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## Minds, machines, and humanity

Social Sciences and Humanities play a critical role in forging responsible AI

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Interestingly, Jonathan Penn, a historian and philosopher of Science, highlighted how rule-following or conformity is the basis of pattern creation of behaviour and mind in AI. Furthermore, pattern identification is crucial for administrative and economic decisions and profit-making exercises. Patterns help in clear identification and engagement; thus, the legibility of human behaviour leads to social domination and control by the owners of technology. At the same time, randomness and unexpectedness of human lives and behaviour are unpredictable and do not follow patterns. Machine learning aims at actionable predictions independent of human inputs. Formal mathematical models of human behaviour and intelligence

is at the core of AI's software and algorithms. These models represent a simplified version of the human mind and body that can be calculated and predicted. In essence, creating intelligent machines requires the formal encoding of patterns. The process of identifying and compiling these patterns is influenced by social factors, raising the question of who writes the code and what kind of representative sample is used to extract patterns that caricature the 'human' in machines.

**User-centric AI**  
The cultural context and diverse meanings that arise from human interactions are standardised to a specific type. As a result, AI reflects and reproduces the social world of the

algorithm developers. The biases and intentions of the algorithm creators underscore the politics of technology and raise ethical questions. Additionally, beyond the intention and language of the software, there are questions about who can access the data generated by the machines and how this data is used beyond the operation of a specific machine. Undoubtedly, these concerns lead us to the need for responsible AI and the design of user-centric AI, placing a guarantee for the non-misuse of data.

Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), as fields of knowing the social world and ongoing conversation with human nature, play a critical role in forging responsible AI. A couple of years ago, an interdisciplinary platform in the U.K. brought to-

gether social scientists and philosophers to collaborate with data scientists, design specialists, policymakers, and industry to align the social power of AI with the moral and ethical values of human society.

SSH provides insights and enlightening historical perspectives on what happens when individuals in a society have reduced communitarian relations, implications of old and new inequalities, identification of incentives and disincentives (construction of ethical order of living) required to maintain social order, and most importantly, how new artefacts can impact the social and political power in a society. Automation technologies reorder the nature-human-machine relationship. However, to what extent should this recasting of re-

lationship happen without displacing human dignity, privacy, accountability, transparency, and fairness? Responsible AI is, in short, a demand for a user-centric AI. SSH provides invaluable cues to these pertinent dimensions of technology-led social change.

The rise of machine agency raises the question of human creativity and innovation, especially for thinking beyond tools and software to fashion human lives. In the impending world of calculable human interactions and predictive behaviour, we must ponder on the role of ran-

domness and contingencies in the human world. Technological breakthroughs, creative thinking, and engineering socio-political Utopias do not follow predictable lines. Resistance to predilections animates human agency by rescuing it from being one-dimensional and is the promise for humanity. To sustain these critical aspects, a continuous conversation with the social world and its creative expressions is needed more than before.

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