SPRU Training Course: Innovation Policy in a Changing Global Context

18–22 June 2018

Day 4: ICTs and Machine Learning

Convenor: Ed Steinmueller (Professor of Information & Communication Technology Policy at SPRU)

Current excitement about artificial intelligence is based upon advances in machine learning. This session will introduce key features and methods of machine learning. At heart, machine learning is about the exploitation of big data. Although there are many sources of big data, one of the most important is our own interactions with the Internet and other ICTs which leave a massive trail of data concerning our interests, behaviour, and connections. We are on the brink of a further massive extension of big data resources generated by the Internet of Things. How these resources are being and will be used is an opens question of substantial consequence for the world in which we will live. The aim of this session is to identify the issues and possible responses.

During this session we will identify possible responses to the advent of AI (artificial intelligence) and explore their feasibility and consequences. Although attending the lecture on this topic will be useful, the session will be organised to allow all participants to make meaningful contributions.