



UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH

– P&E Master's Programme –
Chair of Philosophy, Computer
Science & Artificial Intelligence

Automating the Modelling of Transformative Artificial Intelligence Risks

*“An Epistemic Framework for Leveraging Frontier AI Systems to Upscale Conditional
Policy Assessments in Bayesian Networks on a Narrow Path towards Existential Safety”*

A thesis submitted at the Department of Philosophy
for the degree of *Master of Arts in Philosophy & Economics*

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Word Count:
30.000

Source / Identifier:
Document URL

26th of May 2025

Contents

Preface	4
Abstract	5
Outline(s): Table of Contents	6
Frontmatter	7
Prefatory Apparatus: Illustrations and Terminology — Quick References	8
List of Tables	8
List of Abbreviations	8
Testing Figures	8
Glossary	9
1 Introduction	10
1.1 Introduction	10
1.2 Motivation: Problem Statement	10
1.3 Motivation: Research Question	10
1.4 Scope: Aim & Context of the Research	10
1.5 Significance of the Research: Theory of Change	10
1.6 Thesis Statement & Position: (Aim of the Paper)	10
1.7 Overview: Structure & Approach of the Paper (Roadmap — Theory of Change)	11
1.8 Table of Contents	11
1.9 Problem Statement — Motivation	11
1.10 Aim of the Paper	11
1.10.1 Research Question & Scope	11
1.10.2 Significance of the Research	12
1.10.3	12
1.11 Theory of Change — Approach & Structure of the Paper	12
1.12 Overview / Table of Contents	12
2 Context	13
2.0.1 20% of Grade:	13
2.1 Theoretical Background Considerations	13
2.2 Literature, Concepts & Terminology	13
2.2.1 DAG / BayesNets	13
2.2.2 State of the art (MTAIR) — Explanation	13
2.2.3 (Intro) Example — Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn	13

2.3	Methodology	14
2.3.1	Kialo	14
2.3.2	Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn DAG	14
2.3.3	BayeServer	14
2.3.4	BayesNet — Extended Example	14
2.3.5	Code + documentation	14
3	AMTAIR	15
3.0.1	20% of Grade: ~ 29% of text ~ 8700 words	15
3.1	Own Carlsmith Model Implementation — Explanation	15
3.2	Own Implementation: Good example from a published paper	15
3.3	Implementation	15
3.4	Results	15
4	Insights & Findings	16
4.1	Automated Modeling Pipeline — From Academic Papers to Political Strategy	16
4.2	Project Scaling — Workflow Pipeline & Automation	16
4.3	Computational Complexity — Computational Tractability	17
4.4	External Validation — Manual Extraction & Processing	17
5	Discussion	19
5.1	Discussion	19
6	Discussion — Exchange, Controversy & Influence	20
6.1	Challenges & Problems — Red Teaming Problems, Failures & Downsides .	20
6.2	Implications & Impact — Uptake, Feedback Loops, Uptake & Success – Green Teaming –	20
6.3	Known Unknowns & Unknown Unknowns — Input Data Example: Mod- eling Author Worldviews from Bibliographies Instead of Individual Papers	21
7	Conclusion	22
7.1	The Current State of Things & How to Continue	22
7.2	Summary — Key Takeaways & Findings	22
7.2.1	Assessing Policy Effects:	22
7.2.2	Conditional Probability:	22
7.2.3	Methodology:	22
7.2.4	Purpose:	22
7.3	Outlook — Outlook & Next Steps / Further Research	23
7.3.1	Scaling Up:	23
7.3.2	Collaboration:	23
7.3.3	Technological Enhancements:	23
7.3.4	Potential Impact:	23
7.3.5	Limitations of the Analysis	23
7.3.6	Policy Implications & Recommendations	23
7.3.7	Areas for Future Research	23
7.3.8	Open Questions — Central/Remaining Questions & Feedback . . .	23
7.3.9	Outlook — Outlook & Next Steps / Further Research	23
	References	24

Appendices	25
A Appendices	25
A.1 Appendices	25
A.2 Appendix A	25
A.3 Appendix B	25
A.4 Appendix C	25
A.5 Appendix D	25
B appendixA	26

Preface

This is a Quarto book.

To learn more about Quarto books visit <https://quarto.org/docs/books>.

Abstract

Outline(s): Table of Contents

Frontmatter

Prefatory Apparatus: Illustrations and Terminology — Quick References

List of Tables

Table 1: Table name

Table 2: Table name

Table 3: Table name

List of Abbreviations

esp. especially

f., ff. following

incl. including

p., pp. page(s)

MAD Mutually Assured Destruction

Testing Figures

Testing crossreferencing graphics Figure 1.

Testing crossreferencing graphics Figure 3. `fig-scap="Short caption" /* Short caption for list of figures */ fig-alt="Detailed alt text that describes the image content, type, purpose, and meaning" > > /* Appearance options / fig-align="left/center/right" width="X%" / Width as percentage / height="Ypx" / Height in pixels */ > > /* Source & linking / fig-link="https://source-url.com" / Makes image clickable to source */ > > /* Layout options / fig-column="margin/page" / Places in margin or spans page width / fig-pos="H" / Position specifier (LaTeX) */ > > /* Panels for subfigures (if combining multiple) / fig-subcap=true / Enable subcaptions */ } > ->`



Figure 1: Caption/Title 2



Figure 2: Caption/Title 3



Figure 3: Example Caption/Title 4

Glossary

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

10% of Grade:

- introduces and motivates the core question or problem
- provides context for discussion (places issue within a larger debate or sphere of relevance)
- states precise thesis or position the author will argue for
- provides roadmap indicating structure and key content points of the essay

~ 14% of text ~ 4200 words

- introduces and motivates the core question or problem

1.2 Motivation: Problem Statement

1.3 Motivation: Research Question

- provides context for discussion (places issue within a larger debate or sphere of relevance)

1.4 Scope: Aim & Context of the Research

1.5 Significance of the Research: Theory of Change

- states precise thesis or position the author will argue for

1.6 Thesis Statement & Position: (Aim of the Paper)

- provides roadmap indicating structure and key content points of the essay

1.7 Overview: Structure & Approach of the Paper (Roadmap — Theory of Change)

1.8 Table of Contents

1.9 Problem Statement — Motivation

Continued AI Progress:

- Rapid advancements in AI technology increase both potential benefits and risks.

Existential Risks (AI X-Risk):

- Advanced AI systems could pose significant threats if misaligned with human values.

Complexity Challenges:

- The intricate nature of AI systems complicates policy formulation and understanding.

Limitations of Current Approaches:

- MTAIR’s Reliance on Human Labor:
 - Modeling Transformative AI Risks (MTAIR) is constrained by manual cognitive efforts.
- Need for Automation:
 - Scaling and automating risk modeling is essential to keep pace with AI developments.

Opportunity:

- Leveraging new technologies to enhance our ability to model and mitigate AI risks.

1.10 Aim of the Paper

1.10.1 Research Question & Scope

Can frontier AI technologies be utilized to automate the modeling of transformative AI risks, so as to allow for the prediction of policy impacts?

Frontier AI Technology: Today’s most capable AI systems (e.g. GPT4 level LLMs)

Scaling Up: Automating the previously “manual” cognitive labor

Modeling: Formalizing the world views underlying arguments

Transformative AI: Level of AI capabilities defined by severe impact on the world

Safety & Governance Literature: Publications, reports etc. concerned with risks from AI

Automated Estimation: Non-manual (AI systems + scaffolding), quantified evaluations

Probability Distributions: Formal expressions of the expectations over future worlds

Conditional Trees of Possible Worlds: “If ... then...” reasoning over ways things may play out

Forecasting Policy Impacts: Qualitative & quantitative evaluation of expected outcomes

1.10.2 Significance of the Research

1.10.3

1.11 Theory of Change — Approach & Structure of the Paper

Multiplicative Benefits:

- Automation × Live Prediction Market Integrations × Policy Impact Evaluations

Explanation:

Automation:

- Increases efficiency and scalability of risk modeling.

Live Prediction Markets:

- Provides up-to-date, collective intelligence to inform models.

Policy Impact Evaluations:

- Improves the accuracy and relevance of policy assessments.

Outcome:

- Enhanced ability to develop effective policies that mitigate AI risks.

Visual Aid:

- A diagram illustrating how each component amplifies the others, leading to greater overall impact.

1.12 Overview / Table of Contents

Chapter 2

Context

2.0.1 20% of Grade:

- demonstrates understanding of all relevant core concepts
- explains why the question/thesis/problem is relevant in student's own words (supported by quotations)
- situates it within the debate/course material
- reconstructs selected arguments and identifies relevant assumptions
- describes additional relevant material that has been consulted and integrates it with the course material as well as the research question/thesis/problem

~ 29% of text ~ 8700 words

1. successively (chunk my chunk) introduce concepts/ideas — and 2. ground each with existing literature

2.1 Theoretical Background Considerations

2.2 Literature, Concepts & Terminology

2.2.1 DAG / BayesNets

2.2.2 State of the art (MTAIR) — Explanation

Carlsmith Model (Analytica)

2.2.3 (Intro) Example — Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn

/ Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn DAG / BayesNet — Extended Example

...

Own Position/Argument: AMTAIR ... Own Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn DAG / BayesNet Implementation

2.3 Methodology

MTAIR / Carlsmith Model (Analytica) — Explanation (— is motivation: should come first)

2.3.1 Kialo

2.3.2 Rain/Sprinkler/Lawn DAG

2.3.3 BayeServer

2.3.4 BayesNet — Extended Example

2.3.5 Code + documentation

Chapter 3

AMTAIR

3.0.1 20% of Grade: ~ 29% of text ~ 8700 words

- provides critical or constructive evaluation of positions introduced
- develops strong (plausible) argument in support of author's own position/thesis
- argument draws on relevant course material claim/argument
- demonstrate understanding of the course materials incl. key arguments and core concepts within the debate
- claim/argument is original or insightful, possibly even presents an original contribution to the debate

3.1 Own Carlsmith Model Implementation — Explanation

3.2 Own Implementation: Good example from a published paper

3.3 Implementation

TestText

3.4 Results

TestText

Chapter 4

Insights & Findings

4.1 Automated Modeling Pipeline — From Academic Papers to Political Strategy

Success of Automation:

- Demonstrated feasibility of automated model extraction.
Improved Forecasting:
- Enhanced accuracy with real-time data integration.
Policy Analysis:
- Identified impactful policies through conditional forecasting.
Scalability Achieved:
- Efficient processing of extensive data sets.
Addressed Challenges:
- Overcame limitations of manual modeling.

4.2 Project Scaling — Workflow Pipeline & Automation

Scaling Opportunities:

- Horizontal: Incorporate more data sources.
- Vertical: Add detailed variables.

New Capabilities:

- Advanced analytics.
- Real-time data integration.

Requirements:

- Software Setup: Robust infrastructure.
- Financial: Funding for APIs and compute resources.

Impact:

- Broader, more comprehensive models.
- Enhanced policy analysis.

4.3 Computational Complexity — Computational Tractability

Challenges:

- High computational demands of complex models.

Solutions:

- Clustering Worldviews:
- Group similar perspectives to simplify models.
- Correlation Management:
- Adjust for variable interdependencies.
- Efficient Algorithms:
Use optimized sampling methods like Monte Carlo.

Outcome:

- Achieved efficiency without sacrificing accuracy.

Link to Theory of Change:

- Scalability amplifies policy impact.

4.4 External Validation — Manual Extraction & Processing

Purpose:

- Assess accuracy of automated methods.

Comparison:

- Automation Strengths:

- Speed, consistency.
- Human Strengths:
- Nuanced understanding.
Findings:
- Automation excels in data handling.
- Human oversight enhances quality.
Conclusion:
- Optimal results from combining AI with expert input.

Chapter 5

Discussion

5.1 Discussion

10% of Grade: ~ 14% of text ~ 4200 words

- discusses a specific objection to student's own argument
- provides a convincing reply that bolsters or refines the main argument
- relates to or extends beyond materials/arguments covered in class

Chapter 6

Discussion — Exchange, Controversy & Influence

6.1 Challenges & Problems — Red Teaming Problems, Failures & Downsides

Potential Failures:

- Data Issues: Inaccurate or biased inputs.
- Model Limitations: Oversimplifications.
- Tech Risks: AI misinterpretations.

Red Teaming:

- Stress-testing models to find weaknesses.

Impact on Theory of Change:

- Identifying points of failure strengthens the approach.

6.2 Implications & Impact — Uptake, Feedback Loops, Uptake & Success – Green Teaming –

Potential Outcomes:

- First-Order: Reduced AI risks through better policies.
- Second-Order: Enhanced collaboration.
- Third-Order: Framework applied to other global risks.

Feedback Loops:

- Continuous model improvement.
- Adaptive policy-making.
Green Teaming:
- Strategies to maximize positive impacts.

6.3 Known Unknowns & Unknown Unknowns — Input Data Example: Modeling Author Worldviews from Bibliographies Instead of Individual Papers

Potential Outcomes:

- First-Order: Reduced AI risks through better policies.
- Second-Order: Enhanced collaboration.
- Third-Order: Framework applied to other global risks.
Feedback Loops:
- Continuous model improvement.
- Adaptive policy-making.
Green Teaming:
- Strategies to maximize positive impacts.

Chapter 7

Conclusion

7.1 The Current State of Things & How to Continue

10% of Grade: ~ 14% of text ~ 4200 words

- summarizes thesis and line of argument
- outlines possible implications
- notes outstanding issues / limitations of discussion
- points to avenues for further research
- overall conclusion is in line with introduction

7.2 Summary — Key Takeaways & Findings

7.2.1 Assessing Policy Effects:

Evaluating how different policies alter $P(\text{Doom})$.

7.2.2 Conditional Probability:

Calculating $P(\text{Doom} \mid \text{Policy Alpha})$.

7.2.3 Methodology:

Update model parameters based on policy implementation.
Recompute probabilities accordingly.

7.2.4 Purpose:

Inform policymakers of potential policy effectiveness.
Prioritize interventions that significantly reduce risks.

7.3 Outlook — Outlook & Next Steps / Further Research

7.3.1 Scaling Up:

- Include more variables and data sources.

7.3.2 Collaboration:

- Partner with policymakers and researchers.

7.3.3 Technological Enhancements:

- Employ advanced AI techniques.

7.3.4 Potential Impact:

- Influence global AI governance.

7.3.5 Limitations of the Analysis

7.3.6 Policy Implications & Recommendations

7.3.7 Areas for Future Research

7.3.8 Open Questions — Central/Remaining Questions & Feedback

Questions:

- How can we improve automation accuracy?
- What challenges exist in policy implementation?
- How do we mitigate AI model biases?
- How can interdisciplinary efforts enhance outcomes?

Feedback:

- Invite thoughts, critiques, and suggestions.

7.3.9 Outlook — Outlook & Next Steps / Further Research

References

Appendix A

Appendices

A.1 Appendices

A.2 Appendix A

A.3 Appendix B

A.4 Appendix C

A.5 Appendix D

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Appendix B

appendixA

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List of Figures

1	Short 2 caption	8
2	Short 3 caption	9
3	Short caption 4 list of figures as seen in LoF	9



Affidavit

Declaration of Academic Honesty

Hereby, I attest that I have composed and written the presented thesis

Automating the Modelling of Transformative Artificial Intelligence Risks

independently on my own, without the use of other than the stated aids and without any other resources than the ones indicated. All thoughts taken directly or indirectly from external sources are properly denoted as such.

This paper has neither been previously submitted in the same or a similar form to another authority nor has it been published yet.

BAYREUTH on the
May 18, 2025

VALENTIN MEYER