Subject: Re: Is SkyNet Possible?
Posted by Ethenal on Sun, 19 Jul 2009 07:18:08 GMT

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Starbuck wrote on Sun, 19 July 2009 02:05It doesn't lessen the impact of what jnz said in the least. I find it to be a load of smokin' bull.

So the Geth started to question their owners? That's a cop out. They questioned only because the question was coded in to be asked.

It can do only what it is programmed to do; like react to your actions in that Milo demo. Don't be fooled by Milo...all you have to do is remove your sensor belt and you can kick at the TV all you want, Kung Fu man will just stand there lookin' at your balls. It can learn such as sensing your body movements and choosing a optimal code to execute back in return. But if no instructions are present, it cannot react.

This is what any advancement in such technology may bring in the future: optimizing and expanding the level and type of operations that can be performed. It will need untold amounts of programming and/or human input (Global Hawk and Predator are primitive examples). Even if you were to teach A-Z of all known knowledge and code in as many scenarios as possible, it still cannot think on it's own.

You can walk up to it and ask it to give you a blowjob. Now if your question is programmed in and variables are in place to allow it to respond with a positive or negative response, then you most likely will be getting your blowjob. If not, it will just stand there sniffin' at your smelly balls and you would need to try again later.

If a killer machine-gun-mounted robot is built with heat seeking sensors that is programmed to automatically fire on targets that emit heat, then it will do just that. It will not make a conscious decision to fire but it will only carry out the actions that are programmed for it (i.e, auto engage weapon at heat emitting targets).

How can a massive processing unit such as Skynet suddenly become self-aware, form it's own goals and motives, and manage all controllable assets and resources to complete it's newfound objectives? It's inconceivable and IMPOSSIBLE.

We will definitely come to Terminator level type robots; fully programmed machines devoid of reason. Infact, I can bet we can make them completely human-like with vast algorithms; but they will still not be self-aware.

You think the massive hunter-killer tank in Terminator 2 was going around on it's own? In the movie, it is assumed to be so. But in reality, the tank is merely on it's programmed patrol route armed with heat sensing weaponry that kill whenever organic heat emitting material (such as human bodies) are detected.

Watch this video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peqEf5enXJs

Go to 0:54 on the video and watch carefully. You think that machine is making a conscious decision to fire? Will it EVER be capable of making such a decision? No.

If you look closely, all heat seeking sensors/radars are mounted on it's rotating top turret along with the floodlights (according to the artists who worked on that model). The sensors detect humans and based on that data, the programming allows the execution of the firing of the the twin plasma cannons. No conscious decision is being made by the hunter-killer to kill, though in the movie it is assumed to be so.

THIS is what I think we humans will be capable of achieving and the technology is being developed in DARPA's laboratories. It is our natural course of doing things.

But it's simply wishful thinking that they "somehow" will progress to Cylon/Skynet level self-awareness.

NOTE: This post a longer version of jnz's post.
And we have a winner.

Any programmer will tell you it's not possible. A computer will only do EXACTLY what you tell it to and nothing more.