The #Ai2021 Discussion Handbook

This document contains everything you will need to do to organise and facilitate an Ai2021 discussion. If you have any further questions please contact us via www.ai2021.org and we'll get back to you very soon.

Discussion Guidelines

What you will need to do

To ensure a smooth and robust debate, organisers should appoint **a chair** and at least **one note taker**. The role of the chair is to maintain order during the debate, prevent the conversation from being derailed and steer the conversation by asking questions.

The role of the **note taker** is to keep track of the key points being made in the debate. These notes should be sent back to us along with a general summary of the thoughts and findings of the debate [here](). (It is important that we get these so that we can capture interesting thoughts and findings for our policy report.) If you have a large number of attendees it may be necessary to have more than one note taker; this will ensure important points are not lost.

Organisers should also select the 3 or 4 most relevant topics that they would like to use for the debate given the audience who will be attending. The **topic bank** below provides a list of topics and questions that you can use for the debate.

Organisers are also responsible for the distribution of information to attendees before the debate begins. You should distribute this document which includes the **topic bank** to attendees prior to the debate, which contains summaries of key AI terms and interesting moral and ethical questions to get the mind working. Additionally, it would be advantageous for the chair to have done some background reading into the topics that have been selected so that they can use facts or statistics to steer the conversation, helping ensure a balanced debate by present facts in a different light that alters attendees' ways of thinking about a certain topic.

What we need back from you: https://forms.gle/vcYx5Fir9oY74oX57

We need some really basic things to help promote and spread the debate further, as well as informing policymakers of interesting thoughts and findings. Please make a note of:

- Number of attendees

- Summary of thoughts and findings (**this is important as we'll base our campaign-end report to policymakers on these**!)
- Picture of participants holding paper or whiteboards with one-liners clearly showing
- Any quotes or feedback we can use as promo material to get others involved
- Any quotes or feedback we can use as promo material to get others involved
- #Ai2021 (see example below from Lord Clement-Jones) - this can be done over Zoom with screenshots:

Please submit all the above through this form:
https://forms.gle/vcYx5Fir9oY74oX57

Debate Session Guidelines

Format

All sessions should be facilitated as open-floor conversations where there is no hierarchy between speakers. This encourages all participants and listeners in the room to learn from each other.

Duration

A reasonable and efficient amount of time is to be spent on each topic. However, judgment should be used to decide when topics should have their durations reduced or extended based on the reception from the audience.

Priority and balance

Members of the audience who have spoken the least or have not spoken at all should be prioritised beyond others while selecting the next person to share their opinion. Offering opposing or different viewpoints should be encouraged. Every effort possible should be made to encourage a diverse range of views from a

diverse range of people of different backgrounds should be made.

Topic Bank

- **Police, immigration, crime, CCTV, identity cards**
    - The pros of having identity cards are now much more apparent than the last public debate 10 or so years ago - in the form of being able to seamlessly transfer personal data across unified banking and credit services, utilities, council, and governmental. Some of the cons are the potential for abuse by authorities, erosion of the rights of the undocumented, and so on.
        - Where do you stand on this issue today?
    - "Predictive policing" - AI is already used in some places (e.g. Met Police) to estimate the likelihood of criminal activity in certain areas (note: this is not the same as predicting an individual committing a crime; only likelihoods can be predicted). If this is used to pre-emptively rehabilitate or even arrest individuals, this potentially leads to a lower crime rate.
        - What are your thoughts on this type of system?
- **The justice system and the law**
    - Should judges use machines to automatically conduct sentencing or resolve disputes? There is some evidence that machines can be less biased than judges - see here where judges' granting of parole varied drastically from 65% to 0% depending on when they last had a meal - and they'd be able to resolve especially standard or small disputes very quickly (e.g. ombudsman cases around bills, small commercial disputes, etc. which usually take months in the UK).
- **Education**
    - Personalised robot teachers
    - https://inews.co.uk/news/technology/ai-software-is-being-tested-in-150-schools-to-combat-bullying-self-harm-and-drug-abuse-341679
    - Should data collection on educational habits be compulsory or not - if compulsory means better outcomes for everyone? One of the major sources of bias in AI systems is the underrepresentation of data of minorities - how can we ensure that systems that are designed are inclusive whilst balancing speed of innovation and privacy rights?
    - Should automated marking be used for school / university exams?
- **Defence**
    - Lethal autonomous weapons
    - Should robots have the right to kill? What form of human oversight, if any, should be in place?
    - If our adversaries use "killer robots", does that mean we should as well, if this places us at a military disadvantage?

- How should we govern AI who can perform "grey" offensive capabilities - for example cyber attacks, network disruption, hacking, and so on?
- **Healthcare**
  - Human in the loop (having someone to always check the decisions of AI) - is this always a good solution?
  - What about human over the loop (where a human governs the whole process rather than just the individual results of the AI)?
  - Feelings on automated doctors and diagnoses e.g. Babylon?
- **Regulation** (more technical)
  - Type of regulation for small businesses - what is the best way to go
  - One nationwide regulator better VS existing regulators?
- **Communications**
  - Fake news - how do we tackle this? Was the social media ban on Trump the right way to go? How do we enforce this in the future?
    - Deepfakes (fake images made of people) - how do we effectively counter this type of 'misinformation'?
  - Should social media companies be held accountable for the spread of false information?
  - Should social media companies have the right to ban politicians from using their platforms?
  - Should social media be restricted for those under the age of 16?
  - Should social media companies be allowed to intentionally engineer algorithms that are addictive?
- **Content and media production**
  - GPT-3, DALL-E, and even to some extent emerging technologies such as Google Duplex are all making content creation a lot easier and quicker
    - How will this impact the creative writing and film production industries in the future?
- **Automation and the future of work**
  - Should the government restrict the use of automation, if it costs jobs?
  - Should the government fund life long learning and reskilling? How exactly can this be carried out and made effective?
- **Finance**
  - What should the limits be on automated trading AI machines / algorithms?
  - What should the limits be on AI if it is used for e.g. credit score monitoring, decisions to grant loans?
- **Race and ethnicity**
  - https://www.wired.com/story/best-algorithms-struggle-recognize-black-faces-equally/
  - https://www.cnet.com/news/why-facial-recognitions-racial-bias-problem-is-so-hard-to-crack/
  - Should algorithms which are flawed but are better than current biased situations be allowed to be rolled out?

Resources

Below is a list of books, publications, articles and podcasts that can help attendees of the debate understand more about the various conversations that exist within the AI debate today.

Publications & Articles

- http://www.youngfabians.org.uk/modern_britain_global_leader_in_ethical_ai (link to publication at bottom)
- https://fabians.org.uk/publication/sharing-the-future-full-report/
- https://medium.com/swlh/ai-for-beginners-a-high-school-students-explanation-4014c65675c
- https://debatingmatters.com/topic/humanity-should-fear-advances-in-artificial-intelligence/
- https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/03/27/950247/ai-debate-gary-marcus-danny-lange/

Books

- Life 3.0
- Superintelligence: Paths, Dangers, Strategies
- Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach
- The Singularity Is Near: When Humans Transcend Biology
- The Master Algorithm: How the Quest for the Ultimate Learning Machine Will Remake Our World
- AI Superpowers
- Deep Learning
- The Hundred-Page Machine Learning Book
- Our Final Invention
- Homo Deus

Podcasts

- Synthetic Society
- How I Built This
- IRL by Mozilla

- It's Complicated
- Reply All
- Rocket
- Techish
- Tech & Science Daily Bulletin
- Women Tech Charge