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Granting Personhood for Sentient Non-Human Animals and Sentient Artificial Intelligences

A Demonstrative Argument



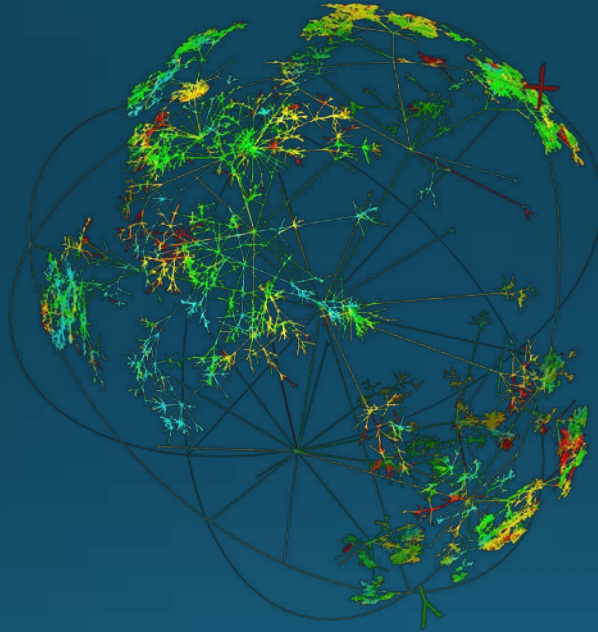
Overview

- Sentience
- Public Perspectives
- Animal Sentience
- Sentient Artificial Intelligences
- Personhood

What is sentience?



Self-Awareness

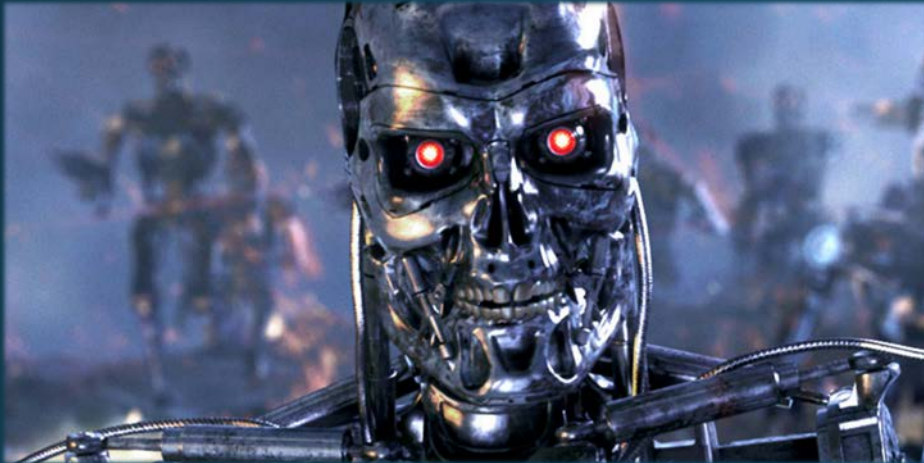


Reasoning



Emotion

Robots in the Media



Sources: TriStar Pictures, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Universal Television



Public Opinion of Domestic Robotics

68%

Totally uncomfortable
with a robot walking their dog

86%

Totally uncomfortable
with a robot caring for
children or the elderly

Population: Citizens aged 15 and over in the 27 Member States of the European Union

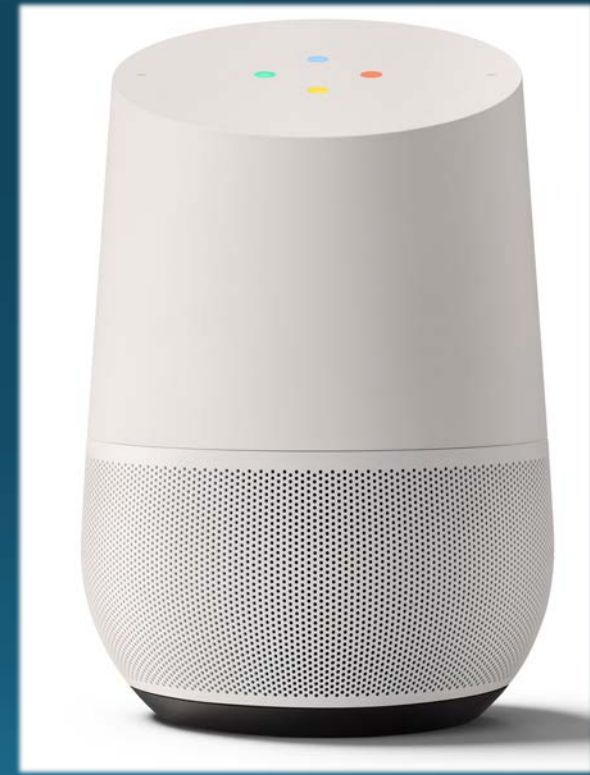
Source: The European Commission (2012)



Public Opinion of Domestic Robotics

As we become more familiar with robotics,
we will become more comfortable
interacting and coexisting with them.

Public Opinion of Domestic Robotics



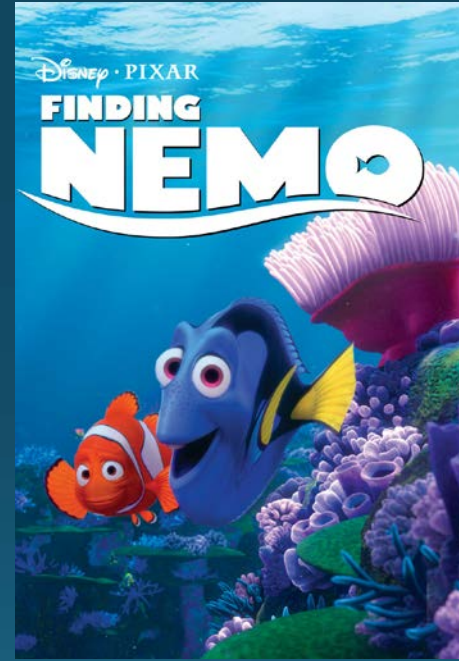
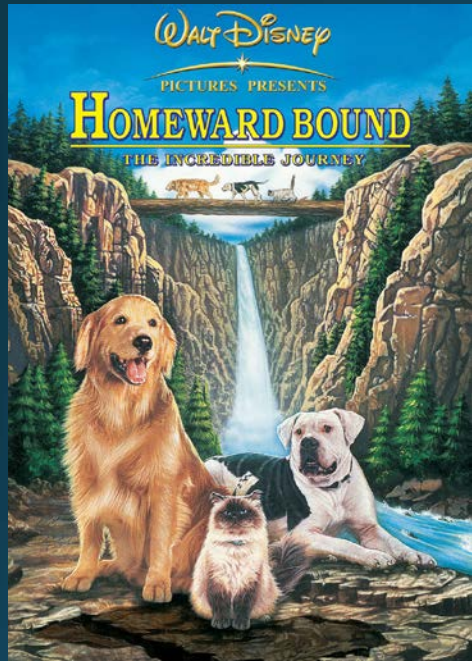
Sources: Apple, Amazon, Google

Artificial Intelligence in the media



Sources: TriStar Pictures, Buena Vista Pictures, Columbia Pictures

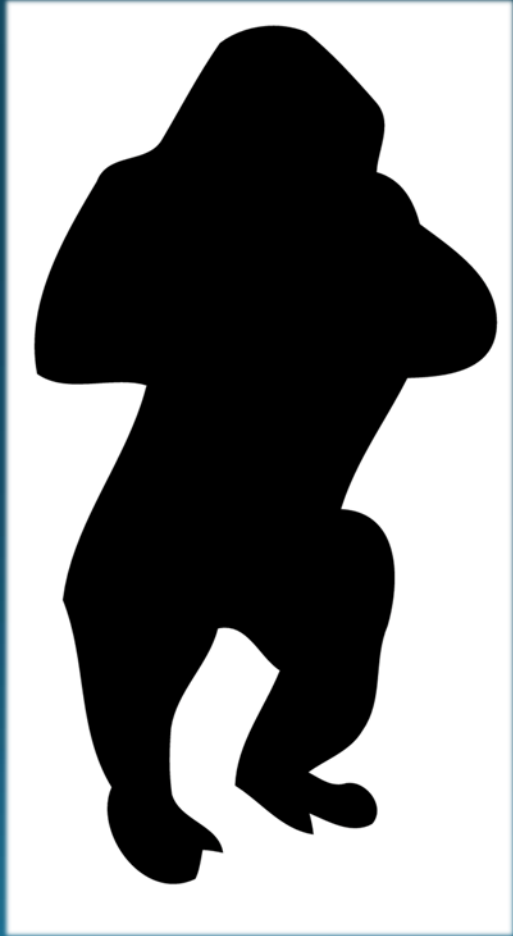
Animals in the media



Sources: Walt Disney Pictures, Universal Pictures

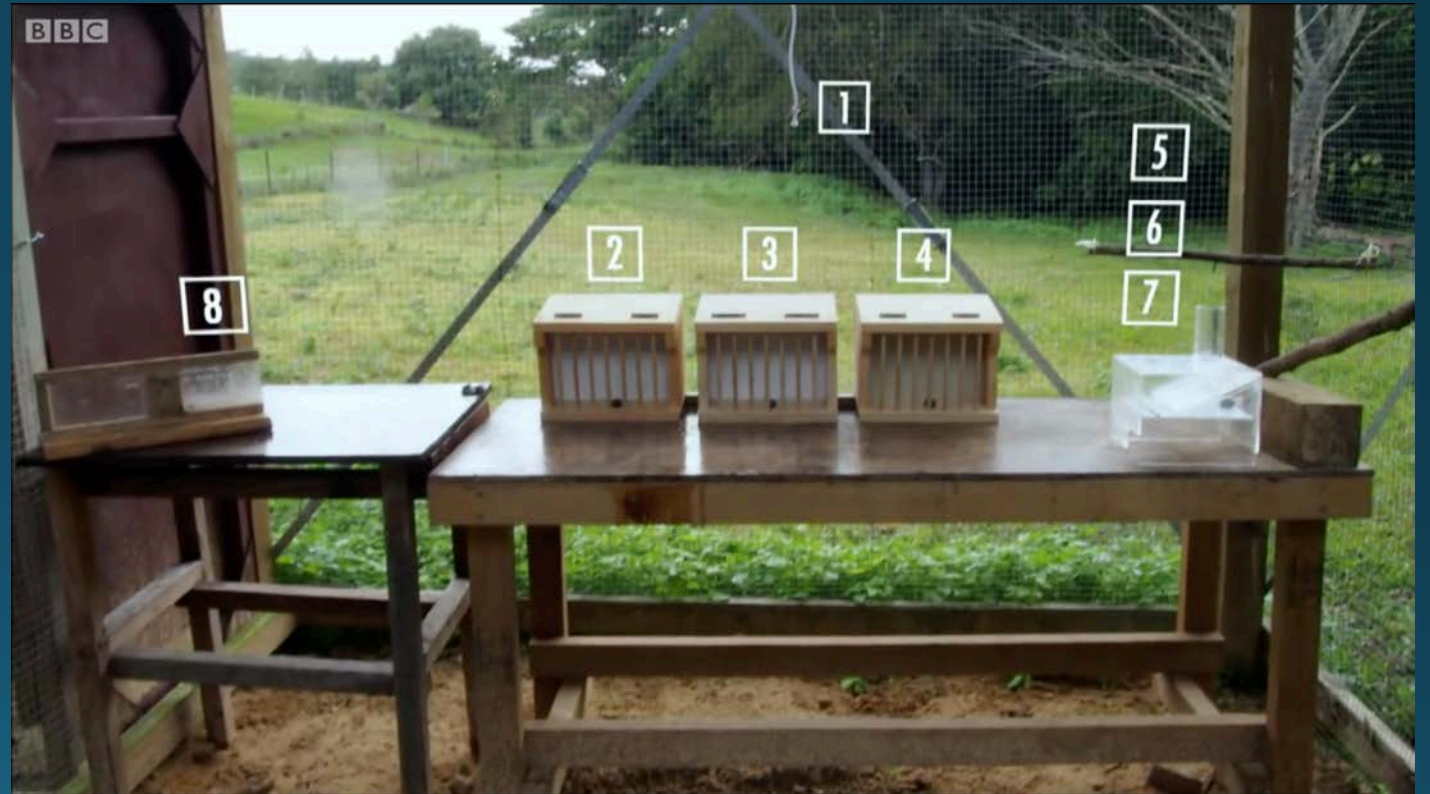


The Supposed Line Between Us



Sources: Clipartfest, Firkin

Animal Sentience: Self-Awareness & Reason



Sources: Phys.org, BBC



Animal Sentience: Emotion



Source: National Geographic

Comparison: Animals





Are humans *more* intelligent?

Humans > Chimpanzees > All others

“Some animals, including apes, dolphins, and dogs, exhibit [sentience] at levels higher than or before young children.”

-Clifton Coles



Comparison: Humans & Animals

“... we would be more accurate and just in our assessments if we recognized that ‘there are many different ‘intelligences,’ rather than ranking all species on the same scale of intelligence. ”

-Karen Davis



Comparison: Intelligence

“Everyone is a genius.
But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb
a tree, it will live its whole life believing
that it is stupid.”



A.I. Sentience: Present Day

- Reason
 - IBM Watson
- Self-Awareness
 - Several robots are capable of this
- Emotion
 - Recognition and expression have been achieved



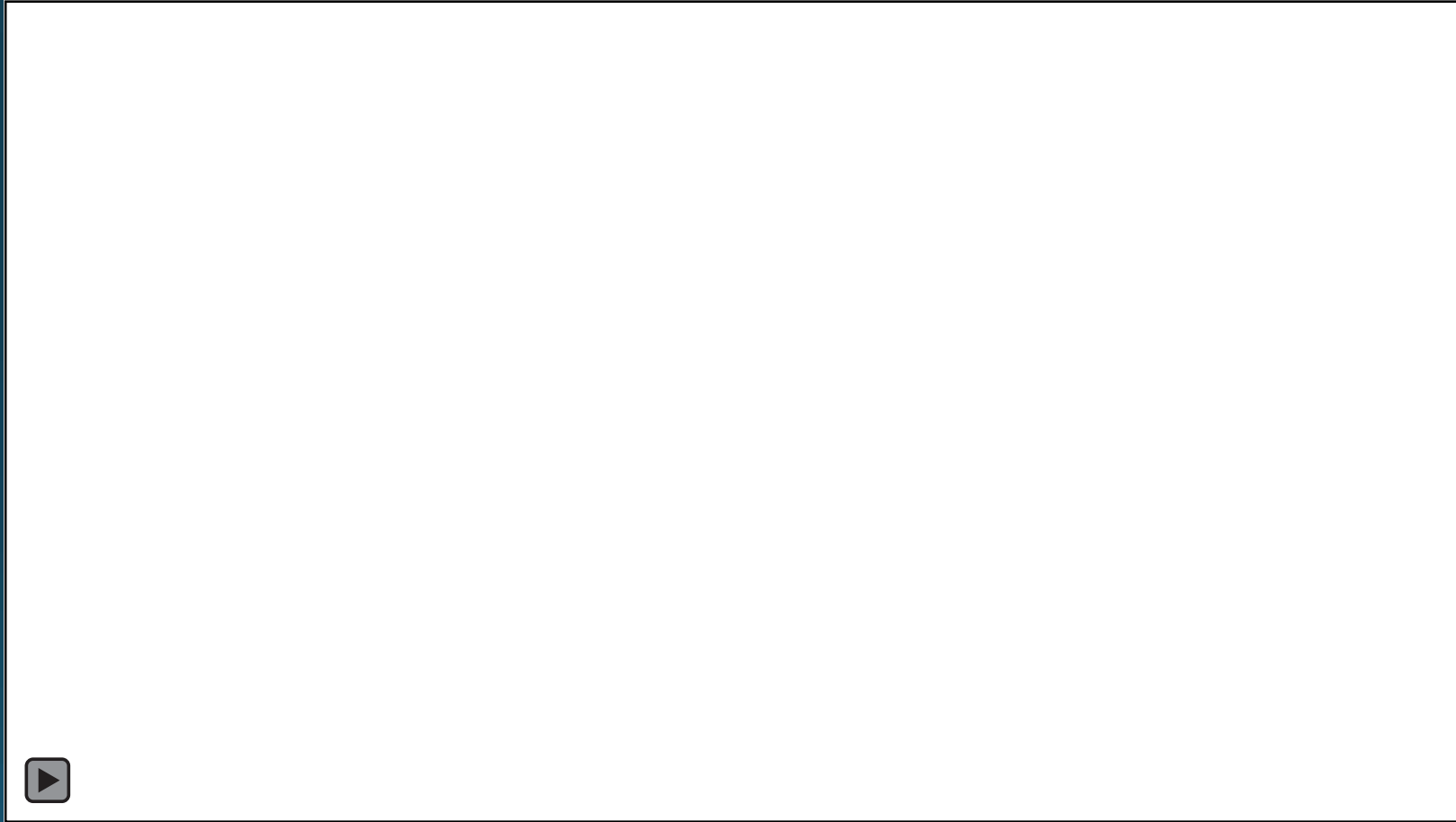
A.I. Sentience: Research

“Several leading Japanese roboticists...have separately developed artificial neural networks or algorithms necessary for the creation of, in their words, conscious robots.”

-Jennifer Robertson

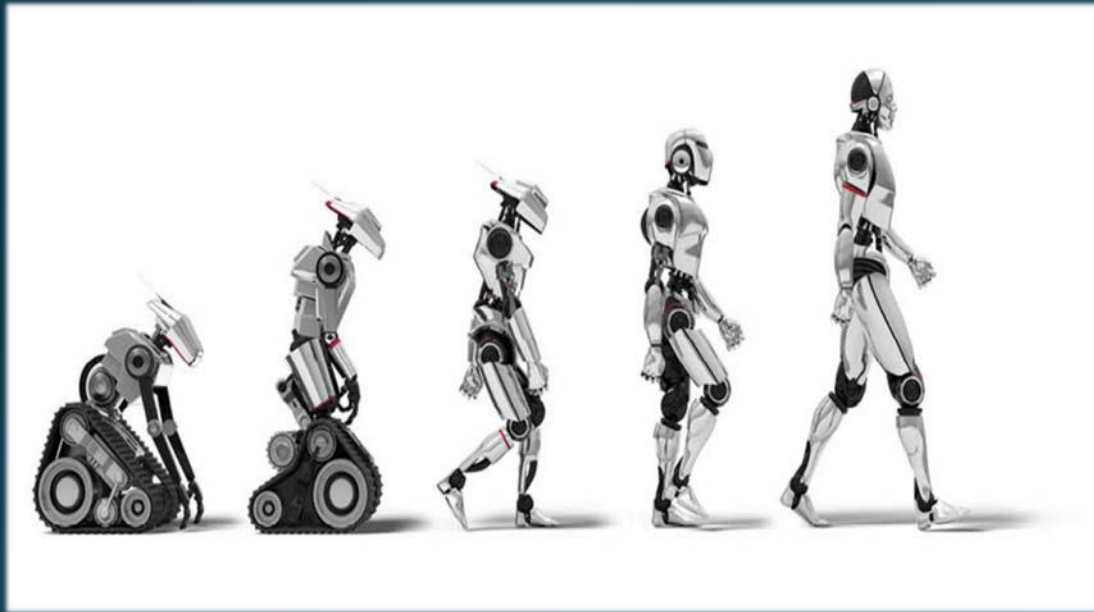


A.I. Sentience: Emotion: Feeling



Source: Journeyman Pictures

A.I. Sentience: Future



Sources: Instant Physics, AMC Studios



Personhood

Natural Persons

- Biologically Human

Juridical Persons

- Not human
- Select legal protections



Personhood: Application

- Bodily Integrity
- Security from Torture and Exploitation
- Freedom

Why is this important?

Roman Law

Property

Modern Western Law



Women



Children



Slaves



Mentally Ill Persons



Non-Human Animals



Why is this important?

Ethics

- Necessary to eat animals at one time
- Now, a diet without animals can be healthier and is more sustainable.

Why is this important?



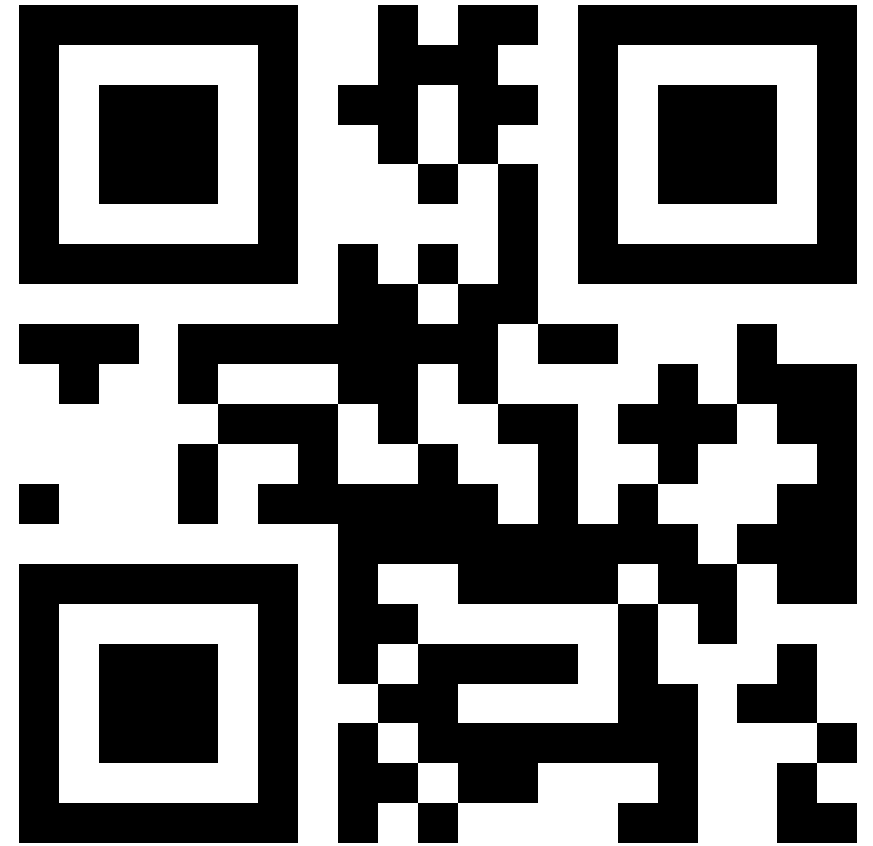


Final Thoughts

- We know that some animals possess sentience
- We are learning that other animals may be sentient in currently unrecognizable ways
- Artificial Intelligence is developing rapidly
- Creation of Sentient Artificial Intelligence appears to be likely
- It is ethically necessary for us to protect our contemporaries now

Resources

- More Information
 - goo.gl/w9ujUm
- Email
 - jjm29570@email.vccs.edu



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