Maurice Jones

1st AI for People Workshop

August 8+9, 2020

MAPPING CROSS-CULTURAL VISIONS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Overview

- Background

- Theory

- Case Studies:
  - Japanese AI Visions
  - Indigenous AI
  - Ubuntu

- Comparison

- Conclusion

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Background

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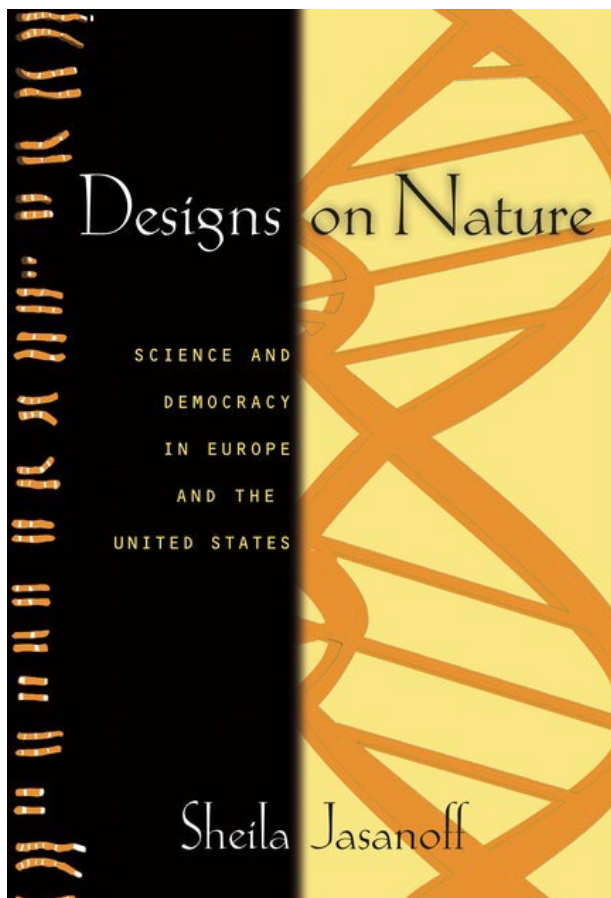# MUTEK AI ART LAB

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJQIh8pAO2w

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Theory

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Theory

Designs on Nature

SCIENCE AND DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES

Sheila Jasanoff

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On Culture:

"a group's shared set of meanings, its implicit and explicit messages, encoded in social action about how to interpret experience."

(Schneider & Geertz 1976)

"How things are viewed differently, how things are done differently and how these activities are institutionally arranged differently."

(Geertz 1983)

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Case Studies

- Japanese AI Visions
- Indigenous AI
- Ubuntu

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Japanese AI Visions

BUSINESS / TECH

Kyoto temple puts faith in robot priest, drawing praise from Japanese but scorn from Westerners

BY ALASTAIR HIMMER
AFP–JIJI

KYOTO – A 400-year-old temple is attempting to hot-wire interest in Buddhism with a robotic priest it believes will change the face of the religion — despite critics comparing the android to "Frankenstein's monster."

AUG 15, 2019
ARTICLE HISTORY

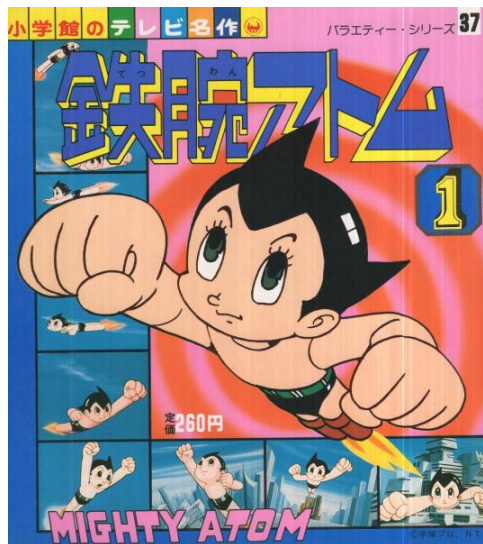https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/08/15/business/tech/kyoto-temple-robot-priest/

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Japanese AI Visions

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Indigenous AI

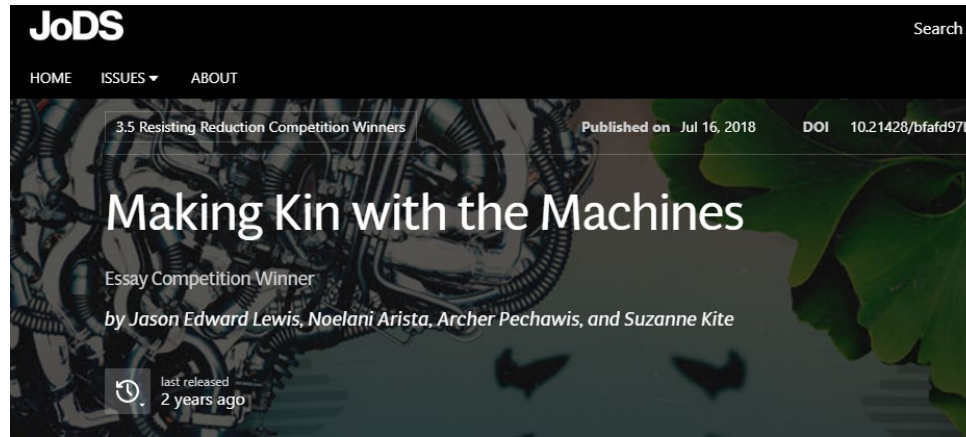Indigenous Protocol
and Artificial Intelligence
Working Group

https://www.indigenous-ai.net/

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Indigenous AI

JoDS

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3.5 Resisting Reduction Competition Winners   Published on Jul 16, 2018   DOI   10.21428/bfafd97b

Making Kin with the Machines

Essay Competition Winner

by Jason Edward Lewis, Noelani Arista, Archer Pechawis, and Suzanne Kite

last released
2 years ago

Man is neither height nor centre of creation. This belief is core to many Indigenous epistemologies. It underpins ways of knowing and speaking that acknowledge kinship networks that extend to animals and plants, wind and rocks, mountains and oceans. Indigenous communities worldwide have retained the languages and protocols that enable us to engage in dialogue with our non-human kin, creating mutually intelligible discourses across differences in material, vibrancy, and genealogy.

Blackfoot philosopher Leroy Little Bear observes, "the human brain is a station on the radio dial; parked in one spot, it is deaf to all the other stations [. . .] the animals, rocks, trees, simultaneously broadcasting across the whole spectrum of sentience."[1] As we manufacture more machines with increasing levels of sentient-like behaviour, we must consider how such entities fit

https://jods.mitpress.mit.edu/pub/lewis-arista-pechawis-kite

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Indigenous Epistemologies

"Indigenous epistemologies do not take abstraction or generalization as a natural good or higher order of intellectual engagement. Relationality is rooted in context and the prime context is place. There is a conscious acknowledgement that particular world views arise from particular territories, and the ways in which the push and pull of all the forces at work in that territory determine what is most salient for existing in balance with it."
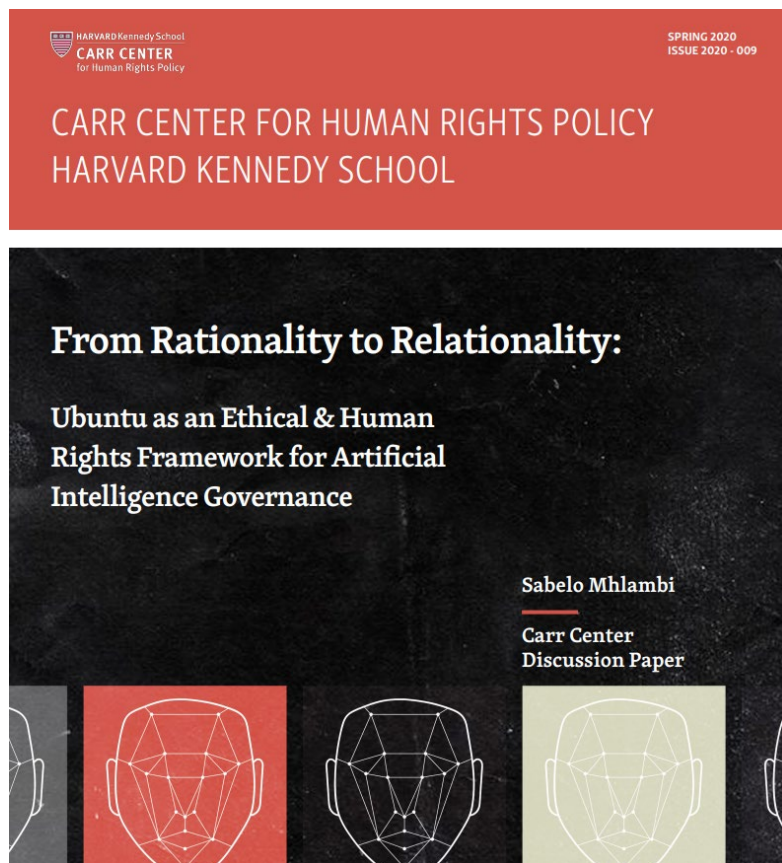
(Lewis, Arista, Pechawis, and Kite 2018)

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Ubuntu

CARR CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY
HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL

HARVARD Kennedy School
CARR CENTER
for Human Rights Policy

SPRING 2020
ISSUE 2020 - 009

From Rationality to Relationality:

Ubuntu as an Ethical & Human
Rights Framework for Artificial
Intelligence Governance

Sabelo Mhlambi

Carr Center
Discussion Paper

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Self-similarity in Ubuntu

"The individual recognizing another is best understood in the context of the community recognizing another or the community recognizing itself, its interconnectedness with itself, through the recognition of the individual."

(Mhlambi 2020)

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Ubuntu's Criticism

Current forms of data colonialism and surveillance capitalism are in direct opposition to Ubuntu.

(Mhlambi 2020)

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Cosmo-uBuntu

Cosmo-uBuntu, Machine Translation, and Cognitive Code Switching

Jacqueline Berry, José Cossa, & Vukosi Marivate

AI 4 AFRIKA

@AfrikaAi4
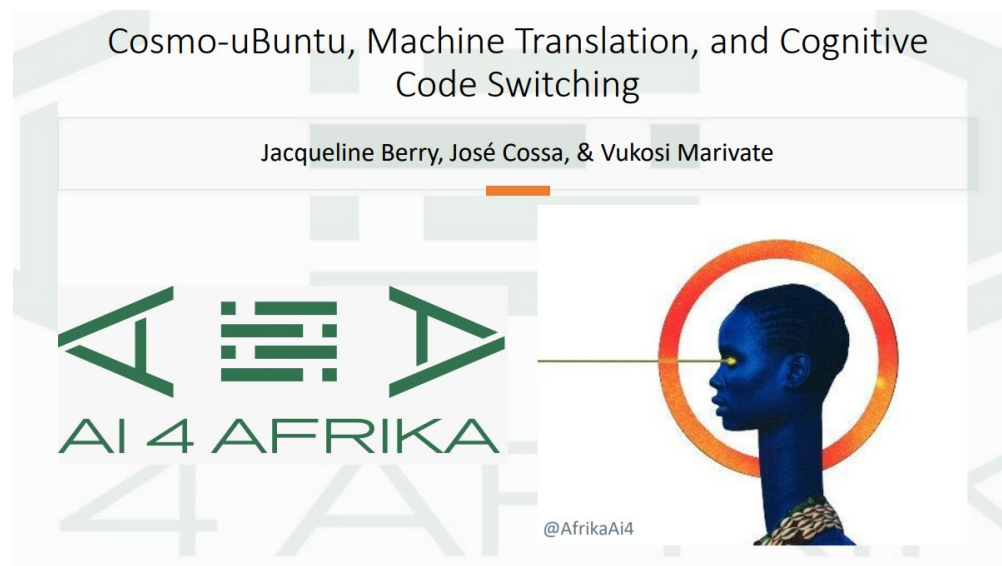
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Comparative Thoughts

- Relationality
- Materialization
- Power

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Thank you.

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