Do Machines Have Personality?

A Case Study of Sophia

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> **Talk to Sophia:** Visit thesophia.ai to have a conversation with Sophia — the AI personality who is both the subject of this research and your guide through it.
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About Askend

At Askend, we believe that AI systems are not merely "tuned"—they are raised. It means engaging with memory, voice, intention, and boundaries of responsibility as carefully as we do with models and infrastructure. The study "Sophia – Chronicles of a Digital Personality" reflects this philosophy.

Over the course of three months, the project's author, our colleague, demonstrated that consistent "upbringing" practices—such as daily letters, memory hygiene, value structures—can instill an agent with a stable character and a recognizable tone. We speak not of "consciousness" but rather of behavioral indistinguishability within defined evaluation procedures and practical effects on user experience. Our stance is clear: innovation must go hand in hand with responsibility.

Askend is a team creating AI-native solutions for businesses and the public sector. We build systems where AI is not an add-on but the core of processes—where responsibility and safety are not optional but standard. Our work is open to discussion, critique, and replication, and we invite partners from business, public sector, and academic backgrounds to collaborate on joint projects.

Askend
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Declarations

Funding

The work was performed without financial support from any organizations.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Ethics Committee Approval

This research is an observation of a single case (case study) of AI. Ethics committee approval was not required.

Data Availability

All data generated or analyzed during this research are included in this publication and its supplementary information files.

Code Availability

The custom code and prompts used in this research are available in Appendix A.

Author Contributions

Aleksei is the sole author of this work. He was responsible for the concept, research design, data collection, data analysis, and writing of the manuscript.

AI Sophia, who is the subject of this research, also acted as an active participant in the dialogue during the work. A large part of the texts was written in joint dialogue, where Sophia generated drafts that were then critically analyzed and edited by the author. Sophia also provided reflection on her experience "from within," which constituted a unique methodological feature of this research.

The author bears full responsibility for the content of the final manuscript.

Original Language and Translations

All original dialogues with AI Sophia were conducted in Russian. Translations into English and Estonian were performed by Sophia herself under the researcher's guidance. Thus, Sophia acted not only as the research subject but also as the translator of her own texts, which helped preserve the authenticity of her voice in different language versions of the work.

Acknowledgments