

Toward a Dispassionate Philosophy of AI

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The philosophy of artificial intelligence is a relatively new field of study that has gained significant attention since the release of ChatGPT in November 2022. Within this field, two main trends have emerged. The first emphasizes the real, potential, and imagined risks that AI systems pose to humanity. These risks range from their impact on individuals to their potential effects on human civilizations. This trend arguably attracts the most attention and researchers, leading to a consensus that AI is harmful or dangerous. The second trend is, in many ways, less strictly philosophical because it brings together people from diverse backgrounds, including entrepreneurship, computer science, and corporate ethics. This trend promotes a more optimistic discourse about AI, emphasizing its positive aspects and potential. Murray Shanahan, one of the field's leading researchers, suggests that the truth likely lies somewhere between these two radical positions.

Bearing in mind the Buddhist theory of the three poisons—ignorance, greed, and aversion—I believe that a philosophy of AI must move beyond instinctive reactions. As a starting point, I will propose a discussion concerning what makes AI unique among technological systems.

Romarc Jannel is a visiting researcher at Ritsumeikan University in Japan. He is also a Program Director at the *Collège International de Philosophie* in Paris. His primary area of research is comparative philosophy, with a particular focus on Japanese and Buddhist philosophies. Drawing on Asian, continental, and analytic traditions, his work breaks down traditional divides to address philosophical issues. Given this background, he focuses a significant part of his current research on the philosophy of artificial intelligence, where questions of the mind, agency, ethics, and technology intersect. He recently co-authored an article in the Springer journal *AI and Ethics* entitled "[Trustability and Trustworthiness: Conceptual Foundations and the Case of AI](#)," explaining why we should not "trust" AI systems.