

AI and the responsibility of the individual

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Abstract

Artificial intelligence is becoming increasingly influential in most people's lives and it is important to make well informed decisions both regarding our immediate use of AI applications and regarding what direction we want the long term AI development to take. It is also important that the whole society is represented and influence the development of AI. A problem with this is that the technology behind AI is very complicated for most of us. The same is true of the societal and ethical implications of AI.

This raises the question of the extent of the moral responsibility of the individual to consider how their actions (as consumers and citizens, not in this case as professionals, which raises a different set of questions) affect the short- and long term development of AI, and to what extent individuals have a moral responsibility to inform themselves about these consequences. We attempt to throw some light on these questions by investigating how different philosophical theories about distribution of responsibility can be applied to them, and also by comparing them to the corresponding questions in environmental ethics that are already widely discussed among both activists and philosophers.

Key words:

Artificial Intelligence

Individual responsibility

AI ethics