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Turing the Philosopher: Established Debates and New Developments

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Message from the Guest Editors

Alan Turing carried out groundbreaking research in several fields, including mathematics and theory of computability, cryptography, computer science and artificial intelligence, and computational biology. His philosophical work was also pioneering, although perhaps less well-known—with the exception of his famous imitation game for testing intelligence in machines. In this Special Issue, we focus on Turing the philosopher.

Examples of Turing's philosophical work are his research on computation, the foundations of mathematics, the nature of mind, and machine intelligence—and there are more examples of explicitly and implicitly philosophical work in his writings.

We are seeking (1) discussions of the implications of Turing's philosophical work for established debates, philosophical and scientific; and (2) fresh perspectives on the philosophical significance of Turing's writings. The overall goal of this Special Issue is to position Turing's philosophical work amid state-of-the art research today.

Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Philosophies searches for the syntheses of philosophical and scientific inquiries. It promotes philosophical work that is derived from the experience of diverse scientific disciplines and cultures. Multiple philosophies already exist — those of logic, information, computation, natural and artificial life, natural or artificial intelligence, complexity, technology, etc. Our mission is not to abandon philosophical roots and traditions of inquiry, but to promote the development of philosophical foundations and effective methodologies derived from diverse scientific explorations, and intended to enhance these explorations as to generate deeper and more holistic knowledge. Innovation may also be achieved through the cultural dimension. Other cultures can offer from their heritage a diversity of resources for exploration; these resources can also contribute to the emergent synthesis of philosophical inquiry.

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