



Ethical Foundations and Governance Frameworks in AI and Data Ethics within South African Societies: A Theoretical Exploration

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Abstract

AI and data ethics have gained significant attention in global governance frameworks, particularly within South Africa's diverse socio-economic landscape. This study focuses on exploring ethical foundations and governance structures pertinent to AI and data use in African societies. The theoretical exploration underscores the importance of integrating these ethical principles into governance frameworks to mitigate potential risks and ensure sustainable development outcomes. Based on this analysis, recommendations include the establishment of independent oversight bodies, fostering public-private partnerships for education and awareness initiatives, and promoting interdisciplinary research collaborations.

Keywords: *African geography, governance theory, ethical philosophy, data ethics, algorithmic justice, digital divide, participatory governance*

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