

IPW LECTURES

Against Ethics in Data Mining: For a political discussion of a political issue.

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Bernhard Rieder
(University of Amsterdam)

Chairs: Barbara Prainsack, Katharina Theresa Paul and
Johannes Starkbaum (all IPW, University of Vienna)

Wednesday, March 21. 2018, 03 p.m.
Hörsaal 1 IPW (A0212), 2. Stock NIG
Universitätsstraße 7, A-1010 Vienna

Abstract:

This talk will discuss data mining - understood as the purpose driven reading of empirical reality - in relation to recent debates about the "ethical issues" raised by these practices. While the identification of such issues - and proposals for possible "solutions" - certainly has merit, we should ask what the focus on codes of conduct and on values such as privacy, transparency, and accountability leaves unsaid and unexamined. Such an interrogation must engage the epistemological specificities of data mining practices as well as their embedding in larger technical systems, regulatory regimes, and systems of value. Through this, I hope to frame data mining as a political problem that requires a broader scope than ethical reasoning alone can provide.