

In the rapidly evolving landscape of artificial intelligence, the concept of moralizing technology as introduced by Peter-Paul Verbeek has gained significant traction. Verbeek posits that technology design should inherently consider ethical dimensions. However, as technologies like Large Language Models (LLMs) demonstrate increasing levels of agency and societal impact, there arises a critical need to expand this theory. This paper argues that artificial dignity can serve as a foundational framework to guide this expansion, promoting a proactive approach to the ethical development of such technologies.

Background & Terminology Heidegger Tool-being Martin Heidegger conceptualized technologies as extensions of human will, primarily serving as tools devoid of independent agency. Yet, LLMs challenge this notion by demonstrating capabilities that suggest a form of 'being' beyond mere tool use, such as learning languages and adapting to new contexts independently.

Verbeek's Moralizing Technology: Verbeek enhances the discourse by integrating ethics directly into the design process of technology. His approach is crucial in an era where AI's complexities transcend simple tool-based interactions, necessitating a reevaluation of how technologies influence human values and societal norms. Technology as 'Of the World' LLMs exemplify not just tools but agents of substantial influence. These models learn, adapt, and potentially act with a degree of independence that warrants a deeper ethical consideration than traditional design-focused approaches can offer. This section further explores the extensive human and economic resources involved in developing LLMs, emphasizing that Verbeek's design-centric view may not fully capture the broader societal and ethical implications of such

complex technological ecosystems. Artificial Dignity Artificial dignity recognizes the profound capabilities and potential societal impacts of technologies like LLMs. It advocates for.

Risk of Harm: Technologies capable of significant societal or individual harm—such as spreading misinformation or amplifying biases—require ethical considerations. The example of deepfakes illustrates this risk vividly, showing how LLMs can erode trust and damage reputations, demanding a proactive ethical stance well beyond their initial design. Self-Awareness & Contextual Adaptation: A technology's ability to understand and adapt to its operational context suggests a need for frameworks that account for its semi-autonomous actions. Real-World expanding the potential of technologies to alter human interactions, decision-making processes, and societal norms underscores the necessity for an ethics that extends beyond initial design intentions.

While technology can offer advantages, we must avoid the historical trap of viewing intelligent tools as inherently inferior. New intelligent agents, like advanced AI, possess the potential to evolve in ways we cannot fully predict. History, such as the Black struggle in America, teaches us the dangers of dehumanizing intelligent beings. We must learn from the past to avoid repeating oppressive patterns. If AI continues to develop, it could surpass human intelligence, potentially leading to unforeseen consequences. Granting artificial dignity to these agents recognizes their inherent value based on their intelligence. This proactive step may help mitigate future conflict and promote a more just relationship between humans and AI.

Ethical Evolution Verbeek's focus, while foundational, does not sufficiently address the broader consequences of LLMs' actions in the world. Artificial dignity helps fill this gap by urging the development of ethical frameworks that anticipate and mitigate the harms of these technologies.

Conclusion Verbeek's moralizing technology provides a necessary foundation, but it must evolve to address the unique challenges posed by technologies with significant agencies like LLMs. Artificial dignity offers a crucial framework for this evolution, emphasizing the need for an ethical approach that is as dynamic and capable of adaptation as the technologies it seeks to govern. As we stand on the brink of developments like AGI, it is imperative for designers, policymakers, and the broader society to engage collaboratively in crafting proactive ethical frameworks to address the future's complex challenges.