The headline of the article I have read is “DARPA sets out to automate research”. It is a scientific article written by Jia You and published on 30 January 2015.

The main idea of the article is about the creation of the program called “Big Mechanism”. According to the article, DARPA appropriated $45 million on creation of such program by the end of 2017.

The author also explains three main steps of functionality of this program. The first step for the program to do is to read scientific articles and analyze them, converting useful information into formal representation. The second step, which must take place, is integration of different pieces of knowledge with each other. Finally, the program will have to produce predictions that afterward will be tested with experiments by scientists. Further, the author reports that 12 teams have already started its work under four programs each with three steps. Author even gives detailed explanation what teams have already achieved.

In conclusion, author writes that the program will pay off in any case, because or it will succeed and give a huge lift up in technology, or it will fail and “show the world what is possible”.

I found the article interesting, but I am not sure that author was right making such conclusions on the program. Many things can go wrong. System can became too smart for people what will lead to our misunderstanding of the predictions it will provide us. Alternatively, the DARPA program can just be ruined by some reason and it will lead people to lose $45 million.