Technology-critical perspectives on AI

**Generative AI**
Hegemony Amplification
Concentration of Power

**Discriminating AI**
Predictive Analytics
Programmatic Unequal Treatment

→ Amplification of Social Inequality

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Technology has never been neutral
Generative AI

- ChatGPT - the iphone moment
- LLM are not knowledge based
- Correlation vs. Causality
- „confabulation“
- Fake (mis- / disinformation)
  → Bullshit
  → favours right-wing populist tendencies
Rising fraction of AI content

- news, blogs, emails, audios, videos
  - distortion of public discourse
- Google: need for action only in case of "content with the main purpose of manipulating the ranking in search results"
- Prognosis: 90% of online-content AI-generated until 2030
- Difficult distinction: human vs. synthetic content
  - AI-detection of AI-spam
  - ideal conditions for censorship
Hegemony amplification

- Stochastic parrot
- Interplay with social media
- AI-canibalism (self-digest disorder)
  
  [Alemohammad et al. „Self-Consuming Generative Models Go MAD“]

- Not only reproduction but amplification of hegemonial worldview
Hegemony amplification

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Concentration of power

- Rising cost to train growing LLM
- Rising need for correction
- → only a few tech-giants can maintain future LLM
- OpenAI → „ClosedAI“

A political disaster for the historical development of the internet, which pretended to advance the democratization of knowledge access and information sharing.
Predictive Analytics

• *people like you*-principle in scoring/ranking algorithms
• aim (by definition): discrimination
  (differentiate between similarity groups of people)
• Prediction P: accessible data ---> sensitive data
• deduce the disposition to depression, psychosis, diabetes, high blood pressure from insta or google search data
Prediction $P$: accessible data $\longrightarrow$ sensitive data

- based on pure correlation
  - inductive generalization
  - false uniqueness
- stabilize the predicted „reality“ (self-enhancing loopback)
- Programmatic Unequal treatment
  $\rightarrow$ „fitting“ inequality
  $\rightarrow$ new justice: „everybody is treated as he /she deserves“
  $\rightarrow$ subdeviding into social classes without fixed categories
Concrete Inequalities

who will receive face-to-face medical treatment?
who is forced economically to rely on virtual diagnosis
- telemedicine
- social care
- diagnosis tools

Criticism focusses mainly on AI in decision making systems
→ AI-assistance in general
A world beyond bullshit is possible

- Power of machine learning is first of all a narrative
- Automation promise binding us to tech companies
- Efficiency in process-optimization is not a value in itself

„Marx says that revolutions are the locomotive of world history. But perhaps it is entirely different. Perhaps the revolutions are the grip of the human race traveling in this train for the emergency brake.“ (Walter Benjamin)