that they do not completely hand over decision-making to the machine without further consideration. The fairness principle, meanwhile, aims to ensure that AI does not discriminate or create bias against certain groups. (Abrams et al., 2019). Without this principle, there is a risk that decisions made by AI will reinforce stereotypes or inequalities that already exist in society, especially since AI is often trained using data that may not be entirely neutral.

The principle of responsibility requires that humans remain accountable for the decisions made by AI, which means that humans must always be involved in the process of monitoring and evaluating the decisions made by this technology. This is important so that AI does not operate autonomously without human control, given that AI has no moral consciousness or ethical considerations. The principle of responsibility ensures that AI is only used as a tool, while the final decision remains in the hands of humans (Yang, 2022). The principle of autonomy, on the other hand, protects individual freedom of decision-making by ensuring that humans do not completely rely on AI for their lives and choices. By maintaining this autonomy, society can continue to maintain the critical and creative thinking abilities that are the essence of human intellectual freedom.

By implementing these ethical principles, AI can be used more safely and responsibly. Transparency, fairness, responsibility, and autonomy provide a strong basis for maintaining a balance between technological progress and protecting human intellectual abilities. These principles also serve as a guide in designing AI systems that are not only technically effective but also ethical and humane.

The role of ethical boundaries in the use of AI is essential to protect and enhance human intellectual capacities, not replace them. Ethical boundaries are necessary so that AI does not completely automate important processes such as learning, analysis, and creativity, which are the essence of human cognitive development (Salvagno et al., 2023). AI should act as a tool that facilitates and accelerates this process, helping humans access information faster, analyze data more efficiently, or find creative solutions, while still maintaining human control and involvement at every stage of decision-making.

In the context of education, the application of ethical boundaries is a clear example of how AI can enhance the learning process without overriding the ability of individual

thinking. AI can be used to provide additional resources, such as personalized learning materials, reading recommendations, or learning performance analysis (Ramadhan et al., 2023). However, the final decision about how students understand, analyze, and use the information must remain in the hands of humans, in this case, students or teachers. In this way, AI only acts as a complement, not a substitute, so that intellectual skills such as critical, creative, and analytical thinking are still developed.

Ethical boundaries also ensure that AI does not reduce the opportunity for humans to engage deeply in problem-solving and reflection. By maintaining a balance between the role of AI as an aid and the primary decision-making by humans, human intellectual capacity can be protected and even enhanced. For example, AI can help process very large and complex data, but humans remain responsible for interpreting the results, assessing relevance, and making decisions based on broader values and social contexts. (Chen et al., 2020). The application of these ethical boundaries ensures that humans do not become dependent on technology, and can maintain the ability to think autonomously and deeply. Ethical boundaries thus serve as an essential control mechanism to ensure that AI does not erode human intellectual potential. The use of AI should be directed towards enhancing human capabilities, and assisting in technical matters, but not replacing essential elements of the process of thinking, learning, and creating.

## Conclusion

The paradox of artificial intelligence (AI) lies in its benefits in driving innovation and its risks to human critical thinking and autonomy. AI offers efficiency and convenience in various fields, but excessive dependence can reduce human involvement in analytical processes and critical reflection. Therefore, society and individuals must be able to balance the use of AI while maintaining the role of humans in decision-making and thinking processes. AI should be a tool to strengthen, not replace, critical and independent thinking skills.

In addition, the application of ethical boundaries is essential to avoid the negative impacts of AI on human intellectual capacity. Ethical boundaries, such as transparency, fairness, and autonomy, must be applied to ensure that AI is used responsibly. With proper regulation and continuous human oversight, AI can be used to enrich lives without sacrificing critical thinking and individual autonomy. Only with a balanced and ethical approach can AI drive innovation without eroding human intellectual capacity.

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