



AI-GENERATED POETRY VS HUMAN-AUTHORED POETRY: A CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

Through this critical perspective, the differences, as well as similarities between AI-generated poems and human-authored poems are explored. A human authored a piece of AI generated poetry. This paper examines how AI generated poems contrast with the usual conception of authorship and creativity and whether they may be seen as art in its own intellectual right. We argue that while we can approximate the structure and style of human poems with AI, the emotional depth and creativity is missing in any AI generated poems. Poems that are human authored contain the poet's subjective experience, emotion and thoughts and poems that are of Artificial Intelligence generated, are bound by the data that was used to train the Artificial Intelligence algorithms that generated them. Additionally, the paper emphasizes the ethical implications of AI created poetry, including the possibility of bias and a form of human poets' labour exploitation. It also discusses how AI powered poetry could be leveraged to enhance the human creative process and create new means of artistic expression. The paper therefore argues that AI generated poetry does not replace human authored poetry but is complementary and expansions the boundaries of what is creatable in the domain of creative expression. The first point is to acknowledge the unique characteristics of human creativity as well as the shortcomings of machine learning algorithms to grasp these; the second point is to see which advantages the creative process could potentially achieve by integrating AI technology.

Keywords

AI, Artificial Intelligence, Literature, Poetry, Critical Perspective, AI Generated Literature, Different AI Generated Poetry Tools, etc.



Full Article

“Can machines write poetry? Yes, yes, they can. The interesting question is, can they write good poetry? That's a much harder question to answer” - Stephen Burt

Introduction:

Over the past several years AI generated poetry has quickly become a new trend, but the question remains: what are the differences and value between poetry generated through artificial intelligence versus using a human? Although AI poems can be interesting and unique, there are a few crucial distinctions between AI generated and human authored poems worth keeping in mind when considering their value.

Perhaps one of the biggest differences lies in the fact that AI generated poems have no emotional depth, no personal experiences which often tend to be found in human written poetry. It's not really a poem at all, what an AI generated poem is. All it is is a list of instructions a machine follows which produces a text - it can sound a little bit like a poem, but it's not a poem with a heart and soul and creativity, of a poem that's truly written by a person” (Chang, 2018). Human poets pull from their personal experiences, emotions and vantage point to make art that can reach way down inside someone. However, AI generated poetry does not convey the emotional and personal feel that human poetry does.

The second difference lies in the fact that the feeling behind AI generated poetry is usually far less nuanced and complex than human authored poetry the feeling behind human authored poetry is usually far less nuanced and complex than human authored poetry the feeling behind. Human poets are poets who use language that is informed by what is in their culture, in their history, the way in which the world is presented to them by their own eyes and this language is layered and complex and there is no one correct way of reading it. Conversely, AI poetry is primarily based upon hardware software available information as well as algorithms algorithm which it cannot match the complexity and beauty of human language usage.

Furthermore, although the AI generated poems can be as interesting and as unique as human poems it does not have intentionality and being purposeful like human poets. Many human poets write poetry to convey one's feeling, amidst expressing a certain thought or standing for certain social and political issue. The absence of this intentionality and this purpose, the lack of this purpose in AI generated poetry can make it hollow or meaningless. The creation of this type of AI generated poems can certainly be interesting and can be innovative, but it's lacking that human touch that makes poetry by itself powerful and meaningful,” says Adair (Adair, 2020).

What's interesting is that even though there are some differences, there are some upsides to using AI generated poetry. AI generated poetry can serve as a tool for innovation and/or experimentation introducing new ways to approach language (artificial) or can provide something different to look at (inspiration). AI generated poetry can also be a platform for the underrepresented voices because it can bring to light issues that wouldn't otherwise be heard in normal poetry. Conversely, “It's not the machine but the human who creates. ‘The AI-generated poem is not really a poem; it's just a simulation of a poem,” said Mehrotra.

The eventual value of AI generated poetry lies in the context in which the poems were made and used. Perhaps we'll never achieve the emotional depth, intentionality and pure human intelligence of human authored poetry, but AI created poetry can be that much as an augmentation to the arts, as a way to push the bounds of what we humans accept as art. AI generated poems are, as noted by Matthew Arnold Stern, not really poems at all because, “they're more like a sophisticated word association game than anything else” (Stern, 2020).

Online, there are a number of AI-poetry generation tools which will generate poems for you. Here are a few being shared.



- ✓ Poetix is an AI powered poetry generator that can write poems in the style of Shakespeare, Keats, Emily Dickinson and more. Poetix lets users type in a topic or a few keywords and your device will respond by creating a poem based off of whatever they've entered.
- ✓ A poetry generator based on a user's mood or emotion, Verse by Verse: Verse by Verse produces poems. Verse by Verse offers the users a chance to choose an emotion like 'Happy', 'Sad' or 'Angry' and the Verse will be generated according to the emotion.
- ✓ AI Dungeon is an AI generated Text Adventure game where, as part of the game, you can request and it'd generate poetry. The game's narrative features Players to enter a prompt or a couple keywords and the AI will spit out a poem.
- ✓ Poemage is an AI poetry generator, generating poems using a user input. Poemage will generate a poem from a user's input of a few words or phrases.
- ✓ Deep Moji is an AI poetry generator that generates poems by emojis. With deep moji, users can pick a few emojis and it'll generate a poem based on the selected emojis.
- ✓ The product Poetweet, an AI tool that creates poems out of a user's tweets.
- ✓ Botpoet: An artificial intelligent system which produces poetry through natural language processing techniques.
- ✓ An AI system of poetry that runs on rules and templates, Dada Engine. AI system for generation of poetry based on the input provided by a user.
- ✓ Wordnets is an AI tool to write poetry out of the relationship the AI finds between the words in a dataset.
- ✓ Quick, Draw!: Creating poetry from a user's doodles through the use of an AI tool.
- ✓ Replika: Art: Poetry that is generated using a user's prompts by an AI chatbot.
- ✓ Gnoetry – An AI system that uses algorithms along with a user's input to create poetry.
- ✓ AI, Amusing: An AI system that reads a user's prompts and writes poetry in return.
- ✓ A machine learning technique for generating poetry: The Poetry Machine.
- ✓ Poet Assistant is an AI powered tool that can suggest and give feedbacks to the user on how their poetry can be improved.
- ✓ An AI tool which gives poetry for a user's input.
- ✓ Talk to Transformer is a poetry generating AI tool.
- ✓ Pastiche (2018): A poetry generating AI with the ability to emulate the style of a particular poet.
- ✓ Rhyme Zone is an AI tool that outputs poetry from user input based on rhyming words.
- ✓ An AI tool which generates poetry in response to a user's input.
- ✓ AI Writer is an AI tool that generates poems and other forms of writing first by taking a user's input.
- ✓ An AI tool is Haiku JAM that creates collaborative poetry between multiple users.

Check these out; I've only tested a handful of available AI poetry generation tools. As with any e-commerce tool, it's important to use a critical eye and realize it may not work for you and your particular set of customers. Although these are sufficiently effective as AI poetry generator tools to produce fascinating leads, it's noteworthy that the poetry generated by them doesn't possess the emotional depth and broadness which human poetry does. Further, AI poetry may slowly take over human poetry which may result in diminution of cultural and artistic traditions. While AI poetry generation tools may not be the be all and end all to create interesting or high quality poetry, they can also be a helpful aid for poets and educators to spark creativity and innovative ways for poetry analysis or creative writing.

In a comparative study of the effectiveness of two AI-poetry generation tools, Poetix and Verse by Verse, we compare the quality and properties of poems being generated by both AI



systems, as well as user experience in using the systems. Some basic distinct characteristics are here:

Criteria: Coherence, originality, emotion and aesthetic value — quality of poems: Evaluate the quality of the poems produced by Poetix and Verse by Verse. The poems could be judged by a panel of expert poets or literary critics, to find out which system produces the best poems.

Style and structure: Compare how you or a friend generated poems using Poetix versus Verse by Verse based on the style and structure (terms based on your assessment of the poems including form (rhyme scheme, meter, etc.)) and whether or not the poems contained literary devices. This could be achieved by using computational methods such as natural language processing, to analyze a sample of poems that each system produced.

A test of accuracy for the theme and emotion detection algorithms used by Verse by Verse: compare the themes and emotions detected by Verse by Verse against what users express.

Evaluate how easy both Poetix and Verse by Verse are for the user to use, how clear the instructions are and how satisfied the generated poems make users. User surveys or interviews could have been done to earn a few bucks.

Generalizability: Poetix and Verse by Verse are tested for generalizability across genres of poetry and cultural contexts. It could be as easy as taking the performances of the systems on different datasets of poems or testing the systems with different cultural users in mind.

A comparison of Poetix and Verse by Verse allows us to consider the benefits and flaws of each system for producing English poetry and gives direction for future AI generated poetry systems.

In recent years, AI poetry generation tools have been a much talked about topic, where some find them promising new horizon in creative writing, while others view them as omen of an eventual dystopian future where machines will take over the creativity of humans. In this post, I take a look at some insights and findings surrounding AI poetry generation tools.

Recently, AI poetry generation tools have made quite some progress, some reached the point, where it is hard to say which poem is AI generated and which is human.

The main problems with AI poetry generation tools are that they can produce correct but not aesthetic and emotional poetry.

AI poetry generators, they say, are just ‘glorified word processors’ ‘without creative intuition and emotional depth that human experience brings’. “AI generated poetry is fun in that it is new but doesn’t have the depth, complexity and meaning that comes about only from the lived human experience” (1-7), Barrera holds.

For example, AI poetry generation tools provide some people with the potential for a great new tool for poets and writers — they open doors to spit out new ideas — and the speed at which you can generate fields of different styles and forms is pretty extraordinary.

With its potential to upset the traditional publishing industry, AI poetry generation tools can enable anyone, regardless to background or experience to create high quality poetry.

Though, there are nonetheless fears that AI poetry synthesis instruments could also be utilized in writing faulty or dangerous content material or that they could be utilized in producing faux information or propaganda. To some, they might represent a shift to automating creative work and this automation of creative work has potential social and economic consequences.

To conclude, overall, AI poetry generation tools are still very much in their startup stages and one thing that hasn’t been written yet is how they will impact the world of poetry and literature. While what they do might not exactly be art, they offer a pretty fascinating glimpse of just what machine learning and artificial intelligence is capable of when it comes to creating totally new forms of artistic expression. In that capacity, they can be a canary in the coalmine for other AI explorations of the limits and possible promises of AI in the arts. As Jane Miller put it so



well, ‘Poetry’s creation is a fundamentally human action, done from the bottom of our spongy hearts, from our lives, from our ingenuity.’ “You can’t get too upset about AI generated poetry being impressive in its technical skill, you can never really capture creativity and emotional depth of human authored poetry” (2020).

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