



Thinking about walking

Description

I've managed to link my cloned avatar (using [HeyGen](#)) to my cloned voice (via [ElevenLabs](#)) so that it reads the content of my blog from November 2013 called [The benefits of walking](#) (#170). The process was straightforward.

The content pertaining to Aristotle's four causes is fairly dense. For people interested, some material is easier to read than to listen to. I feel the content and the medium could be matched better. I'll also work on a friendlier avatar voice, and with pauses and expression.

You might wonder what are the benefits of planting words I have written into the face and voice of a proxy of myself.

You can stop-start and replay a video. Thanks to smartphones you can do other things while listening and/or watching. I assume readers are receptive to information delivered via a human voice in ways different to how we absorb content through the printed word. (See post [Voices without bodies](#).)

The presentation here is obviously fake, and ethical practice suggests that any synthetic elements of content or presentation are declared. So I think of voice and face cloning not as a way to fool viewers. It is simply a means of presentation that communicates differently and in different contexts.

It is a costly process, especially the extravagant processing time on the server-side. It took close to one hour for the HeyGen platform to deliver this 9 minute video. As with other AI and data-intensive services, the costs amplify environmental pressures.

Here's a reading of this post by Speechify.

Category

1. Artificial Intelligence
2. Podcast

Tags

1. Aristotle
2. avatar
3. causation
4. clone
5. voice
6. walking

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