## Table 1: Themes of AI slop.

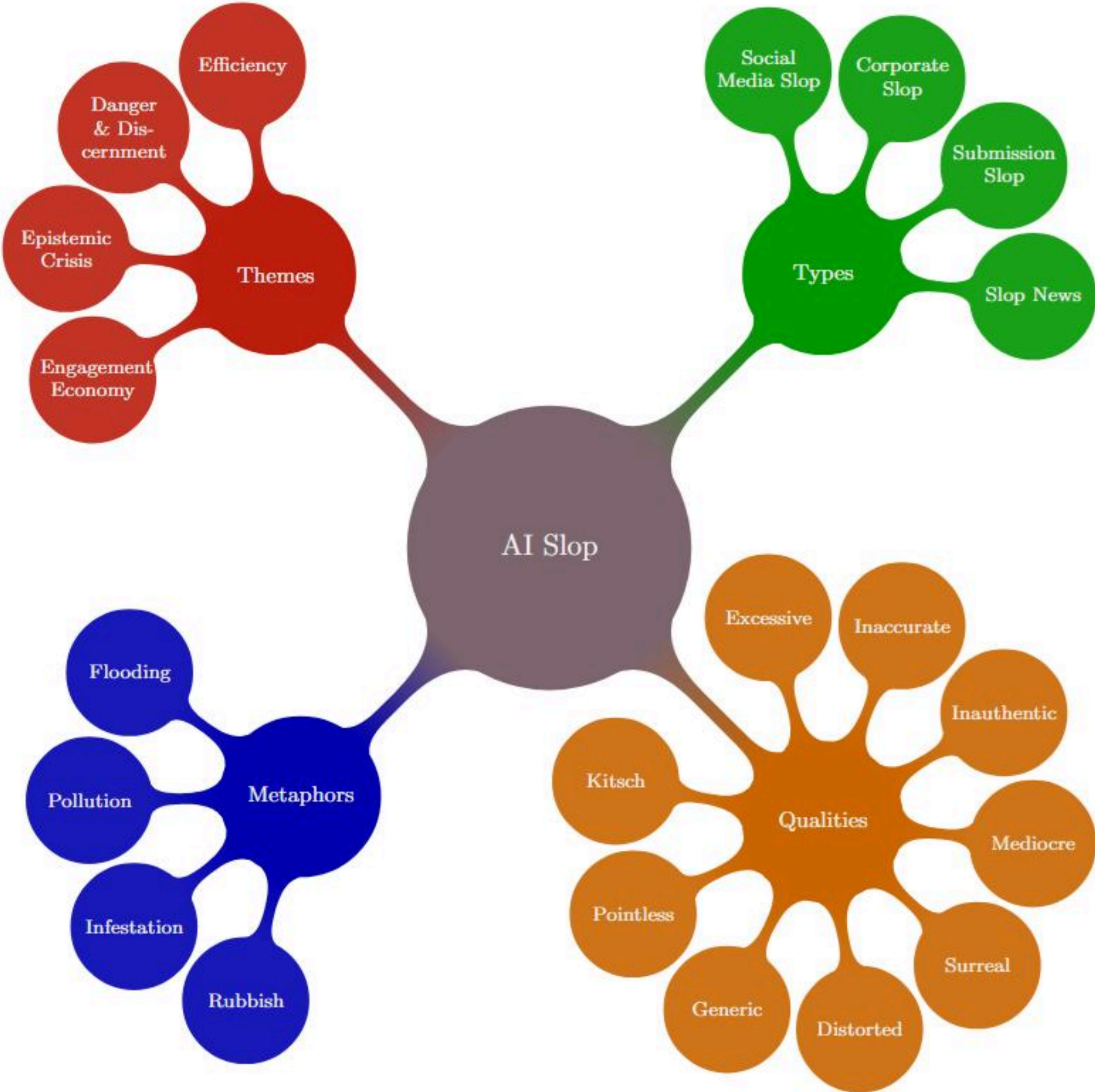| Theme | Description |
|---|---|
| Efficiency and productivity | Slop is generated due to its low cost, speed, ease of creation, and scalability. This applies to corporations aiming to cut costs and individuals seeking side income. These indicate a significant incoming shift in several industries, which is accompanied by concerns about the automation of creative labour. |
| Danger and discernment | The excess of slop overwhelms information systems and creates the need for its filtering and moderation. This is especially challenging since slop does not strictly violate platform policies. This is threatening both to institutions and to individual users, which might unknowingly be exposed to false information. |
| Epistemic crisis | Slop is related to moral anxieties about political disinformation, the "post-truth" environment, and the wider breakdown of shared reality and trust in institutions. |
| Engagement economy | Platform incentives (such as engagement, virality, and ad revenue), which are ultimately about profit, are the primary drivers of slop. Individuals in low-income regions are especially incentivised to engage in its creation. |

## Table 3: Metaphors

| Metaphor | Relevant words |
|---|---|
| Flooding | *flood, clogging, deluge, wade through, stream, drowning, rising tide, swamp, torrent, outpouring, dilutes, floodgates, river, drool* |
| Contamination | *pollution, scrubbing, ecological footprint, chokes* |
| Infestation | *spreading, proliferation, propagation, grow wildly, mulch, weeding out* |
| Rubbish | *trash, rubbish, garbage, dross, crap, junk* |



## Table 4: Types of slop.

| Type | Purpose | Product | Media | Creator | Consumer | Primary qualities |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Social media slop | Engagement | Social media content | Image | Sloppers | Users | Surreal, kitsch, pointless |
| Corporate slop | Productivity | Ads, films, games | Image, audio, video | Corporations | Users | Distorted, mediocre, inauthentic |
| Submission slop | Submission | Books, papers | Text, image | Sloppers, paper mills | Publishers, journals | Excessive, inaccurate, mediocre |
| Slop news | Ad revenue, SEO | News articles | Text, image | Sloppers | Users and bots | Pointless, generic, mediocre |

## Table 2: Qualities of AI slop

| Quality | Related words |
|---|---|
| Excessive | *everywhere, clutter, spam, inescapable, river, vast quantities, churn, glut, fatigue, high-volume, unmanageable, inescapable* |
| Inaccurate | *wrong, hallucinated, incorrect, dangerously inadequate, misleading, nonfactual, cartoonishly false, inaccurate, fake* |
| Inauthentic | *lifeless, voiceless, mawkish, inhuman, meaningless, authentic, legitimate, intent, purposeless, unnatural, mindlessly* |
| Mediocre | *low-quality, low-grade, shovelware, low-effort, too easy, cheap, shoddy, trivial, unskilled* |
| Surreal | *surreal, uncanny, bizarre, unsettling, outlandish, gobbledygook, nonsense, disturbing, dreamscapes* |
| Distorted | *distorted, warped, deformed* |
| Generic | *generic, filler, repetitive, unoriginal, unimaginative, banal, flat, boring, familiar, flat affect* |
| Pointless | *plausible, inconvenient, inoffensive, irrelevant, contextless, unneeded, useless* |
| Kitsch | *kitsch, shlock, high-resolution, low-fi, loud, messy, amateurish, corny, bad art, cringe, lowbrow, manipulative* |