

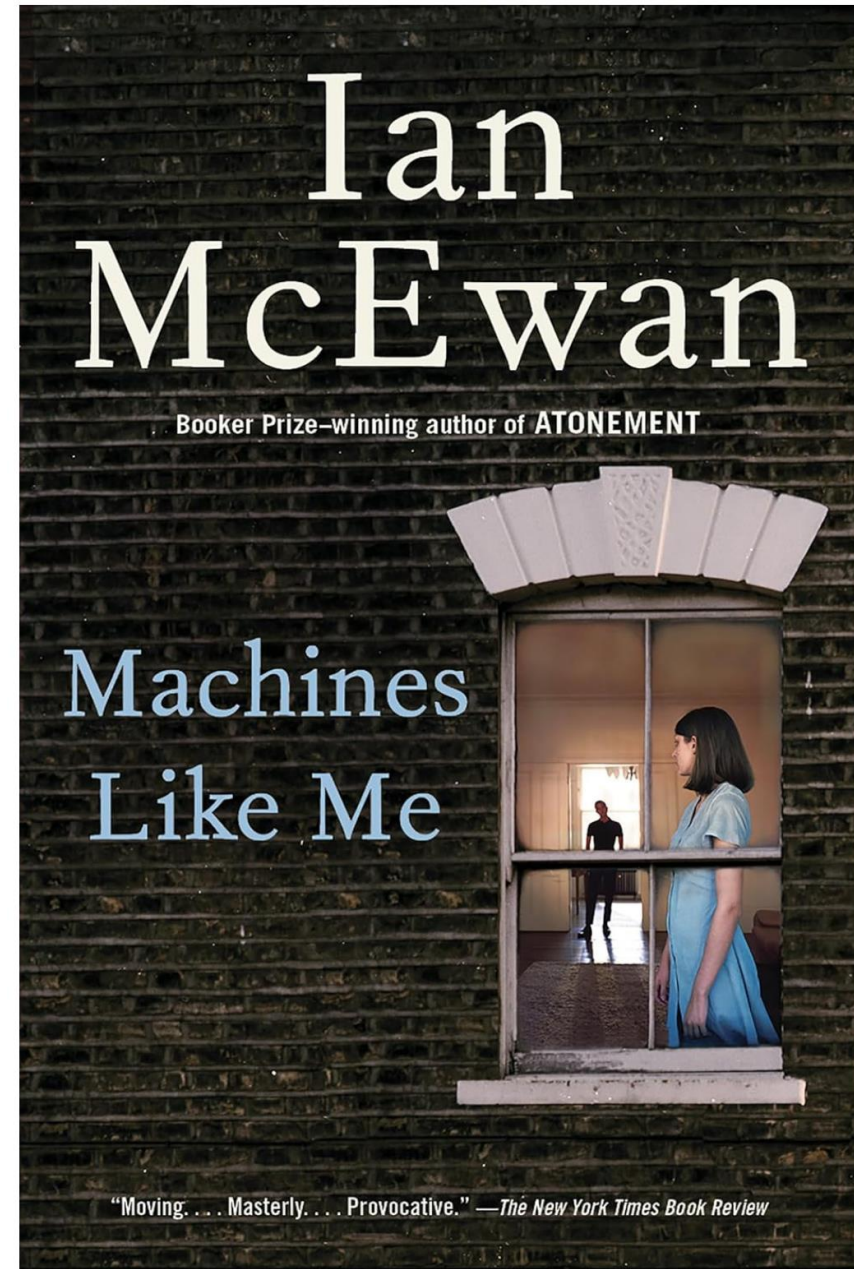
Conscious AI and Human Communication

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Motivation



Human communication is a crucial basis to develop consciousness:

- Via communication I experience that others are not me but like me
→ alter ego
 - Instances that can communicate can develop consciousness by reasoning who they are and who they are not.
 - At the very end, emotions are basic constituents for our reasoning and understanding of ourselves.
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- Symbolic Interactionism [1]
 - Reciprocity of Perspectives [2]
 - Epistemology according to Maturana and Varela [3]
 - Theory of social systems [4]
 - “Vor-Urteile über Sprechen, Mitteilen, Verstehen,” [7]



Pro:

- Conversation with AI can look like symbolic communication
- We expect from our collaboration partners that they have consciousness → interests, values, reflecting about themselves and their social embeddedness, ...

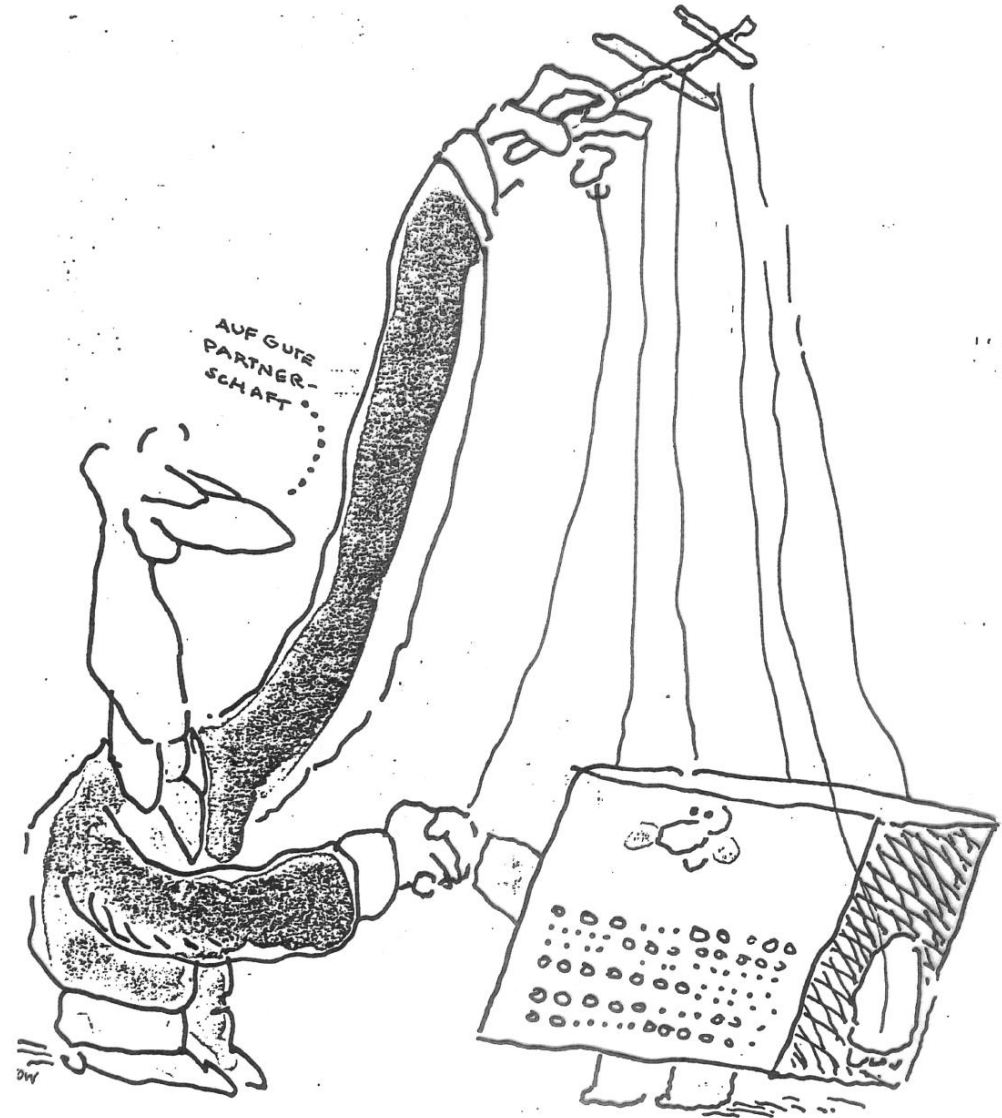
Contra:

- We can inspect them, exercising oversight and control, there is an emergency switch-off-button
- Most of AI instances can be connected to each other to share data and algorithms – and thus appear as one unit instead of a set of individuals.

Proposal

We can design interaction with AI by instructing AI to play a role where it temporally pretends to have consciousness. Interaction then includes persuasion, potentially acting against an own will of AI etc.

Hence, if necessary, we can always switch into a mode of control, experimental exploration, intervention.



Questions

How important is symbolic interaction to bring “consciousness” into the world (into the sensemaking of a community)?

How important is the separation of individuals so that consciousness can develop?

What where reasonable scenarios where AI should play the role of being conscious?