

AI and Data Science in Fiction and Society

Seminar Kick Off



Goals

- Why should we read fictional literature at university at all?
 - given that we are not humanities students
- Fiction is a mirror of society
- Technology is developed in research labs
 - ...but its impact on society is seldom discussed therein
- In this seminar, we will discuss those impacts

Organization

- Requirements
 - Read a novel and present it in the seminar
 - Write a seminar paper
 - Review others' seminar papers
 - it is a good idea to also read the books for the seminar papers you review
- First step
 - Pick a novel
 - If not done yet, send a ranked list to ~~Ms. Bianca Lerner~~ me
 - You are invited to propose books **not** on the list on the Web page

Organization

- Getting your book
 - we have copies in the library (of books listed on the Web page)
 - you may need them for some time
- After assignment is finished, you can borrow “your” copy
 - personally at Mr. Scheuermann at the library
(office SW 287 in the castle)

Organization

- We will use a process called “peer review”
 - widely used (and discussed) in science
 - you will review your fellow students’ seminar papers
- Timeline
 - Prepare a draft until October 28th
 - You will get two seminar papers to review
 - Submit your reviews until November 11th
- Seminar (i.e. ,presentations, discussions)
 - November 21st and 28th, 13.45-17.00
 - Participate *actively*
- Final seminar paper submission: December 9th

Preparing Your Seminar Paper

- Synopsis
 - Brief summary of the novel's contents
 - Main themes, characters, plot points
- Characters
 - Main characters? What do they represent?
- Technology
 - Which technology is described?
 - What does already exist, what is still to be invented?
- Interaction of technology and society
 - Which of the characters appreciate the technology?
 - Who are rather sceptics?
- Anything else you want to discuss
- Use further literature!

Preparing a Review

- 1st rule: be constructive!
- What you should point at
 - can you follow easily? is there information missing at any point?
 - are all claims well supported?
 - do you have any questions not answered?
 - aspects underrepresented
- What you should not do
 - provide general criticism (“don’t like the paper”)
 - correct every spelling mistake
 - rewrite the seminar paper

Preparing the Presentation


- Remember
 - we are here to discuss
- Therefore
 - don't just report facts
 - raise questions
 - be provocative

Questions?









Straw Poll (will be repeated at the end)

- Do you consider AI rather beneficial or harmful?

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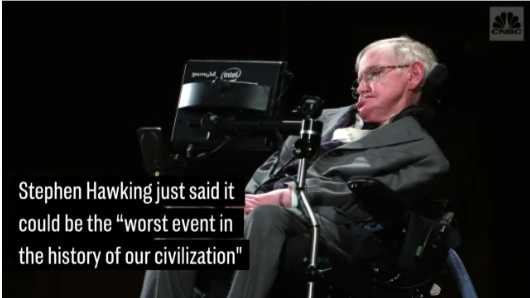
Stephen Hawking says A.I. could be 'worst event in the history of our civilization'



- Physicist Stephen Hawking said the emergence of artificial intelligence could be the "worst event in the history of our civilization."
- He urged creators of AI to "employ best practice and effective management."
- Hawking is among a number of voices including Elon Musk who have warned about the dangers of AI.


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TRENDING NOW



1. Miami home values show how 'climate gentrification' is changing coastal real estate



2. Paul Manafort's lawyers claim Trump is making things worse as they seek to move trial

Thought Experiment: Universal Paperclips

