

---

## EDITORIAL

---

The widespread use of artificial intelligence (AI) has caused a discussion wave of possible ethical, ontological, and legal problems. AI has the potential to disrupt the lifestyles of civilization in general in many ways. Systems based on AI are achieving levels of capability in decision-making that may equal or exceed people.

In recent years, a lot of cultural and humanistic concerns have also risen since the rapid boom of the metaverse which could be disembodied, unreal, closed, and without privacy. Meanwhile, the metaverse allows us to experience more diverse and richer life experiences as much as possible within our limited life length. Also, it provides more workplaces and opportunities with the creation of multiple virtual societies. The metaverse is a broader universe formed by the fusion of the natural universe and the virtual universe. It shows its twofold influence on the current situation of industries and guild the future development of industries.

In this issue, serious topics about the metaverse are discussed in ethical, philosophical, and social aspects. Many thanks to the authors to authorize us to publish their insightful thoughts.

Managing editor

Dr. Yina Xu