

Regulatory Alternatives for AI and Robotics

Roger Clarke

Xamax Consultancy, Canberra
Visiting Professor, UNSW Law and ANU RSCS

<http://rogerclarke.com/DV/RAII.html> (Text)
<http://rogerclarke.com/DV/RAII.pdf> (Slides)

AI, Law & Society – 15 May 2024
ANU College of Law

Copyright
2018-24



1

A Comprehensive Framework for Regulatory Regimes

- Biology
- General Systems Theory
- Industrial Control
- Cybernetics
- Socio-Economic Law and Policy

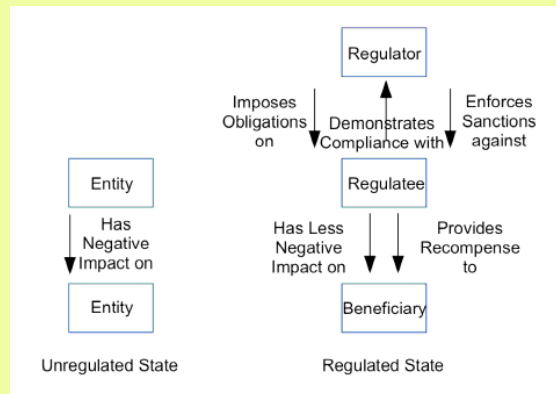
Copyright
2018-24



2

A Comprehensive Framework for Regulatory Regimes

- Biology
- General Systems Theory
- Industrial Control
- Cybernetics
- Socio-Economic Law and Policy



Copyright
2018-24



3

Dimensions of Regulatory Contexts

- **Cultures** (sub-dimensions: ethnic, lingual, religious, philosophical)
- **Systems of Law** (code, common law)
- **Divisions of Law** (private, public; criminal, commercial)
- **Jurisdictional Structures** (international; supra-national; national, incl. single-, dual-level)
- **Industry Sectors** (categories of goods and services, and associated threats)

Copyright
2018-24



4

Design and Evaluation Criteria for a Regulatory Regime

Process

- Clarity of Aims, Requirements
- Transparency
- Participation
- Reflection of Stakeholder Interests

Product

- Comprehensiveness
- Parsimony
- Articulation
- Educative Value

Outcomes

- Oversight
- Enforceability
- Enforcement
- Review

Regulatory Mechanisms

- Factors that influence the behaviour of entities towards policy objectives, in particular by **stimulating** appropriate behaviours, and **detering, preventing, sanctioning** harmful ones
- Mechanisms may be:
 - **Natural Processes**
 - **Instruments / Measures / Artefacts:**
 - with extraneous purposes
 - with a regulatory purpose

AI embodies errors of inference, decision and action arising from the independent operation of artefacts, for which **no rational explanation is available**, which results in inferences, decisions and actions **incapable of investigation, correction and reparation**

A Summary of the Sources of AI's Threats

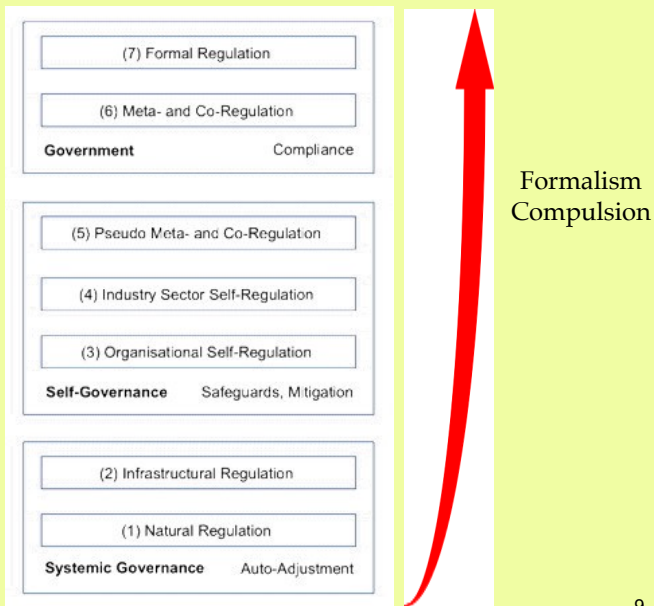
1. Artefact Autonomy
2. Inappropriate Assumptions ... about Data
3. ... and about the Inferencing Process
4. **Opaqueness** of the Inferencing Process
5. Irresponsibility

Accountability depends on Decision-Criterion Transparency

- A-rationality
 - Unexplainability
 - Unreplicability
 - Unauditability
 - Uncorrectability
 - Unaccountability

Quo vadis natural justice and procedural fairness?

Proposition:
A Hierarchy of Regulatory Mechanisms

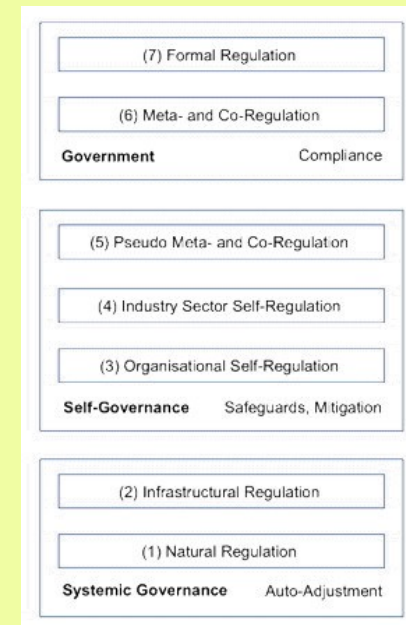


Natural Regulation

Intrinsic to the relevant socio-economic system

Competitive Behaviour
Reputational Effects
Cost/Benefit Trade-Offs

‘Leave well alone’
‘If it ain’t bust, don’t fix it’

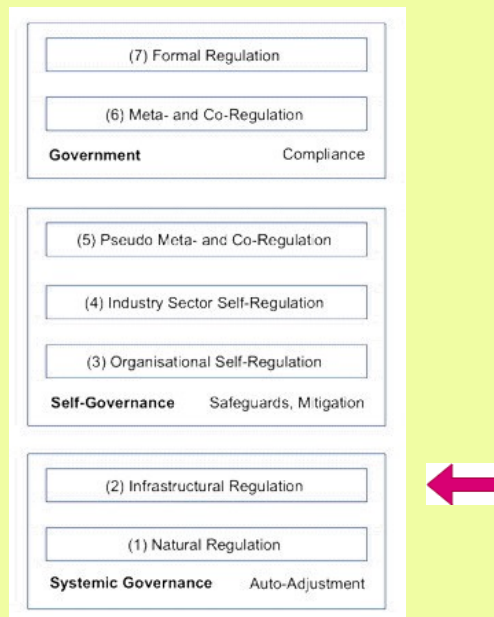


Infrastructural Regulation

The mechanical steam governor:
Reinforce positive aspects
Inhibit negative aspects

Automated ...
Monitoring
Exception condition detection
Adjustment of parameters
Deployment of countermeasures
Suspension of activities

Byproduct, Retro-fitted on,
or Architected in

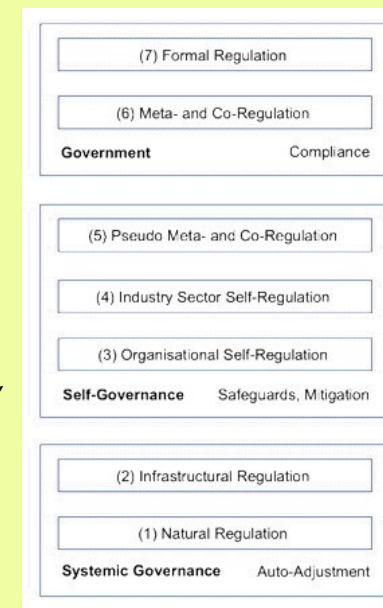


Infrastructural Regulation Examples

Dam sluice-gates that automatically adjust to water-level, water-flows and precipitation events

Lessig's 'West Coast Code' – computer and network architecture, standards and protocols

‘The {Extended} Laws of Robotics’
[http://rogerclarke.com ... /SOS/Asimov.html#LawsExt](http://rogerclarke.com.../SOS/Asimov.html#LawsExt)



Self-Regulation

- Ethical Guidelines
- Codes of Ethics
- Codes of Practice
- Meta-Brands
- Complaint Schemes
- Customer Charters
- Ethics Statements
- Corp. Soc. {& Env'l} Responsibility (CSR) Statements
- Risk Assessment & Risk Management



The Necessary Conditions for Effective 'Ethical' Guidelines

- Comprehensive
- Operationalised not aspirational
- Articulated for specific contexts
- QA before, during and after the fact
- Obligations
- Complaints channels
- Investigational powers and resources
- Meaningful sanctions
- Enforcement powers, resources, commitment

Principles for Responsible AI 10 Themes / 50 Principles

1. Evaluate Positive and Negative Impacts
2. Complement Humans
3. Ensure Human Control
4. Ensure Human Wellbeing and Safety
5. Ensure Consistency with Human Values and Human Rights
6. Deliver Transparency and Auditability
7. Embed Quality Assurance
8. Exhibit Robustness and Resilience
9. Ensure Accountability for Legal and Moral Obligations
10. Enforce, and Accept Enforcement of, Liabilities and Sanctions

50 Principles for Responsible AI 1. Evaluate Positive and Negative Impacts

- 1.1 Conceive and design only after ensuring adequate **understanding** of purposes and contexts
- 1.2 **Justify objectives**
- 1.3 **Demonstrate the achievability of postulated benefits ('justification')**
- 1.4 **Conduct impact assessment**
- 1.5 Publish **sufficient information to stakeholders** to enable them to conduct impact assessment
- 1.6 Conduct **consultation with stakeholders** and enable their participation
- 1.7 **Reflect stakeholders' justified concerns**
- 1.8 **Justify negative impacts on individuals ('proportionality')**
- 1.9 **Consider less harmful ways of achieving the same objectives ('mitigation')**

Risk Assessment

For Organisations

- ISO 31000/10 – Risk Mngt Process Standards
- ISO 27005 etc. – Information Security Risk Mngt
- NIST SP 800-30 – Risk Mngt Guide for IT Systems
- ISO 8000 – Data Quality Process Standard
- ISACA COBIT, ITIL, PRINCE2, ...

Risk Assessment

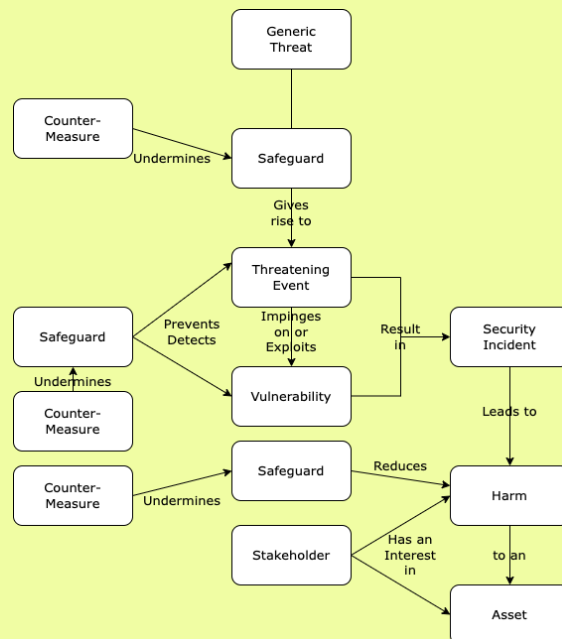
For Organisations

- ISO 31000/10 – Risk Mngt Process Standards
- ISO 27005 etc. – Information Security Risk Mngt
- NIST SP 800-30 – Risk Mngt Guide for IT Systems
- ISO 8000 – Data Quality Process Standard
- ISACA COBIT, ITIL, PRINCE2, ...

For Participants/Users and for 'Uses'

- Technology Assessment (TA)
- Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA)

The Conventional Security Model that underpins Risk Assessment



Generic Risk Management Strategies

Proactive Strategies

- Avoidance
- Deterrence
- Prevention
e.g. Redundancy

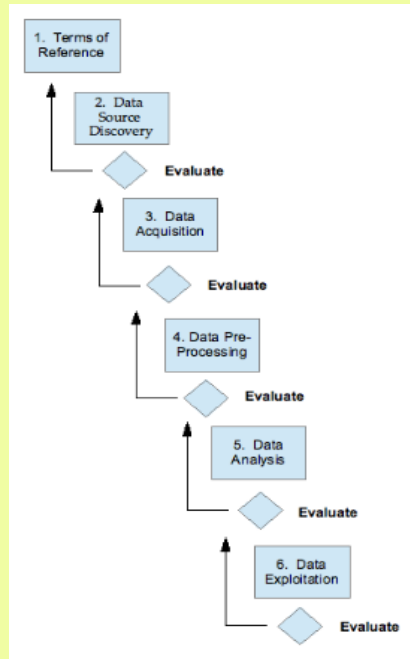
Non-Reactive Strategies

- Tolerance / Acceptance
e.g. Self-Insurance
- Abandonment
- Dignified Demise / Graceful Degradation
- Dismal Demise / Graceless Degradation

Reactive Strategies

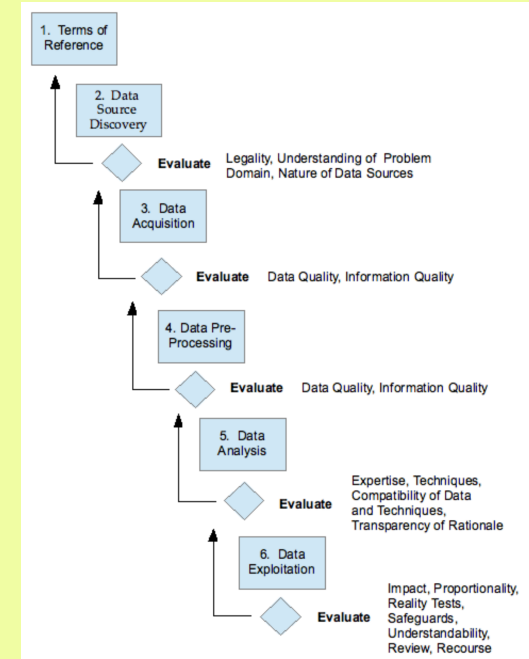
- Detection
- Isolation / Mitigation
- Recovery
- Transference
e.g. Insurance

A Conventional Business Process for Data Analytics incl. AI/ML/ANN



A Conventional Business Process for Data Analytics incl. AI/ML/ANN Articulated

<http://www.rogerclarke.com/EC/BDBP.html#PD>

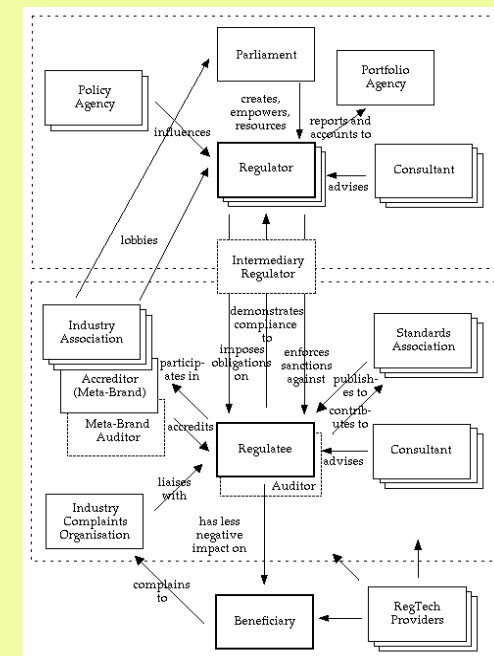


A View of Self-Regulation



Wolves herd sheep
not for the benefit of the sheep
but for the benefit of the wolves

Players in Regulatory Schemes

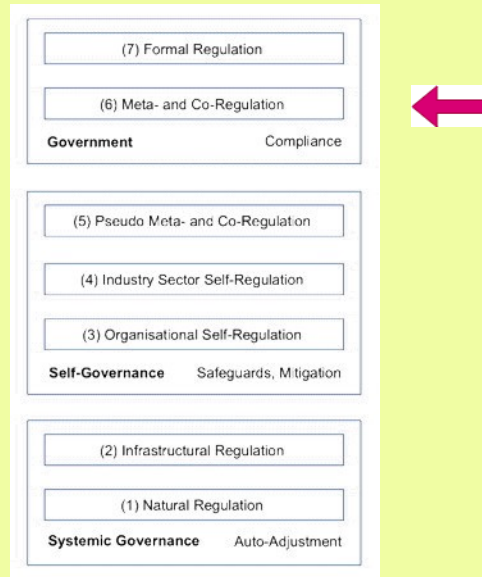


Meta-Regulation

Govt-regulated (req'd?)
industry self-regul'n

Co-Regulation

- Statutory basis
- Institutionalised negotiation process
- All stakeholders in
- Actual enforcement



Modalities of Law

1.	Prohibition	You must not
2.	Conditional Prohibition	You must not unless
3.	Silence	It's up to you
4.	Conditional Permission	You may, provided that
5.	Permission	You may
6.	Mandation	You must

Modality Expressions

- ... is exempt ...
- Despite ...
- {However} ... not ... if ...
- ... shall not ... unless ...
- ... other than ...
- ... not being ...
- ... do not apply to ...
- ... not in relation to / in respect of ...
- ... but does not include ...
- ... established ... otherwise than ...
- ... {an entity} other than ...
- ... is not covered by ...
- Except so far as the contrary intention appears, ...
- A permitted general situation exists in relation to ...
- ... a permitted purpose ...
- ... such steps as are reasonable in the circumstances ...
- ... if it is practicable to specify ...
- ... in such form as is appropriate ...
- ... does not apply if ...
- ... unless the information is reasonably necessary for, or directly related to, one or more of the entity's functions or activities ...
- ... unless it is unreasonable or impracticable
- ... usually ...
- ... is likely to ...
- Despite ...
- ... reasonably believes ...

The Political Economy of AI & Robotics

- **Adversarial – Constructive Tension**
 - Exercise of Organisational Power
e.g. imposed Terms, surve'ance PITs
 - Exercise of (Weaker) People-Power
e.g. lies, complaints, lawsuits, PETs

The Political Economy of AI & Robotics

- **Adversarial – Constructive Tension**
 - Exercise of Organisational Power
e.g. imposed Terms, surveillance PITs
 - Exercise of (Weaker) People Power
e.g. lies, complaints, lawsuits, PETs
- **Collaborative – Co-Regulation**
 - A Stakeholder-Negotiated Design,
Regulator-Enforced
 - Designed-in Balance

Copyright
2018-24



<https://www.rogerclarke.com/DV/RMPP.html>
<https://www.rogerclarke.com/EC/RAEM.html#P>

29

Layer (6) Co-Regulation

- **Legislated Power to approve Codes**, subject to:
 - Compliance with Broad Principles
 - Primacy of Negotiated Codes
 - Fallback of Imposed Codes
- **Code Negotiation** Institution(s), Processes
- **Resources**
- **Enforcement Powers**
- **Assignment** of Enforcement Powers, Resources
- **Obligation** to apply the Powers and Resources

Copyright
2018-24



<http://www.rogerclarke.com/EC/AIR.html>

30

Regulatory Alternatives for AI and Robotics

Roger Clarke

Xamax Consultancy, Canberra
Visiting Professor, UNSW Law and ANU RSCS

<http://rogerclarke.com/DV/RAII.html> (Text)
<http://rogerclarke.com/DV/RAII.pdf> (Slides)

AI, Law & Society – 15 May 2024
ANU College of Law

Copyright
2018-24



31