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Relational morality - Using postphenomenological relational inquiry as methodology for moral and ethical research

Digital culture researcher Andrew McAfee has pointed to the critical mass of development in five parallel fields, as the locomotive pushing the fourth industrial revolution forward. Data, algorithms, networking, cloud computing and impressive hardware capabilities (McAfee & Brynjolfsson, 2017). This allows a person to expand his or her cognitive abilities in a format that we have not yet fully understood. Similar to the way Industrial Revolution allowed man "mechanical muscle" by using machines to expand his power (Brynjolfsson & McAfee, 2016).

The combination of all the agents involved in expanding our capabilities creates a dramatic shift in our thinking about the boundaries between humans and the information world. Changing these boundaries, in turn, makes it difficult to construct the right act, ethics, in the combination of machines and humans.

The purpose of this chapter is to elaborate on how using the tools of postphenomenological theory can help to establish a framework for the ethics and moral study of machines, humans, and the variety of relations among them. We can analyze how different information technologies mediate for us the information world and its effects in different ways. The typology I would like to develop in this article is based on Don ihde's post-phenomenology (Ihde, 2009) Combined with Bruno Latour's actor-network theory (Latour, 1992, 2005) both are considered "post phenomenological" theories. The proposed presentation will use the postphenomenological theory and demonstrate the applicability of analysis on human enhancement technology, such as Microsoft's holo-lens glasses in the work setting. In order to address how the use of post-phenomenological relation analysis can help analyze the ethical and moral complexities that result from integrating people and technologies and guide the analysis development and use of technology in a way that take into consideration the ethical and moral aspects of technology.