

The Myth of the Machine:

Between Mathematical Determinism and Economic Hype

In 1956, John McCarthy coined the term 'Artificial Intelligence' for the Dartmouth Conference. They say he didn't pick this term because it was scientifically accurate, but to set his field apart from cybernetics and get funding. Since its birth, 'AI' has been kind of a marketing term. Today, we stand in the middle of a global attention economy where companies like OpenAI are valued at 500 billion dollars while losing approximately 13.5 billion in the first half of 2025. Why? Because we aren't investing in technology; we are investing in a narrative of omnipotence.

We will take a short look at the architecture behind Large Language Models (LLMs - text prediction) and Diffusion Models (i.e. noise reduction to produce images).

Afterwards I will talk about the deconstruction of the addressed narrative and present a multidisciplinary critique of the current Artificial Intelligence paradigm, arguing that the pursuit of Artificial General Intelligence (AGI) is built upon a „Hype of Simulation and Anthropomorphism“ based on mathematical and economic fantasies. By synthesizing perspectives from logic, philosophy of mind, and systems theory, we will explore the "experience gap" between machine processing and human understanding.

Taking into account the fact that artificial intelligence can definitely be used as a tool for solving problems in areas where the final decisions are made by human experts with second-order observer capabilities.

Walter Karban, Dr. phil, Mag. phil
Entrepreneur & Philosopher

Executive Profile:

Entrepreneur and academic with over 45 years of experience in IT innovation and expertise in systems theory, ethics, and AI. From pioneering work in Austria's early Internet landscape to current research in machine learning and comparative philosophy.

Core Competencies:

Technology: AI/Machine Learning (Python, GANs), Database Development, SEO, Data Protection

Leadership: Founder/CEO of multiple ventures

Academia: Expert in Complexity and Systems Theory, Constructivism, Digital Humanism, and Comparative Philosophy