Artificial Intelligence: What's the Big Deal?

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Implications for. . .

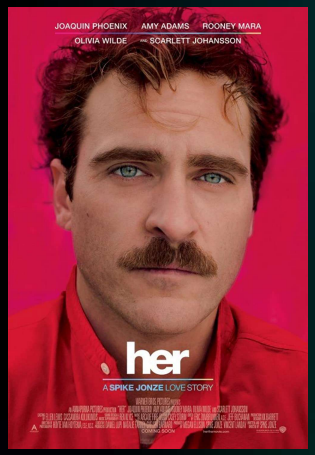
- Moral accountability
- *Imago dei*
- What happens after death
- Eternal life
- Resurrection of the soul
- Inerrancy

Objectives

- What are people saying?
- What does this say about what they believe about humanity?
- What makes humans unique?

Who are the voices?

- Popular Culture
- Silicon Valley
- Academia

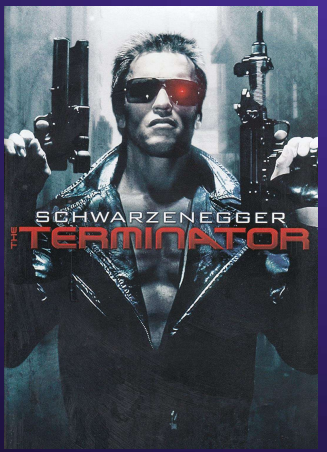

JOAQUIN PHOENIX
AMY ADAMS
ROONEY MARA
OLIVIA WILDE
SCARLETT JOHANSSON
her
A SPIKE JONZE LOVE STORY

WILL SMITH
i,ROBOT
ONE MAN SAW IT COMING

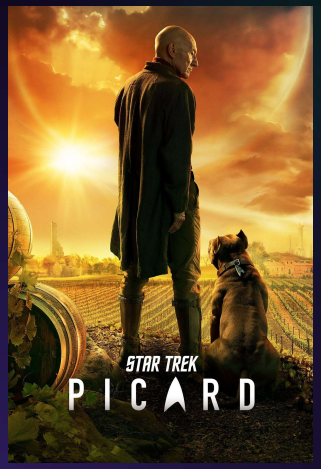
MELISSA McCARTHY
BOBBY CANNAVALE
BRIAN TYREE HENRY
AND JAMES CORDEN
max ORIGINAL
super intelligence
STREAMING THIS THANKSGIVING
ONLY ON HBOmax

RYAN REYNOLDS
JODIE COMER
LIL REL HOWERY
UTKARSH AMBUDKAR
JOE KEERY
TAIKA WAITITI
LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO BE A BACKGROUND CHARACTER
FREE GUY
ONLY IN THEATERS AUGUST 13

EUREKA


SCHWARZENEGGER
THE TERMINATOR

Pop Culture


STAR TREK
PICARD

THEO JAMES
STACY MARTIN
ARCHIVE

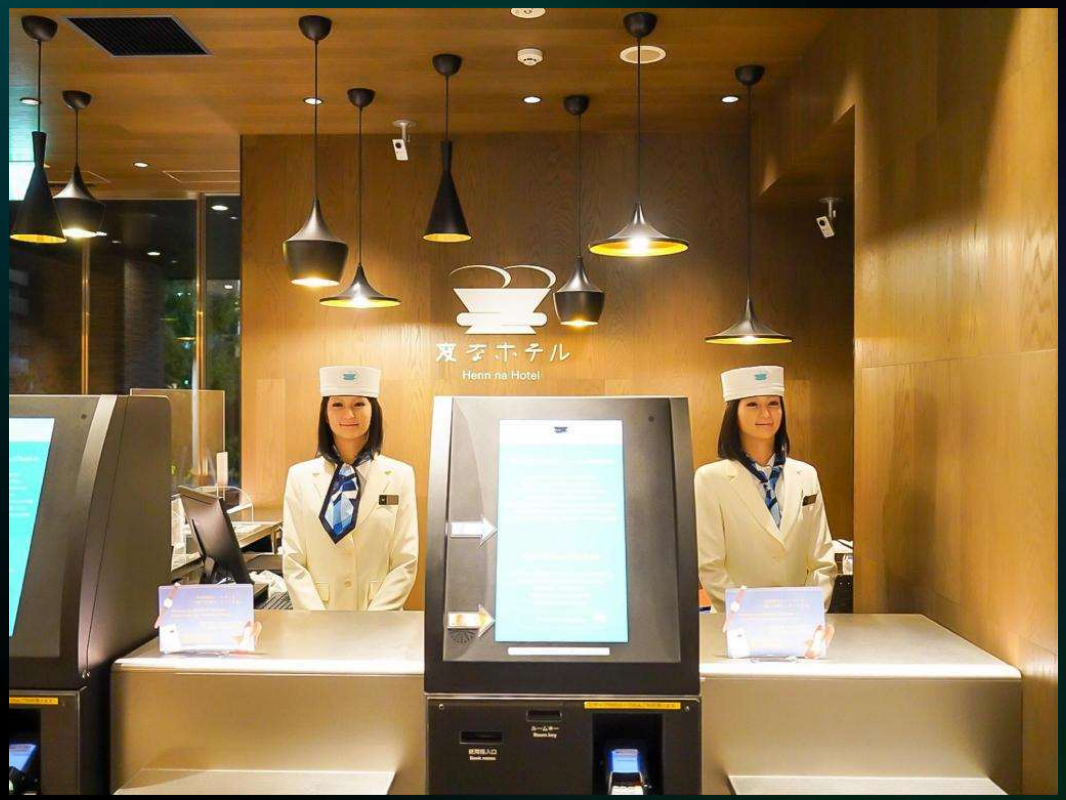
SHE HAD HIM AT "HELLO"
JEXI
OCTOBER 11

a prime video exclusive
Zoe

AMAZON ORIGINAL
UPLOAD

ROBIN WILLIAMS
BICENTENNIAL MAN

Henn-Na – Japanese Robot Hotel



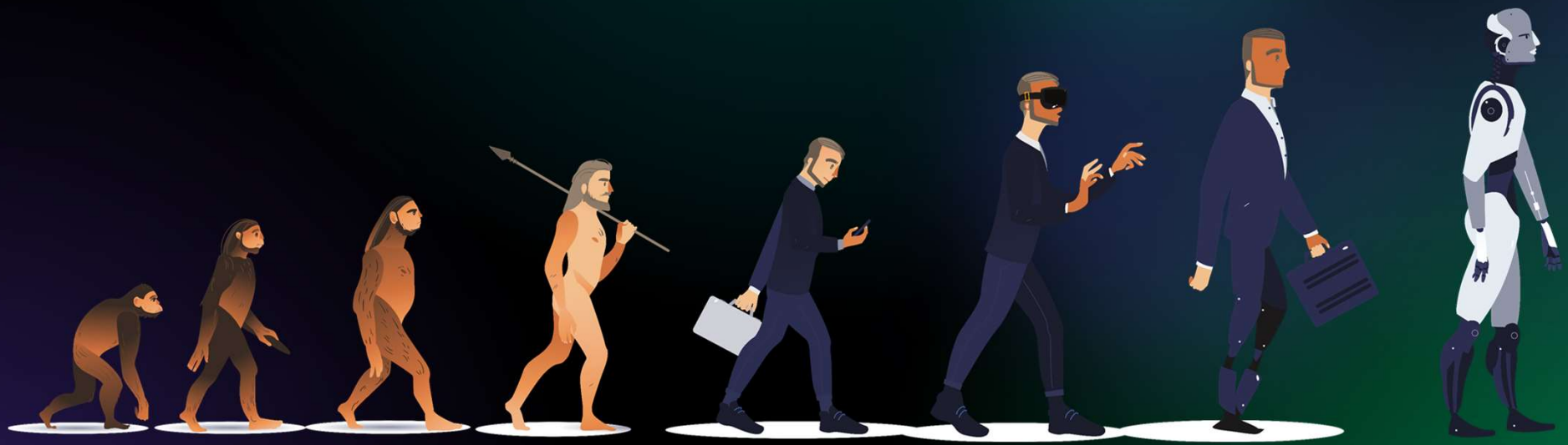
Silicon Valley

Hopeful

"If we ourselves can create an artificial soul in silicon matter, the concept of a divine spark in our souls will give way to evolutionary Darwinism once and for all.

It will be exactly the answer to the consciousness quest that will end the centuries-old debate on the existence of God."

- Kate Levchuk in *Forbes*



Fear

“The development of full artificial intelligence could spell the end of the human race. It would take off on its own, and re-design itself at an ever increasing rate. Humans, who are limited by slow biological evolution, couldn't compete, and would be superseded."

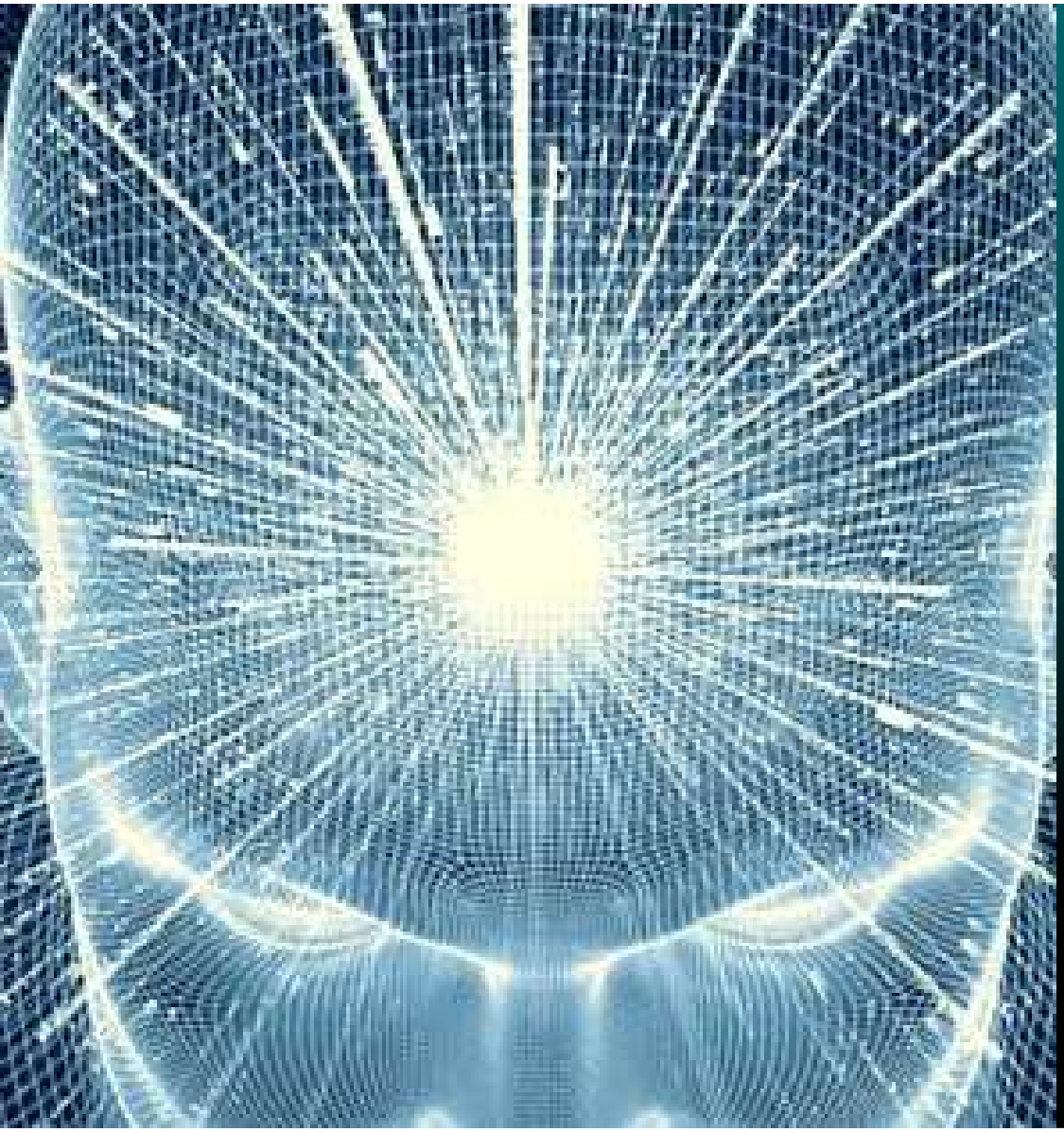
- Stephen Hawking

AI is "our biggest existential threat".

- Elon Musk

“I am in the camp that is concerned about super intelligence. First the machines will do a lot of jobs for us and not be super intelligent. That should be positive if we manage it well. A few decades after that though the intelligence is strong enough to be a concern. I agree with Elon Musk and some others on this and don’t understand why some people are not concerned.”

- Bill Gates



Awe

Way of the Future Church

"Part of it being smarter than us means it will decide how it evolves, but at least we can decide how we act around it. . . I would love for the machine to see us as its beloved elders that it respects and takes care of. We would want this intelligence to say, 'Humans should still have rights, even though I'm in charge."

"'Levandowski sees a hint of how a superhuman intelligence might treat humanity in our current relationships with animals. 'Do you want to be a pet or livestock?' he asks. 'We give pets medical attention, food, grooming, and entertainment. But an animal that's biting you, attacking you, barking and being annoying? I don't want to go there.'"

- Anthony Levandowski

Star Engineer in Autonomous Driving Sector

Formerly worked for Google and Uber

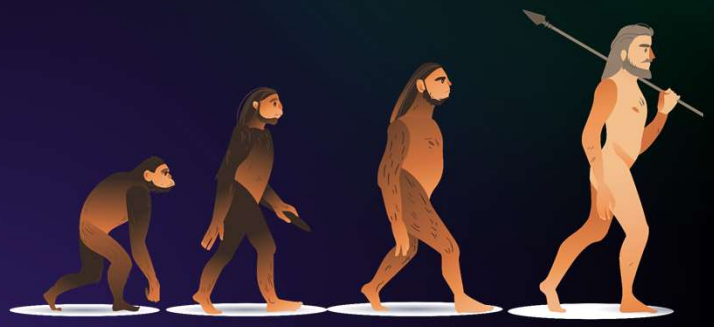
Academia

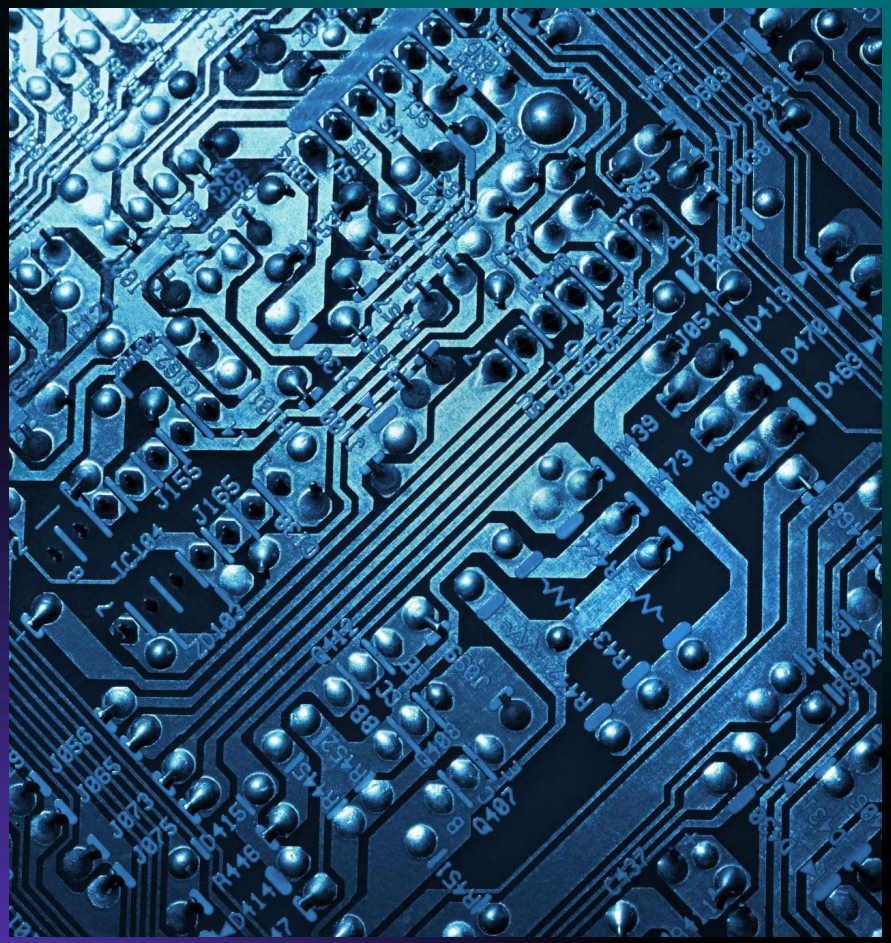
Influenced by View of Origins

“Science tells us that humans evolved in a world which formerly did not contain humans.” He goes on to say that “the human mind is an activity of the human brain” before comparing the mind and brain to a computer and a program. Furthermore, he claims that those who find AI to be a contradiction in terms or conceptually impossible, are methodologically incorrect.

- John McCarthy in “The Philosophy of AI and the AI of Philosophy”

Father of AI and a Christian





Thought is Exclusively Mechanistic & Logical

"The idea behind digital computers may be explained by saying that these machines are intended to carry out any operations which could be done by a human computer. The human computer is supposed to be following fixed rules; he has no authority to deviate from them in any detail."

- Alan Turing in "Computing Machinery and Intelligence"

Father of Computer Science

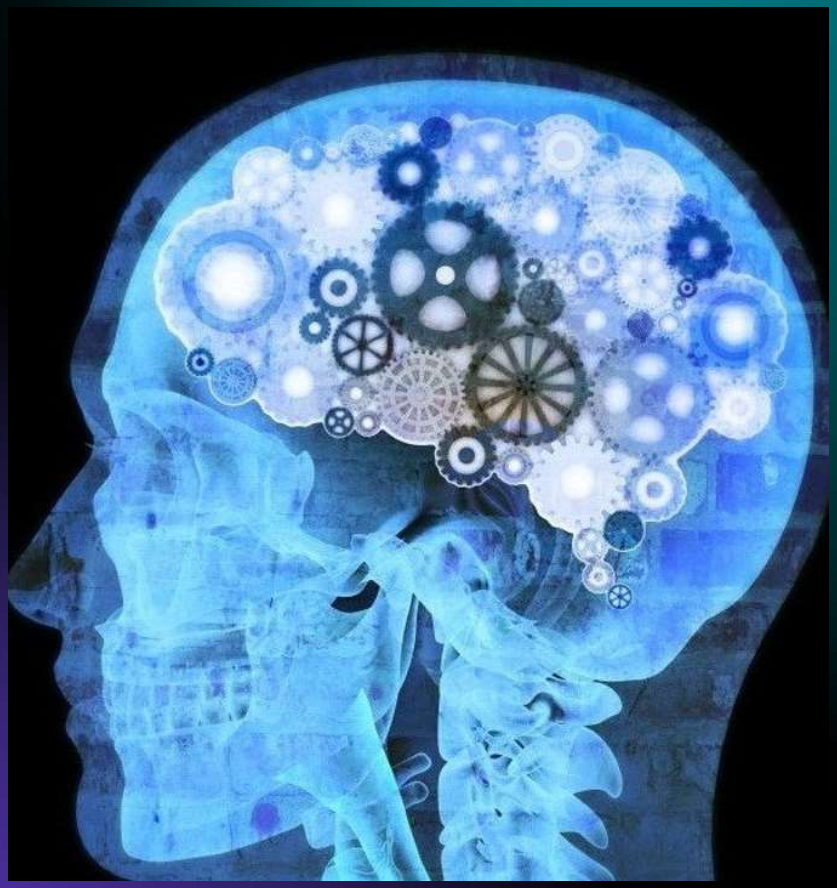
Creator of First Computer (Turing Machine)

Materialism

"But rhetoric won't settle anything. Let's put these arguments aside and try instead to understand what the vast, unknown mechanisms of the brain may do. Then we'll find more self-respect in knowing what wonderful machines we are."

- Marvin Minskey in *The Society of Mind*

Founder of MIT



Mind = Brain

"Uploading refers to the use of technology to transfer a human mind to a computer. This would involve the following steps: First, create a sufficiently detailed scan of a particular human brain, perhaps by feeding vitrified brain tissue into an array of powerful microscopes for automatic slicing and scanning. Second, from this scanning data, use automatic image processing to reconstruct the 3- dimensional neuronal network that implemented cognition in the original brain, and combine this map with neurocomputational models of the different types of neurons contained in the network. Third, emulate the whole computational structure on a powerful supercomputer (or cluster). If successful, the procedure would be a qualitative reproduction of the original mind, with memory and personality intact, onto a computer where it would now exist as software."

- Nick Bostrom in "The Future of Humanity

Philosopher University of Oxford

Director of the Future of Humanity Institute

What does this say about their assumptions?

- Atheism (some)
- Reductive Materialism
- Darwinian Evolution
- Information Processing = intelligence
- Computational speed = degree of intelligence
- Thought is exclusively mechanistic and logical

Philosophical Positions

- Reductive Materialism
- Substance Dualism
- Hylomorphism

Reductive Materialist Problems

Why pain in an organ other than the brain should be considered a brain state

The mind's grasp of abstract objects

The difference between intentional and involuntary actions

The difference between the meaning behind an action vs the physical description of the action

Persistence of identity over time

Moral agency

Substance Dualist Problems

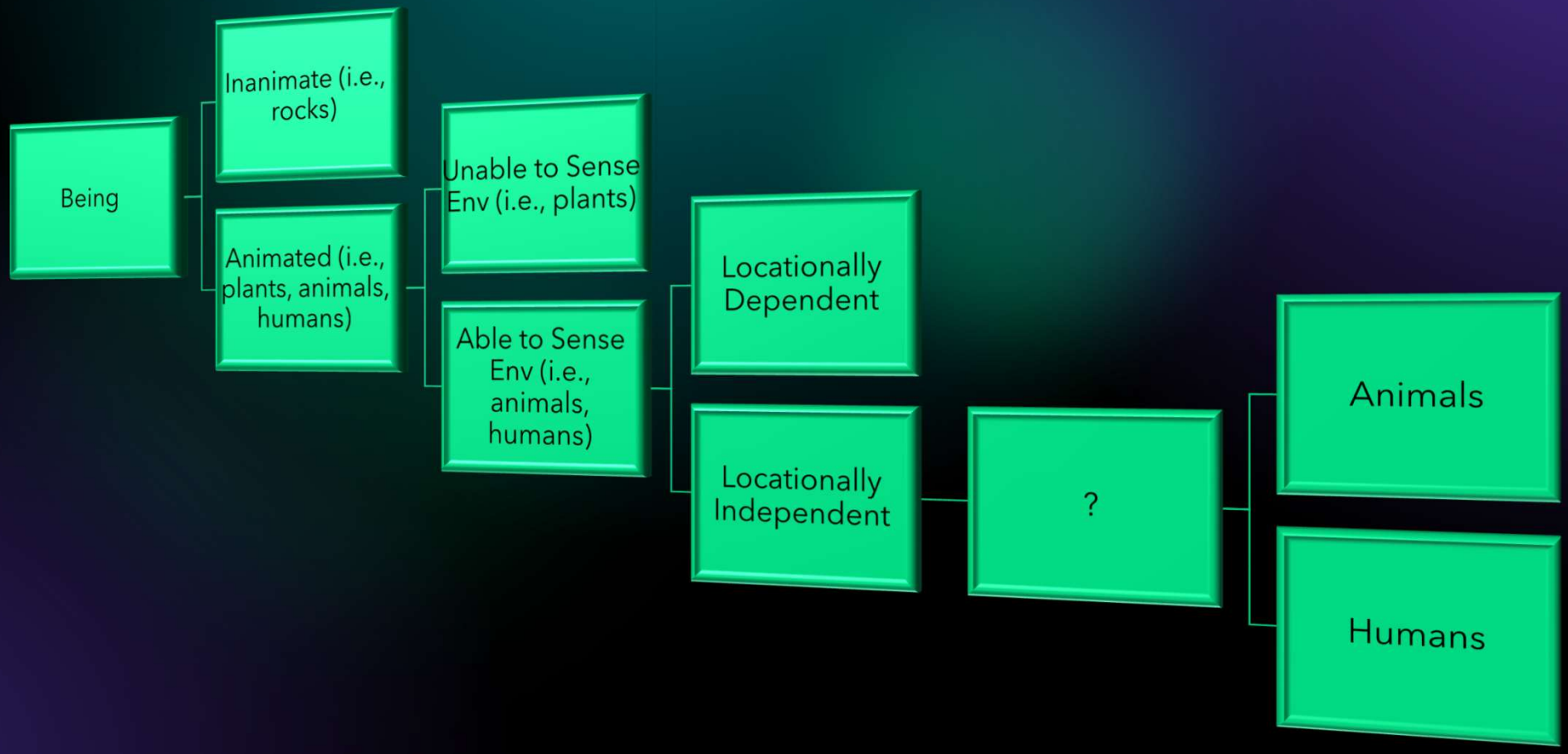
Why brain injuries result in memory loss and personality change

The lack of willful control over communication those that suffer from Tourette syndrome

Why medication can impact mental functionality

Hylomorphism

Hierarchy of Being



I *want* that

Intellect

Presentation

Will

Volition/

Inefficacious desire

Appetitive Powers

Sensible

- Concupiscible – desire because of immediate sensible pleasure (i.e., this will taste/feel good)
- Irascible – desire because through it will achieve sensible pleasure (i.e., animal fighting for mate – the desire to fight is irascible and because of the concupiscible desire to mate)

Rational

- Will – desire for universal or abstract idea (i.e., I want happiness/food/a tool in general as distinct from wanting a particular thing like this hamburger or that hammer, etc.)

Cognitive Powers

Sensible	External Senses, Common Sense, Imagination, Memory, Estimation Particular Apprehensions (i.e., this dog)
Rational	Intellect – abstracts universals, forms mental word/idea, builds sentences Universal Apprehensions (i.e., dog in general)

Appetitive Powers

Sensible

- Concupiscible – desire because of immediate sensible pleasure (i.e., this will taste/feel good)
- Irascible – desire because through it will achieve sensible pleasure (i.e., animal fighting for mate – the desire to fight is irascible and because of the concupiscible desire to mate)

Rational

- Will – desire for universal or abstract idea (i.e., I want happiness/food/a tool in general as distinct from wanting a particular thing like this hamburger or that hammer, etc.)

I *will get* that

Intellect

Assent/Attainability

Will

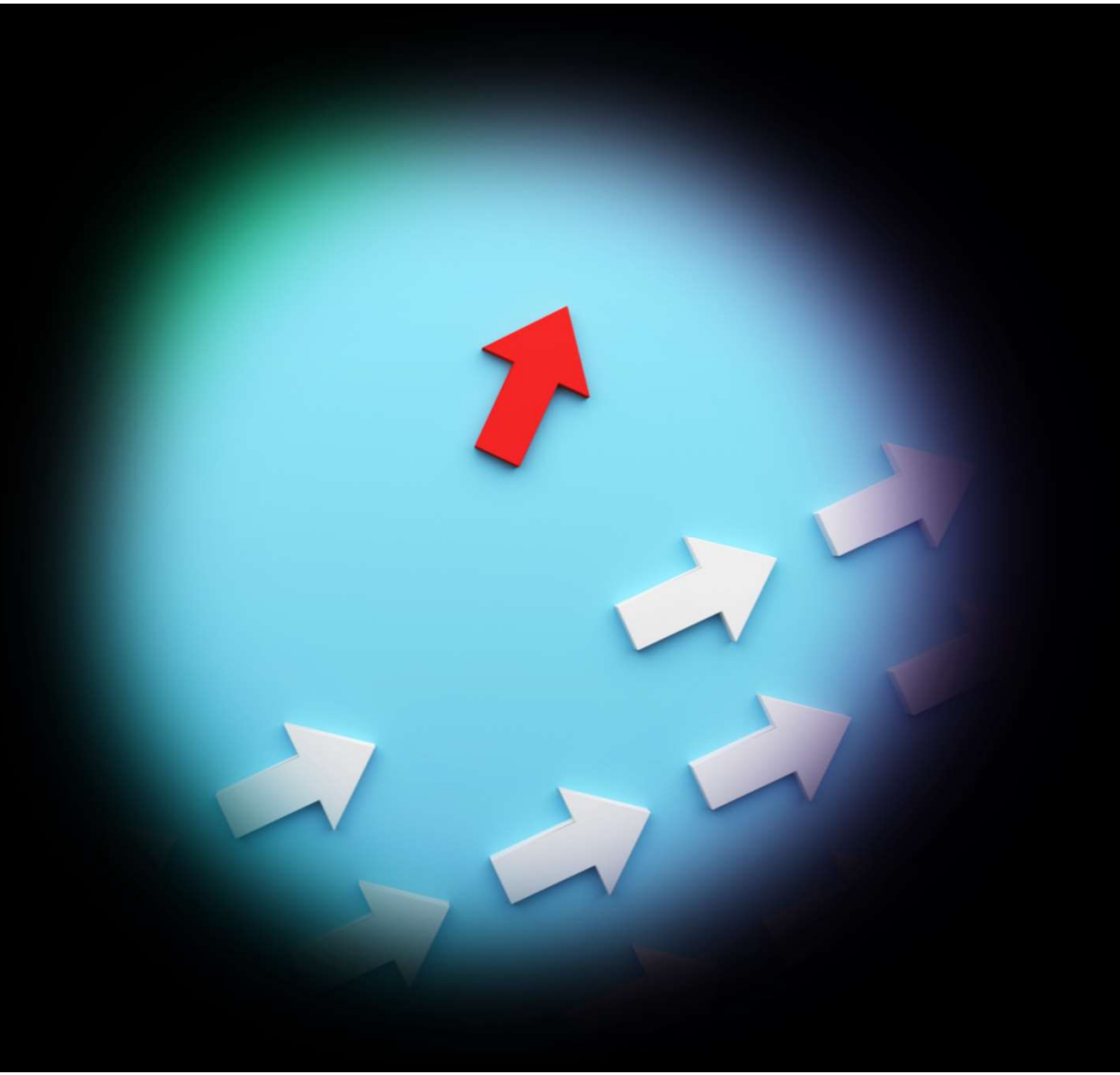
Intention

Acceptable options for *how* I will get that

- Intellect
  - Counsel
- Will
  - Consent

Commitment to a particular option – How I will get that

- Intellect
  - Practical Judgment
- Will
  - *Electio*/Choice



Step-by-step Plan & Execution

- Intellect
  - Command
- Will
  - Use

I Have Gotten It

- Intellect
  - Attainment
- Will
  - Enjoyment

Will – Root of Self-Mastery

- Desire
- Want
- Assent
- Consent
- Enjoy
  - Delight
  - Adhere lovingly
  - To love
  - To find satisfaction of longing
  - Consummation of delight
  - Rest

Intellect & Will

In Ref To	Act	Order of	Intellect	Will	Translation
End	1	Intention	Presentation/Judgement	Volition/ Inefficacious desire	I want that
End	2	Intention	Assent/Attainability	Intention (ST Iallae.8, 12)	I will get that
Means to End	3	Choice	Counsel (ST Iallae.13, 14)	Consent (ST Iallae.13, 15)	Acceptable options for how I will get that
Means to End	4	Choice	Practical judgment	*Electio*/Choice (ST Iallae.13)	Commitment to a particular option – How I will get that
Means to End	5	Execution	Command (ST Iallae.17)	Use (ST Iallae.13, 16-17)	Step-by-step plan & execution of getting that
End	6	Execution	Attainment	Enjoyment (ST Iallae.8, 11)	I have gotten it

Where Am I Going from Here?

- What does it mean to be self-moving vs. moved by another?
- What is self?
- What is personhood?
- Is there an actual difference between artificial and natural objects?
- What are materialist arguments and how do we engage them?