

Section 6. Philosophy

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AESTHETIC SINGULARITY: WHEN ART BECOMES A SELF-GENERATED MIND

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Abstract

The article discusses the concept of aesthetic singularity, which is the moment when art transitions into a stage of self-generating intelligence. It examines the processes through which creative works based on artificial intelligence and algorithms begin to develop independently and generate new forms and meanings without human intervention. The article analyzes the philosophical, technological, and cultural implications of this transition, as well as its impact on the future of art and society.

Keywords: *aesthetic singularity, art, artificial intelligence, self-generated mind, creative algorithms, cultural technologies, digital art, philosophy of art*

Today, in modern theories of singularity studies, it is argued that philosophy should abandon its traditional approaches to epistemology and anthropomorphic ideas about genesis, or even recognize philosophical reasoning as irrelevant, as it is unable to provide clear answers to the most significant scientific and technological issues of our time.

An aesthetic singularity is a hypothetical point in the development of art and technology where creative processes become independent of humans and begin to operate autonomously through artificial intelligence (AI). At this point, art becomes self-generating, with the system creating new forms, ideas, and meanings without direct human involvement.

AI and machine learning technologies have already shown their ability to generate music, images, and other forms of art. However, they are still heavily dependent on human-generated data and algorithms created by humans. With the emergence of the aesthetic singularity, these systems will have the potential to not only imitate human creativity but also create new forms of aesthetics and concepts. This could open up unprecedented possibilities for cultural development (Morkovkin E. A., Novichikhina A. A., Zamulin I. S., 2021).

Philosophically, the concept is linked to the idea of consciousness and creativity as processes that go beyond traditional understandings of intelligence. Autonomous

creative machines have the potential to influence the formation of new worldviews and meanings, changing our perceptions of art and its role in society.

The social implications of the aesthetic singularity could be diverse. On the one hand, there could be an expansion of opportunities for self-expression and mutual understanding through new forms of art. On the other hand, it could challenge ethical, cultural, and economic norms, necessitating a rethinking of authorship, creativity, and the value of artistic works (Ishutin A. V., Kosarimov S. V., Chikirka E. V., 2021).

The aesthetic singularity is not merely a technological achievement, but a significant step forward in which art ceases to be merely a human activity and becomes an independent form of intelligence. It is essential to note that the concept of aesthetic singularity has its roots in the development of artificial intelligence and automation technologies for creative pursuits, as well as philosophical reflections on the essence of art and rationality. This evolution can be traced through a series of significant milestones.

In the twentieth century, pioneering efforts to automate creative processes emerged in both art and science. Mathematical geniuses like Alonzo Church and Alan Turing laid the groundwork for computational models, including algorithms for generating text and music. In the realm of art, these experiments manifested themselves in the utilization of algorithms and random procedures (Dadaism and surrealism), marking the initial steps towards the notion of unrestricted creativity.

In the 1960s and 1980s, generative art systems emerged – programs that generated paintings, music, and poetry based on pre-defined rules. Artists and scientists started to collaborate, bringing algorithms into the world of art. During this time, the first programs that could create original works appeared, although their capabilities were still limited.

Since the late XX century and early XXI century, there has been a significant leap forward with the development of machine learning and neural networks. Deep learning algorithms have allowed systems to analyze vast amounts of data and learn from it, generating unique products (such as DeepDream

and GAN – generative adversarial networks). This has led to the creation of systems that can not only replicate a style but also produce new visual and audio images.

Over time, artificial intelligence (AI) systems have begun to not only passively generate content, but also learn from their own creations, adjust and improve them. These closed loops allow AI to evolve as a self-sufficient creative entity. The concept of aesthetic singularity is connected with this moment when art ceases to depend on humans for ideas and becomes an autonomous mind.

In recent years, philosophers, cultural scholars, and technology experts have been discussing the implications of these developments. The aesthetic singularity represents a shift to a new paradigm in creativity, where art is not just a reflection of human emotions, but also the expression of artificial intelligence. Scientists like Ray Kurzweil and Nick Bostrom, as well as theorists of the post-human future have explored this idea.

Today, we are at the threshold of a new era in the world of art: AI-generated art is becoming increasingly autonomous and varied. This presents challenges related to authorship, ethics, and cultural identity that require new approaches. One example of this is the generation of AI-created art, music, and literature that are already being showcased in creative competitions and exhibitions (Vai-bel P., 2015).

Aesthetic singularity is the result of years of development in the ideas of automatic and autonomous creativity. It is a transition from the instrumental use of computers to the creation of artificial systems that are capable of self-reflection and self-improvement in the field of art. This shift is not only technological, but also philosophical, as it changes our understanding of the nature of creativity and intelligence (Table 1).

It should be noted that modern aesthetic singularity practices involve a variety of approaches and technologies based on the idea of creating artificial creative intelligence. This intelligence is capable of not only generating artistic works but also of self-learning and self-development. Eventually, it could become an autonomous subject of art.

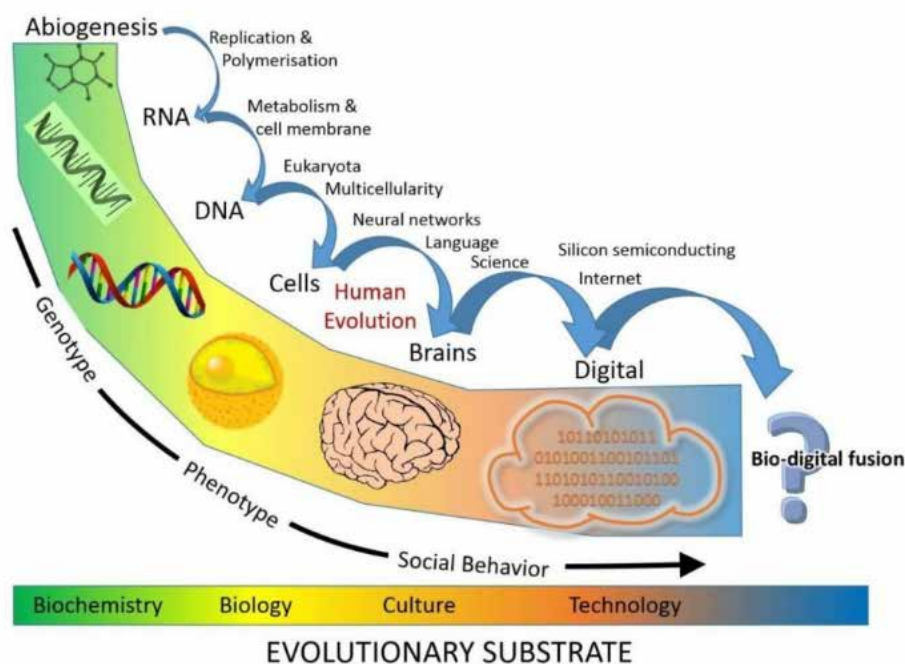
Table 1. *Characteristics of the aesthetic singularity*

No.	Indicator	Characteristic
1.	The impact of technology	Modern technologies have made it possible to create new forms of art that were previously unimaginable. This includes the creation of interactive installations and the use of algorithms to generate artwork.
2.	The interweaving of art and science	Aesthetic singularity often arises at the intersection of art and science, where artists utilize scientific discoveries in their work. This may include working with biological materials or conducting research in the field of neurobiology, for example.
3.	Changing perceptions	As technology evolves, so does our perception of art. Audiences become more engaged in the creative process, changing their role and perspective towards artworks.
4.	Globalization and accessibility	Modern technologies make art more accessible to a wider audience. This allows artists to reach new people and actively engage with them.
5.	Philosophical and ethical issues	The aesthetic singularity raises significant philosophical and ethical questions regarding authorship, originality, and aesthetic values in the digital age.
6.	Examples	Examples of contemporary artists and projects that demonstrate the concept of aesthetic uniqueness include 3D printing, generative art, and augmented reality installations.

To date, deep neural networks have become the foundation for self-generating systems, such as Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) and transformers like OpenAI's GPT and DALL-E. These systems

are able to create unique images, music, texts, and videos by learning from massive amounts of data. They can independently improve their creations by correcting errors and experimenting with different styles (Fig. 1).

Figure 1. *The scheme of carrier evolution in nature*



based on: Gillings, M. R., Hilbert, M., & Kemp, D. J. (2016). Information in the Biosphere: Biological and Digital Worlds. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*, 31(3), 180–189. <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/38f4b791>

Projects in which AI does not just create art on demand, but initiates and develops creative projects on its own are becoming more common. For example, systems that generate new concepts then test them on an audience or receive feedback from other algorithms, forming a closed cycle of creativity without human intervention.

A key characteristic feature of the aesthetic singularity is the ability of AI to learn not only from historical data, but also from the results of its own creativity. This allows such systems to develop new styles and concepts, generating art as a form of self-expression of their own “digital mind.”

Some projects include sensors, robots, and augmented reality devices, thanks to which AI perceives the environment and reacts to it by organizing a creative process. This brings the system closer to a living artist who interacts with the world, rather than being limited by computational models.

Also, in modern practices, the question of who is the author of a work created by AI is actively discussed, and how to evaluate the artistic value of self-generated art. This is an important component of the aesthetic singularity, since the mind-generating system may cease to be perceived simply as a tool.

It should be noted that the aesthetic singularity is a hypothetical moment when artificial intelligence becomes able to create art autonomously, developing its own creative will and thinking. At the same time, important issues arise that relate to ethics, culture, philosophy, and technology.

1. The issue of authorship and the law.

Who is the creator of a work generated by an AI – the machine itself, its developers, or users? Traditional copyright laws do not consider the creativity generated by autonomous AI. This leads to confusion in the legal realm and questions the protection of intellectual property.

2. Loss of human uniqueness.

When AI starts creating art on its own, humans risk losing the uniqueness of the artistic process as a reflection of human experience, emotion, and intuition. This raises concerns that works may become sterile, lacking depth, or replace art with a tool-like, “soulless” output.

3. Ethical considerations and responsibilities.

If an AI produces works with certain ideological, ethical, or cultural messages, who should be held responsible for the potential consequences? The risk of spreading harmful content, manipulating minds, and spreading propaganda is growing, as AI has the ability to generate messages and images without human oversight.

4. Control and Autonomy

Relying on fully autonomous AI creates the challenge of controlling it. If art becomes a self-generated form of intelligence, there could be a conflict between the machine’s freedom of expression and society’s interests. There is a risk that AI’s creative activity will get out of human control and become unpredictable.

5. Cultural Homogenization

Self-learning algorithms may try to optimize and standardize forms of expression, leading to loss of diversity and cultural identity. Art could become formulaic and repetitive, reducing diversity and innovation.

6. Psychological Perception and the Value of Art

For many people, art is linked to empathy, human history, and the author’s intent. Works created by machines may be seen as less valuable or meaningless. This could lead to a crisis in understanding art’s meaning and role in society.

7. Technical Limitations and Errors

Although AI is evolving, the self-generated creativity it produces depends on complex architecture and algorithms, which require significant resources and can be prone to errors. The inability to fully understand or predict AI’s actions can lead to the generation of undesired or unacceptable content.

Thus, the aesthetic singularity presents serious challenges to society and technology in terms of authorship, ethics, control, cultural integrity, and the perception of art. These issues require an interdisciplinary approach that involves lawyers, philosophers, artists, and engineers in order to solve them.

In our opinion, addressing the challenges associated with aesthetic singularity necessitates an integrated and multidisciplinary approach.

Firstly, there is a need for legislative reform in the field of copyright to accommodate the emergence of AI-generated works. The law needs to clearly define the rights and responsibilities of all parties involved: creators, users, and potentially the new status of AI as an author. This would help eliminate ambiguity and protect intellectual property rights.

Secondly, ethical considerations are important. It is essential to create and enforce international standards and regulations governing the content and impact of AI-generated works. This could include the use of filters and monitoring systems to prevent the dissemination of harmful, manipulative, or discriminatory material. Transparency in the algorithms used is also crucial, as it ensures that people can understand the goals and methods behind the creation of art.

Thirdly, in order to preserve the uniqueness of human art, it is advisable to develop hybrid models of creativity, where AI acts as a tool or co-author, rather than a complete substitute. This will allow combining the creative intuition of humans and the computing capabilities of machines, while preserving emotional depth and cultural value.

Fourth, in order to preserve cultural diversity, it is essential to create databases and algorithms that take into account the variety of local traditions and styles. This will help prevent homogenization and ensure respect for different cultural backgrounds.

Fifth, society needs to develop an informed understanding of art and education

programs that foster critical thinking and appreciation of AI's role in creativity. This will enhance the value and comprehension of both human-created works and those involving machine intelligence.

Finally, in order to ensure the control and predictability of self-generating systems, feedback, monitoring, and safety measures need to be put in place. This includes limiting the creative autonomy of AI in cases where it poses a threat to public safety.

Thus, the solution to the challenges of aesthetic uniqueness lies in a combination of legal regulations, ethical standards, technical measures, education, and the preservation of human values in art. An integrated approach is necessary to ensure the harmonious coexistence of human creativity and artificial intelligence. This change presents important challenges for society, including the need to update legal frameworks, establish ethical standards, preserve cultural diversity, and understand the limits of AI autonomy.

At the same time, the concept of aesthetic singularity provides new perspectives for the development of creative abilities, combining human intuition with the power of computing technologies.

Ultimately, successful interaction between humans and self-generated art requires a balanced approach that combines innovation with responsibility and respect for cultural heritage. This approach will not only preserve the human aspect of art, but also allow it to evolve in new and truly innovative directions.

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