



Universität Hamburg

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TAMING THE MACHINES

THE AI MIRROR: RECLAIMING OUR HU- MANITY IN AN AGE OF MACHINE THINKING

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ÖFFENTLICHE
RING-
VORLESUNG

About the lecture

In the coming decades, the spread of commercially viable artificial intelligence is projected to transform virtually every sociotechnical system, from finance and transportation to healthcare and warfare. In recent years, work in the new interdisciplinary field of AI ethics has revealed to extent to which AI systems are prone to reflect back and amplify human vices, especially our unfair biases and discriminatory behaviours but also our penchant for spreading and consuming misinformation. While this is true, the way in which AI functions as a mirror can convey the misleading and dangerous impression that AI merely captures and replicates our humanity in machine form. Yet we all recognize that a mirror does not capture the embodied human form. Mirrors erase and occlude much of our material presence; mirror images have no smell, no depth, no softness, no interiority. What does the AI mirror erase from us, and how can we reclaim it? In this talk I will explore the dimensions of our humanity that today's AI revolution is making it harder for us to see in ourselves and in one another, and what we can do to bring these vital aspects of our humanity back into view.

**– postponed to 2022 –
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Access details will be made public on a timely basis at <http://uhh.de/inf-eit>

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