

# Forward-looking responsibility for AI development

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# Good things with AI

- Image recognition for effective diagnosis and prognostics in health care
- Detection of fraud in the finance sector
- Efficient navigation
- Self-parking cars
- Automated customer support helping us to find a particular product
- Accurate hits in search engines
- ...



# Risks with AI – some examples

- Surveillance
- Violation of privacy
- Bias and discrimination
- Polarisation and individualised world views
- ...



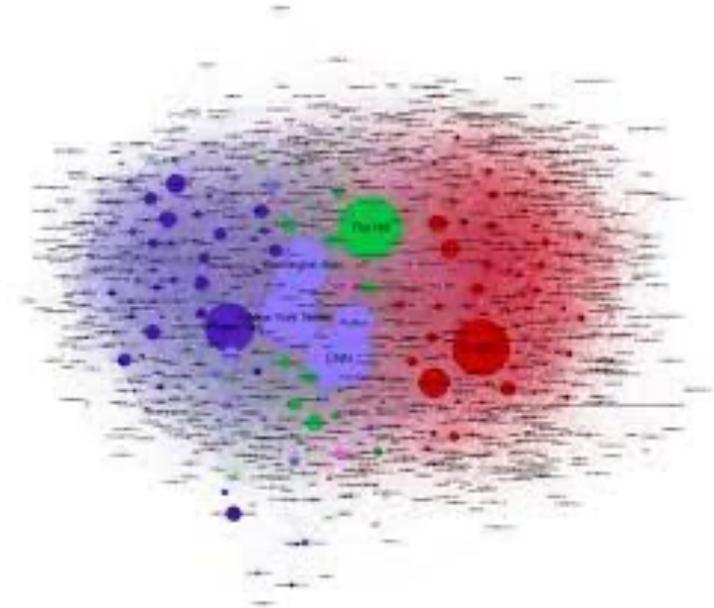
# Forward-looking responsibility

- "Who should do what now to lead the development in a desirable direction?"
- Backward-looking responsibility: who is to blame for a bad situation?
- Forward-looking responsibility: who is responsible to avoid a bad situation?
- Who determines norms of AI development?
- Norms of AI development: goals and limits to these goals
- How will different distributions of forward-looking responsibility for the development of AI today affect the long-term development of AI?



# Capacity to make a difference

- Ability, competence: knowledge, power, other resources
- Who is responsible in a forward-looking sense for recommender algorithms?
- The designer of the algorithm?
- The company developing it?
- Political decision-makers regulating AI industry?
- Citizens?



# Normative grounds for forward-looking responsibility

- Many suggestions in the responsibility literature, e.g., *equality*, *desert*, *need*, *gain*
- For instance, *gain*: those who gain from something, should be more responsible than those who do not



# Position to justify responsibility

- Experts with skills and technical know-how may be best placed to bring about a certain outcome
- Whistle-blower on Facebook's recommender algorithms:
  - Negative impact on teenage mental health, promotion of ethnic violence, spread of vaccine misinformation, and more
  - Facebook aware of this, but prioritise own profit
  - Mark Zuckerberg responsible to do something about it *due to his control of Facebook*
- Controlling a big-tech company example of *position* that justifies forward-looking responsibility
- Being involved in policy-making process other *position*, e.g., the High Level Group on AI



Whistle-blower  
Frances Haugen,  
former Facebook  
employee

# Responsibility and influence

- Responsibility not only a burden
- To be responsible for something, you need a corresponding influence over the matter
- "Ethics by design" a way to take responsibility in a forward-looking sense
- May increase expert influence
- Which values should be promoted?
- How should these values be settled?



Thank you!

# How will different forward-looking distributions of responsibility affect the long-term development of Artificial Intelligence?

LU: <https://www.svet.lu.se/en/research/research-projects/how-will-different-distributions-of-responsibility-affect-the-long-term-development-of-artificial-intelligence>

Researchgate: <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Distribution-of-Responsibility-for-Artificial-Intelligence-Development-DRAID>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2324127717915542/>