

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CONTROVERSIES

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Abstract:

A new spectre is haunting Europe - a spectre that currently goes by the name Artificial Intelligence, or more specifically Artificial Intelligence based on machine learning algorithms. Enthusiastic AI-sponsors and developers raise the hopes of great improvements in areas such as medical services, traffic safety and sustainable management of resources. Meanwhile political and ethical concerns grow over uncontrollable bias, privacy transgressions and the ubiquitous spread of AI into the fabric of society. And while more specific promises and risks of AI are being debated, AI is also increasingly related to wide-ranging discussions about Europe's economic competition with China and the US, dangerous future arms races, and even the very future of humanity.

The aim of this panel is to bring together theoretical, methodological, and empirical efforts to grapple with the vast and entangled spectre of AI and of societal controversies about AI.

We specifically welcome:

- Quanti-qualitative efforts to map the development of AI controversies
- Case studies that situate and contextualize AI and algorithms.
- Theoretical reflections on the emerging phenomenon of AI and machine learning based algorithms.
- Reflections on how a vast and entangled phenomenon like AI might pose specific challenges and opportunities for the field of STS.
- Reflections on the challenges that AI controversies pose to knowledge democracy, and to controversy analysis.