1. Can machines dictate what we believe in?

2. An ethical machine must have an appropriate character.

3. As alienated postmodern beings, humans have become epistemologically detached, and are searching for a new theology.

4. Machines may provide that theology: the ultimate manifestation of enlightenment righteousness – a transcendent historical materialism.
Can machines dictate what we believe in?

Almost no-one argues anymore, because machines make decisions.
Machines are not humans. They are better.
John McEnroe might argue he is better than the umpire, or the linesman; but never the machine.
Yet how can the machine be right, when this is what is happening? Where does the ball end, and the ground begin?
An ethical machine must have an appropriate character.

What is an appropriate ethics?
What is character?
These are the things that make up character:

Rousseau: *amour propre*

Homer: *thumos*

Hobbes: *glory*
What then should be the character of the machine?
As alienated postmodern beings, humans have become epistemologically detached, and are searching for a new theology.
‘...a culture that no longer believes in its capacity for meaningful choice, and which, by extension, doubts also its capacity for effective agency. But what is it that makes us so convinced of our capacity as a species to control our future, to make, so to speak, our own destiny?’
‘Epistemology without contact with science becomes an empty scheme. Science without epistemology is – insofar as it is thinkable at all – primitive and muddled.’

Albert Einstein


‘[t]he true spirit of delight, the exaltation, the sense of being more than man...is to be found in mathematics as surely as it is in poetry.’

Bertrand Russell

from *The Study of Mathematics*

Machines may provide that theology: the ultimate manifestation of enlightenment righteousness – a *transcendent* historical materialism.

‘The sovereign, who in the deistic view of the world, even if conceived as residing outside the world, had remained the engineer of the great machine, has been radically pushed aside. The machine now runs itself.’ (Schmitt)
‘We do not need atomic bombs at all [to uproot us] -- the uprooting of man is already here. All our relationships have become merely technical ones. It is no longer upon an earth that man lives today...only a God can save us now.’ (Heidegger)
Three Forms of Emergent Theology of Technology:

1. **Bureaucratic technocracy:** neoliberalism, marketism, relativism

2. **Technologically Mediated Communications:** marginalizing the minority, the uncapitalized, the perverted and the insane

3. **Data Worship:** the sublime power of big data, with its awesome visions and unquestionable solutionism