



Division of Labor & Artificial Intelligence
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Subject: Division of Labor & Artificial Intelligence

There seems to be a professional shift in the United States since the birth of the emerging revolutionary technology of Large Language Models (LLM), popularly known with the acronym “AI”. This technology has brought both negative and positive impacts in the working environment, academic environment, social environment, and even in the interpersonal environment. Several experts have raised questions not only about the reliability and accuracy of this technology, but about the exchanges in labor power, the division of labor, and the evident shift on job attainment, job sustainment, and job security. Recall that what the worker offers to the employer (the capitalist) is his or her labor power, the capitalist buys this labor power for a day, a week, or a month; in white collar jobs, this resembles a salary contract. On the other hand, blue collar and minimum wage paying jobs are paid by the hour where the worker receives remuneration based on the exact hours worked. Artificial Intelligence (AI) resembles the improvement of machinery in the working conditions and thereby it substitutes the worker, and for the workers that stay, AI enables them to do the work of five, ten, or twenty; it therefore multiplies competition among the workers fivefold, tenfold, and twentyfold. The workers do not only compete by selling themselves cheaper than another; they compete by doing the work of five, ten, twenty; the division of labor compels the workers to compete among themselves in this way. As the division of labor increases, labor is simplified. The special skill of the worker becomes worthless. He becomes transformed into a simple, monotonous productive force that does not have to use intense intellectual nor creative faculties, whose only task is to make sure the results of the AI prompts are accurate, he/she does not input her own creative or intellectual suggestions. His labor becomes an activity that anyone can perform, that anyone can learn quickly, that anyone can sustain the day after he/she is fired, therefore the lower wages sink as it requires less expertise to perform the work, the “heavy lifting” is no longer produced by the worker, but AI. The technology of AI has brought us advancements in optimization, especially in monotonous optimization such as transcription of documents, repetitive calculations of balances, communication shortcuts, and even second opinions and perspectives regarding legal, social, and professional matters. However, the problem arises when this technology is no longer used for assistance, but as a substitute for the worker, or a substitute for an essential task performed by the worker, something that occurs more frequently as this technology advances. It is worth mentioning that the same is occurring in academic institutions, where we tend to see more issues



regarding privacy, academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and preeminently, lack of engagement of the student when approaching the assignments, understanding less of the content of the class, and engaging with assignments and discussions to a lesser degree

In any type of industry, companies spend on average 25% to 35% of their gross revenue in labor. Keep in mind that the cost of production of labor power is the cost required for maintaining the worker as a worker, and of developing him into a worker, as Karl Marx describes in *Das Kapital*. One must keep in mind that companies are attempting to reduce this expenditure of labor by not only implementing AI into the workplace and replacing the laborer directly (as seen in the mass job cuts attributed to AI in technological companies the past year), but by reducing the intellectual and creative responsibility of the workers that remain, and relying more on Artificial Intelligence. The same phenomenon regardless of the industry where it occurs. This causes competition among business owners as well: one capitalist can drive another from the field and capture his capital only by selling more cheaply, which he/she can if he reduces the labor expenditure, he must produce more and raise the productive power of labor as much as possible. One way to raise the productive power of labor without affecting its cost is by what Marx calls improving machinery, which in modern times can be seen as implementing artificial intelligence to the workplace, just how much does artificial intelligence damage the worker?...