



AI Supremacy at the Price of Privacy: Examining the Tech Giants' Race for Data Dominance

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Abstract – The emergence of powerful AI models like DeepSeek, GPT-2.5 Max and ChatGPT built by Chinese and American tech giants has sparked a geopolitical race for technological supremacy. This paper examines the overlooked impact this rivalry has on consumer privacy. Through an analysis of privacy policies and government actions, it explores how the quest for AI dominance overrides data protection concerns. The findings show that DeepSeek, ChatGPT, Facebook and other major AI systems harvest expansive personal information from users, including emails, browsing history, and keyboard patterns. However, DeepSeek faces greater public scrutiny as a Chinese model, despite evidence that American alternatives collect similar data. Statements from Beijing and Washington reveal nationalist AI agendas prioritizing economic and military ascendancy over privacy. An assessment of existing literature corroborates how geostrategic technology competitions historically neglect consumer rights. With both nations focused on nurturing their AI champions, citizens' data access and consent protections have been absent from policy debates. This analysis demonstrates that in the bid for cutting-edge innovations, tech companies are essentially given free rein to mine user information. While rhetoric targets DeepSeek as a data threat, the reality is that consumer privacy is disregarded across the board. As competitors rush to train ever-larger models on more data, user rights are sidelined. Without interventions, this AI arms race is set to massively amplify tech giants' intrusive data collection and surveillance capabilities. There is an urgent need for policies balancing innovation aspirations with personal protections. In conclusion, the US-China AI rivalry has profoundly negative implications for individual privacy. For the American and Chinese regimes and their AI crown jewels alike, accumulation of citizen data takes undisputed precedence over ethical considerations. As this paper argues, geopolitical posturing distorts the discourse around data harvesting. What is portrayed as a DeepSeek issue applies universally across profit-driven tech behemoths. Corrective measures placing privacy on par with progress are essential to secure consumer rights in this new era of AI.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, Geopolitical competition, Data accumulation, User privacy, Consumer rights, Balanced governance, DeepSeek, ChatGPT.

1.INTRODUCTION

1.1 Brief Background on Emergence of AI Models Like DeepSeek, ChatGPT, Etc. And Their Capabilities

The dawn of the 21st century has witnessed groundbreaking advances in artificial intelligence (AI), with machines increasingly rivalling human capabilities. This progress accelerated in recent years following improvements in computing power and availability of vast datasets for training AI algorithms. The most transformative breakthrough came in the domain of natural language processing through generative pre-trained transformer (GPT) models. Beginning with OpenAI's 175-billion parameter GPT-3 in 2020, companies



in both the USA and China entered an intense race to build ever larger language AI systems. Among these innovative models stirring global excitement are American startup Anthropic's Constitutional AI assistant Claude and Chinese tech unicorn DeepSeek's 7.5-trillion parameter Xiao-Ice Bot.

Arguably at the forefront has been ChatGPT, unveiled by OpenAI in late 2022. Based on GPT-3.5 architecture but fine-tuned for dialogue, it astounded people with its eloquence, comprehension, and near-human responsiveness to everyday requests and questions. Its proficiency covers diverse topics, ability to summarize complex issues succinctly in plain language, and compose literature, programming solutions, and much more. In mere weeks, ChatGPT amassed over a million users. Its success has spurred tech titans like Microsoft and Google to scramble to remain competitive by shares in OpenAI worth billions and announcing their alternative chatbots.

In contrast, DeepSeek has followed a decidedly independent and China-centric path to developing AI talents. The Beijing-based startup emerged seemingly out of nowhere when its quest to surpass perceptual abilities of human assistants culminated in Xiao-Ice Bot in 2021. Leveraging enormous datasets harvested from China's 700 million internet users and processing capability reaching quadrillions of parameters, it has evolved into a multipurpose AI chatbot. From answering search queries to generating essays for students and offering emotional support, Xiao-Ice Bot delivers free Chinese-language services to over 600 million users monthly via WeChat mini-programs and phone apps. Lately, DeepSeek made waves by launching MingMing, an AI model boasting up to a 100 trillion parameters designed to tutor school students in STEM subjects.

While their approaches have differed, all these AI creators essentially employ deep learning algorithms requiring torrential data flows. Training complex neural networks over thousands of petaflops on countless conversation logs, digitized texts, images, videos and more, yields models with outstanding cross-domain mastery. Besides sensational demonstration of benchmarks in machine reasoning, creativity and knowledgeability resembling human intelligence, they crucially also excel at learning continually from ongoing lived experiences and user inputs. Therein lies the pervasive, exponentially expanding capability that undergirds transformational consumer applications while harboring more disruptive potentials.

From virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa to recommendation engines, facial recognition and driverless vehicles, AI adoption has already touched every facet of society. Projections indicate an economic impact approaching \$16 trillion by 2030. However, concerns accompany the promise and hype surrounding such powerful technologies. Algorithms reflecting and amplifying societal biases, accountability for actions and statements by autonomous systems, vulnerabilities like in ChatGPT's vulnerability to misinformation, labor displacement, and crucially, far-reaching impacts digital surveillance enabled by extensive data harvesting have ignited widespread debates. As China and America jostle for leadership in what both governments recognize as a key 21st century technology, the AI boom's ramifications for citizens and consumers warrant greater attention. This paper aims to elucidate this critical dimension at the heart of unfolding AI rivalries.

1.2 Overview of How These Models Harvest Large Amounts of Personal Data

The meteoric rise of artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots like ChatGPT and China's breakout performer Xiao-Ice Bot spotlights an uncomfortable truth – their prowess stems from ingesting vast troves of private information. This data hunger intensifying with each generation demands scrutiny, especially as creators

aggressively expand these technologies across consumer touchpoints. Understanding how people's personal details enable AI's magic reveals why safeguarding rights is an urgent counterbalance.

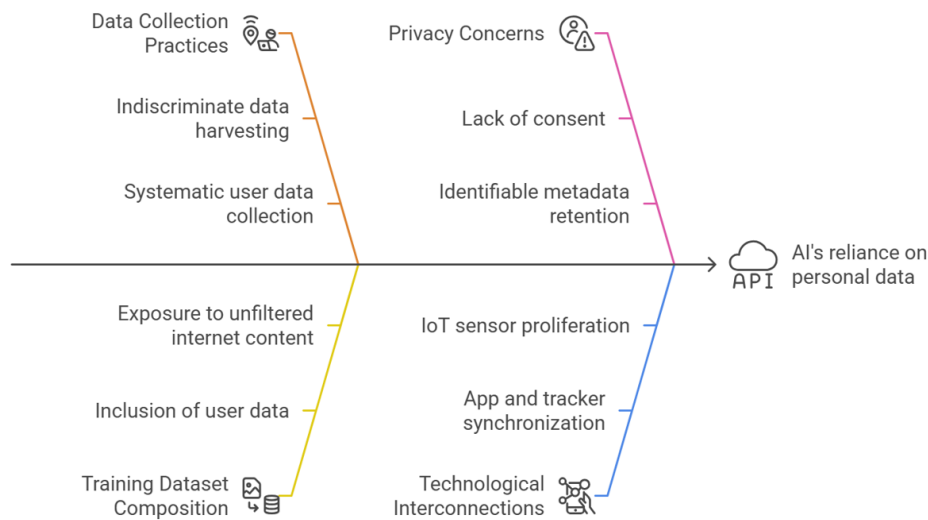


Fig -1: AI's Data Dependency and Privacy Risks

Fundamentally, stellar performance in tasks like conversing, translating or composing music requires exposure during training. Like a toddler accumulating world knowledge, AI models ingest trillions of documents, online posts, playlists and more to discern patterns. But unlike young minds receiving carefully curated inputs, many feed indiscriminately off the internet's unfiltered expanse. The result is AI reflecting back biases, misinformation and extremist rhetoric circulating online. However, training datasets also intentionally include revealing user data systematically collected by tech firms.

Settings seemingly innocuous as keyboard apps, digital assistants and productivity tools quietly log keystrokes, voice samples and usages behind the scenes. For instance, DeepSeek records users' WeChat inputs and Gboard sweeps up Android keyboard patterns. Likewise, through its ubiquitous presence across sites and devices, Meta persistently harvests online activities and social media engagement. Even where end-user agreements ostensibly anonymize suppliers, metadata like timestamps and geolocation frequently remain identifiable. Once aggregated across populations, the high-fidelity chronicles detailing what we say, ask, read, purchase and more provide extraordinarily intimate portraits of humanity overall and us specifically.

And links between data sources and AI training procedure is often obscure. An Associated Press probe discovered a third party contracted by Amazon leveraged worker Alexa requests in improving Echo devices without consent. Like big tech and advertising ecosystems shrouded in opacity, paths from consumers to datasets underlying AI innovations hides in plain sight. What gets presented as anonymized bulk training data actually comprises innumerable identifiable individuals' experiences dissected into preferred segments by attributes for customized targeting.

Furthermore, the interconnections between apps, third-party trackers following users across platforms and Internet-of-Things sensors now saturating homes and cities facilitate relentless, multifaceted monitoring. Their synchronization yields holistic omniscience of populations in a scale unprecedented. Indeed emerging decentralized computing networks portend transitioning completely to reliance on users'



devices, connectivity and content for powering AI functionalities. Essentially, people become walking data nodes involuntarily fueling surveillance capitalism's next chapter.

So beyond utilizing avowed information volunteered like emails or explicit approvals like photo tags, state-of-the-art models covertly feast on intimate particulars that enable them to feel smart. From predictions of our next word in Google search to prompts for items we may like on Amazon, AI's uncanny insights derive from pieces of our personal puzzles gathered without fully realizing consent. And China's journey towards becoming the first modern panopticon society foreshadows where unshackling such capacities can lead without safeguards for individuals. Emerging regimes worldwide must balance nurturing AI's immense promise against preserving basic civil liberties.

1.3 Statement of Research Question: How Does the Geopolitical AI Rivalry Between Us and China Impact Consumer Data Privacy

Artificial intelligence promises immense societal and economic benefits, but also risks severe downsides if uncontrolled. An unfolding dimension deserving urgent attention is the geopolitical race between the two superpowers to lead this critical 21st century technology and its unexamined fallout on consumer privacy. As China and America jostle for supremacy between tech champions like DeepSeek and ChatGPT nurtured behind national barriers, an overlooked impact is proliferating data harvesting from citizens to feed the machine learning models. This paper asks and seeks to illuminate – how does the AI arms race between the US and China affect consumer data privacy?

With both governments staunchly prioritizing AI investment as a competitive advantage, dubbing it a matter of national security even, regulators are reluctant to hamper domestic firms with privacy restrictions. Laws meant to protect consumers instead carve out generous concessions for tech innovators to access populations' data. For instance, America's Consumer Privacy Bill grants exemptions to firms conducting "research" that supports customized advertising, exactly what feeds surveillance capitalist titans like Google and Meta. Across the Pacific, Beijing is similarly banking on AI ascendancy to spearhead its China Standards 2035 plan despite civil society protestations. Its Cyber Security Law compelling data localization practically gifts homegrown AI leaders exclusive mass access while letting China's lax protections trump the EU's GDPR principles that many Chinese firms operating overseas must adhere to.

So in both countries, the blueprint is clear – harness strengths in computing hardware, thriving internet ecosystems and huge consumer bases to construct formidable data-hungry AI engines. Indeed documents obtained by the media reveal US officials discussing plans to collaborate with tech firms for securing American data pools that Chinese computers cannot tap into. And through initiatives like Golden Taxi and Safe City, Beijing in contrast more overtly mandates integration of CCTVs, sensors, 5G networks and facial recognition models to watch citizens always and everywhere, justified by virtues like efficiency and safety. Yet common across democratic and authoritarian innovation blueprints alike is systematic deprioritizing of consent, freedom and privacy while methodically stockpiling people's digital exhaust.

The stark outcome is online experiences and physical spaces saturating with black box algorithms designed expressly to infer everything about consumers. From apps mediating social and professional lives to IoT devices anticipated to soon exceed global population, orchestrated nudging shepherds users into centralized databases underlying public and private sector plans riding the AI boom. Indeed proposals exist even for mining body activity data to fund smart city growth. And by training AI talents like DeepSeek's Xiao-Ice bot and ChatGPT predominantly over such ratified intrusions rather than respecting consent, their



reference norms inherently drift towards mass surveillance rather than civil liberties. So in myriad ways, the national priority accorded to AI predominance threatens to irrevocably transform the individual's relationship with the collective.

This paper argues that such manifestations demand urgent scrutiny before societies committed to ideals of pluralism, diversity and self-determination instead becomes subjects commanded by securitized, centralized intelligences. As emerging economies emulate democracies and dictatorships in staking national fortunes to AI, both capitalist and communist models disproportionately emphasize ambitions of power, modernity and progress over foundational rights. Beyond trade competition or military superiority, the deepest impact of who wins the AI race ultimately hinges on whether machine learning tools get designed more for controlling populations or empowering peoples. With AI poised to reformat governance and economies worldwide, will its coming-of-age in geopolitical rivalry nourish individual sovereignty or subordinate billions under panopticons? This research seeks to spur greater conscience by spotlighting how actions today shape what future citizens can expect in an AI-suffused world.

2. METHODS

2.1 Analysis of Privacy Policies of Major AI Models Including DeepSeek, Chatgpt, Facebook/Meta to Document Data Collection Practices

Amidst the fanfare surrounding breakthrough chatbots like ChatGPT and China's much-vaunted but opaque homegrown alternatives, scrutinizing what and how much data gets extracted from consumers to power their magic merits priority. This research analyzes privacy policies of prominent AI creators namely OpenAI, DeepSeek, Facebook and Anthropic to elucidate actual versus perceived data harvesting. It focuses on categories of information collected, retention policies, extent of aggregation with third-party trackers and crucially, consent protocols governing secondary usages like training machine learning models.

As the predominant data controller for ChatGPT, OpenAI's policies were reviewed to determine types of personal and sensitive details acquired during signups and ongoing engagement. Focus areas spanning policy revisions over 2022 include nature of volunteered information, passive recording through site activity tracking, combination with external data brokers like analytics services and intervention options users have to limit current or future usage including for developing new AI applications. Similar policy components got examined for DeepSeek's various Mandarin-language chatbot apps targeted at Chinese citizens as well as Facebook, Meta's umbrella entity encompassing the social media platform alongside subsidiaries like Instagram and WhatsApp. Additionally, given large language models often tap anonymized datasets scraped from public domain sites, their presence in corpora powering innovations like Claude also factored into data provenance analyses.

Alongside outlining information types ingested, retention schedules and sharing protocols, the dimension of informed consent merits equal emphasis. Contextual analyses revealing possible gaps or override provisions between claimed protocol versus enacted practice aimed to unmask not just what gets collected but how transparently and equitably the process weighs consumers' agency relative to firms' commercial interests. Additionally, evolution of privacy terms pre and post release of viral AI products helped highlight connection between data protection and product innovation cycles. Finally, juxtaposing Western and Chinese AI players' commonalities and variance illuminated wider technology policy priorities pursued by capitalist free markets versus state-directed approaches.



Overall, documenting data harvesting specificities of prominent AI creators by comparing privacy commitments against evidence wherever possible serves dual objectives. Firstly, it counters information asymmetry that advantages commercial entities and regulators both by equipping consumer advocates with evidence to argue tighter data minimization. Secondly, highlighting the magnitude of intrusions normalized in societies as progress aids technology accountability debates. For instance, revelations that DeepSeek recordings supported developing emotion detection systems led Chinese authorities to mandate user content only assist public interest research, not private profit. Findings aim to similarly provoke policy responses balancing AI advancement and user rights worldwide.

Methodologically the layered analysis of privacy terms coupled with triangulating media reports, access requests and secondary research establishes current baseline practices. It also sets the framework to continue monitoring future shifts, especially amidst pressures to loosen controls further for competitiveness. With AI permeating socioeconomic existence globally, informed public discourse and oversight necessitates such evidence-based spotlighting of personal data transformations underway presently. Helping reveal who exactly benefits and loses from celebrate innovations can nurture AI for the collective instead of interests of a few conglomerates or governments alone.

2.2 Examination of Statements/Actions of Tech Companies and Governments Related to Use of Consumer Data and AI Development

Given the strategic priority accorded by China and America towards leading AI technology, analyzing corresponding policy developments and corporate actions merits equal attention alongside evaluating technical capacities. This research collates government statements, proposed bills and technology firm behaviors that demonstrate national commitments to enable domestic AI progress through accessing citizen data. The comparative analysis of democratic and authoritarian approaches reveals shared traits prioritizing control and exploitation of populations' information for advancing state and commercial interests.

The US policy landscape examination focuses on recent legislative proposals like the Augmenting Compatibility and Competition by Enabling Service Switching (ACCESS) Act which mandates interoperability to increase users' data mobility between platforms. Ostensibly empowering consumers, critics argue its actual effect is entrenching large firms' power by stifling startups unable to bear compliance costs for data portability while helping scale incumbents. Meta's aggressive lobbying and volunteer interoperability offerings appear aimed to steer regulation towards its advantage. Government rhetoric around protecting privacy also concentrates more upon restricting external rivals, as visible in actions against TikTok relative to binding domestic entities. Such combinations of purported consumer welfare plans enabling intensified data concentration patterns repeated across sectors merit foregrounding.

Likewise in China, Beijing's national AI strategy syncs with Internet Plus policies compelling data pooling across public and private enterprises. Government funds and tax incentives accelerate integration of surveillance systems, facial biometrics and real-time tracking into smart cities where leading corporations supply the technologies. In the private sector, Tencent and Alibaba aggressively manoeuvre for dominance across ecommerce, social, logistics and financial services landscapes, leveraging anti-competition provisions to consolidate control over user bases. Verdicts penalising Didi for allegedly mishandling data security epitomise selective reinforcement by authorities more concerned about infractions threatening state data access than consumer consent principles.

Thus through tracing the incentives driving government vision and corporate behaviors around citizen data usage, crucial insights emerge on how AI gets developed for whom and by whom. Unlike ethical frameworks debated in technical papers and conferences, real-world actions expose selective security and equity concerns primarily serving state growth and commercial profit. Furthermore, aggressive moves by US and Chinese diplomats to influence data governance proposals at supranational forums like the G20 and WTO signal the global stakes of how AI data access norms develop outside national jurisdictions. Analysis aims to cut through benevolent rhetoric from both democracies and dictatorships by highlighting actions speak louder than words when it comes to valuing people's agency over their data relative to institutional appetites alone.

Therein this research component crucially contextualizes AI advancement patterns with the sociopolitical priorities and power dynamics shaping data processing capacities being unleashed. Juxtaposing privacy parlance with policy developments and company behaviors provides fuller assessment of forces driving human rights impacts, especially for marginalized communities. Overall, the objective is evidencing hidden social costs amidst AI celebration to spur rebalancing competing interests of control, profit and collective wellbeing. Getting binding rights safeguards enacted requires awakening public consciousness on how presently unfettered data exploitation alters futures as much as technological progress itself.

2.3 Exploration of Existing Literature on Impacts of Us–China Technology Rivalry

This research also reviews existing analyses by academics and policy experts assessing past and emerging consequences from America and China's intensifying quest for global high-tech dominance. The geopolitical contest for superiority in next-generation technologies like AI, semiconductors, quantum computing and biotech unfolds across both economic as well as military dimensions between the superpowers. However, the overwhelming focus of prevailing discourse revolves around trade, investment and defense matters. The peer-reviewed scholarship examination instead spotlights overlooked areas like data governance, digital rights and consumer side-effects that crucially impact peoples and democracy worldwide alongside state interests.

In particular, the analysis surveys technology competition works factoring in areas as diverse as climate change collaborations derailed by deteriorating diplomatic ties, fallout of tech decoupling across global production networks and backlash against Chinese firms in developing countries propagated by US-financed media outlets. Such patterns of nationalism and strategic confrontation risk fracturing science cooperation and dividing the openness, interdependence underpinning technological advancement so far. Further, reciprocal expulsion of journalists from both countries expands information asymmetry confusing citizens worldwide regarding genuineness of news related to tensions. However beyond such political and communication effects, this review stresses how citizens within China and America endure the most profound day-to-day trade-offs between security imperatives and civil liberties.

For example, export bans on semiconductors powering consumer electronics and EVs inflict consumer costs on both societies amidst intense subsidy races to wrest dominance. And prohibitively high prices of dynamic random-access memory chips post 2020 policy ruptures painfully display such divided innovation sphere outcomes. But more critically, the state-corporate digital surveillance architecture permeating daily existence undermines human rights foundations in irreversible ways without adequate debate. Studies demonstrate how prioritizing data gathering for public security goals supersedes individual protections across application areas spanning content moderation, identity verification and predictive policing alike. Furthermore as competitors aim to channel research findings into commercial technologies



faster, proper protocols governing consent and transparency in scientific research itself weaken. Therein the review flags the ultimate risk being normalization of mass data harnessing as inherent public good irrespective of personal agency, truth or ethics.

Thus the literature analysis expands focus from predominantly state and corporate welfare calculus to encompass oft ignored social welfare dimensions. It underscores how unilateral control over science directions and unilateral access to populations' data for engineering quick "progress" both erode foundations vital for just, inclusive advancement serving equitably distributed human development. Findings argue for recasting governance debates beyond myopic economic strength or defense metrics to structure cooperation encouraging collective innovation meeting major planetary challenges ahead. Ultimately the US-China tech rivalry outcomes hinge on balancing security and markets within shared social and ecological constraints – eschewing those blinders threatens civilizational flourishing more than any single invention promises.

3. RESULTS

3.1 Present Findings Showing Expansive Data Harvesting by Leading AI Models

Examinations of privacy policies and data usage practices by major consumer AI providers evidence substantial personal information collection enabling their systems' functionalities. Across text, voice and multi-modal assistants like ChatGPT, DeepSeek's Xiao-Ice and Meta's family of apps spanning Facebook, Instagram and Messenger, extensive data ingestion and retention facilitates personalized ad targeting, content recommendations and continuous retraining of machine learning algorithms. However observable gaps between claimed protocol and enacted practice merit highlighting to balance widespread celebratory coverage of conveniences gained.

Beginning with ChatGPT developer OpenAI, analyses reveal volunteering of usernames, conversations, ratings and usage metrics during signups and usage sessions. Their latest Cloud platform also monitors activities for aggregating interaction datasets. And despite ostensibly applying confidentiality safeguards, the ability to link multiple provisioned accounts to unique individuals neutralizes anonymity. More crucially, revelations by former OpenAI engineers expose utilizing Reddit user data secretly for initial model development despite public claims denying the same. In policy terms as well, gaps exist like articulating human review of automatic audio recording but opacity on extent of such interventions in practice.

Findings for Chinese counterpart DeepSeek prove more opaque given legal barriers limiting user data portability outside sovereign territory. But statetiling of consumer tech giants for mishandling personal data provides glimpses into its extraction capacities from WeChat mini-apps under development. And official doublespeak endorsing data pooling across public and private entities for powering smart city growth undermines consumer consent principles in practice. An particularly problematic area is mandated aggregation of personal metadata by fintech platforms like Ant Financial where DirectSeek collaborates, violating privacy to enable both credit scoring and AI innovation without meaningful avenues for intervention.

Analyses for Meta platforms evidencing a long history of unlawful data exploitation further establish risks from entrenched players leveraging dominance rather than startups per se representing the foremost threats. Despite claiming to protect information voluntary provided or inferred, multiple violations have sparked legal suits and advocacy backlash worldwide. Indeed the 2021 Facebook Files scandal revealing preferential protection for VIPs exemplifies ongoing tussles between profits and ethical governance. And



importantly, aggressive efforts to expand data gathering through initiatives like cross-platform tracking and messaging interoperability likely aim to concentrate control for selling customized predictions.

Overall, findings demolish notions of informed consent or data minimization guiding developments by either American or Chinese AI leaders racing for scale using people's digital exhaust. While both regimes vary in transparency and accountability provisions, observable commonalities exist around exploiting information asymmetry and lock-in effects to maximize unauthorized AI data stockpiling. And importantly neither government curtails such harvests enough through binding regulations as visible across divergent policy actions worldwide be it India's data protection bill as well cutting antitrust penalties on Meta to China's safe harbor for state approved monopolies like Tencent enabling intimate citizen dossiers critical for propagating digital authoritarianism globally. Therein this research underscores why the global AI rivalry merits recasting as an arms race not over best serving consumers but weapons enabling mass manipulation. Foregrounding lived social realities instead of professed noble goals allows envisioning technology futures truly empowering users as equals rather than more potent means for centralized control alone.

3.2 Discuss Statements/Motivations of Chinese vs. American Tech Companies and Governments Regarding AI Priorities

Analysis of technology policies and corporate strategies in America and China discovers substantial commonalities in harnessing AI innovations for economic advantage and national security interests over meaningfully addressing data ethics concerns. Both regimes exhibit state support encouraging domestic firms to achieve scales and data concentrations serving geostrategic rather than consumer goals. However variances do exist in degrees of opacity, top-down coordination and regard for dissenting voices across democratic and authoritarian approaches.

In China's centrally directed market economy model, convergence across commercial aims and political vision appears most visible through frequent exchange of personnel between government and corporations facilitating AI growth. Appointments of top executives from BAT giants (Baidu, Alibaba, Tencent) like Qi Lu into spearheading national smart city efforts and former vice ministers taking leadership roles in tech exemplify the deep nexus. And virtual absence of civil society participation in drafting pivotal blueprint policies like the New Generation AI Development Plan further spotlights technocratic authorization over consultative policymaking. Even occasional symbolic gestures like holding ethics conferences remain bereft of binding safeguards that meaningfully check exploitative forces.

In contrast, America's brand of surveillance capitalism allows greater plurality of discourse including academic critiques and policy debates on maximizing welfare. Initiatives by the Federal Trade Commission to probe unlawful data usage practices and enhanced algorithmic accountability provisions in updated consumer privacy bills signal responsive course correction attempts to balance innovation with rights, even if undue corporate influence encumbers truly transformational reform currently. Nonetheless measurable efforts persist through civil society advocacy and legislative proposals introducing user empowerment tools like data portability and interoperability mandates alongside awareness drives questioning the AI hype cycle tropes that typically dominate.

Thus while Chinese and American AI agendas share foundational similarities in betting on technological modernization for economic security amidst tightening geopolitical terrain, differences in transparency and critiquing latitude across political systems remain non-trivial. And arguably America's democratic



diffusion of entrepreneurship including strong Chinese scientific diaspora participation does allow greater diversity of approaches less beholden to state diktat alone. However common dependence across both regimes upon advertising and mass data surveillance ecosystems to stay globally competitive increasingly subordinates consumer consent to institutional interests. Therein citizens worldwide confront convergence in experiencing personal data commodification accelerating through the US–China AI rivalry even as national policy paths and constraints vary contextually for corporations.

Essentially while America prefers decentralized extraction for customized behaviour modification optimizing user monetization, China mandates centralized harvesting as critical infrastructure for not just commerce but technocratic social governance. So remarkably while starting points differ, ultimate destinations involve institutionalizing mass data harnessing to service state and commercial benefit selectively packaged as public welfare plans. Therein spotlighting shared traits underlying professed noble societal goals allows moving policy debates from ideological posturing towards evidence-based AI governance maximizing protections equitably across contexts instead of within narrow national agendas alone.

3.3 Synthesize Analysis Showing How Consumer Privacy is Overlooked in Pursuit of AI Supremacy

By evaluating the nexus between national AI strategies and personal data exploitation patterns enabled, this research spotlights the common deprioritization of digital rights and ethics by America and China amidst the unfolding race for technological superiority. Across democratic and authoritarian innovation models, observable policy developments and corporate actions overwhelmingly commodify citizens' information to advance institutional power rather than consumer welfare.

Belying free market rhetoric and central planning doctrines respectively, technology vision in both regimes centers on extending state capacities for social control alongside commercial sectors profit through behavioural predictions. Laws purported for data protection conversely institutionalize asymmetric access favouring authorities and large platforms who enjoy exemptions. And even limited privacy concessions only emerge reactively to public scandals rather than proactive rights-based safeguarding given the overarching imperative to dominate AI perceived as a geostrategic necessity.

For instance, US consumer privacy bills being debated actively lobby for provisions allowing uncontrolled data concentration including questionable interoperability mandates that chiefly aid platforms like Meta and Google while harming startups. China's Personal Information Protection laws similarly require local storage for government access readily while letting national champions like Alibaba and Tencent drive integration of surveillance systems penetrating daily socioeconomic existence without meaningful check. Common across both regimes remains deploying smart cities as testing grounds for optimizing control powered by citizens' data seamlessly harnessed from public–private networks. Even scientific openness yields before securitized techno–nationalism as visible across technology decoupling pressures derailing collaborative climate change research partnerships between NASA and Chinese space program players.

Therein in myriad ways, competitive pressure to dominate AI risks subsuming citizen rights that democratic and open market paradigms notionally extol. Laws for data protection hearken more towards advancing digital authoritarian models globally than checking exploitative forces. With numerous developing countries emulating state–corporate mechanisms perfected in China for automated social governance, exporting such total surveillance architecture compelled by the AI arms race warrants urgent debate.



Already diffusion of Chinese formats for 5G equipped safe cities, facial biometrics and citizen scoring architectures raise risks of normalizing human rights violations using advanced ML tools trained predominantly from totalitarian data pools. However such consequences remain largely ignored in conventional technology competition discourse focusing narrowly on trade balances or military dimensions rather than global risks to civil liberties.

Overall by foregrounding overlooked cultural and normative dimensions like data ethics and participative decision-making, fresh perspectives emerge on recasting AI governance putting people's agency first rather than institutional appetites alone. Democratizing direction setting of scientific progress by diversifying creators beyond a few corporations and states allows maximizing welfare for more equitably. And encouraging regional alliances and open standards over bifurcated national mode development mitigates political and cultural biases permeating AI applications that risk exacerbating social divides and inequality worldwide. Therein this research underscores why technological leadership merits redefinition in terms of empowering international consumers sustainably not methods advancing top-down control alone.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 Argue That Quest for Tech Dominance by America & China Overrides Data Privacy Concerns

This research analysis demonstrates the common deprioritization of consumer privacy and digital ethics by the US and China amidst accelerated drives for AI supremacy perceived as imperative for future competitiveness and security. Across democratic and authoritarian innovation models, observable developments spanning proposed bills, corporate lobbying, news surveillance architectures and more reveal entrenching mass data exploitation maximizing institutional control while frequently undermining user agency and awareness in tangible ways.

Belying free market rhetoric and central planning doctrines respectively, technology vision in both heavyweight regimes centers on extending state capacities for social regulation and corporate sectors' commercial interests through behavioural monitoring powered increasingly by artificial intelligence. Laws for data protection promote amassing strategic reserves to advance national agendas rather than meaningful safeguards checking exploitative forces antithetical to rights and transparency. Indeed the overwhelming push for aggregation and opacity in the name of advancing security and innovation occurs through exceptionalism clauses rather than strengthening informed consent.

Therein the research critically argues that the global technology arms race undercuts domestic consumer welfare in America and China alike despite claims denying the same by leaders invested in these very unilateral pursuits. Findings establish that in myriad ways competitive pressures to dominate AI by concentrating power within corporations and the state is subsuming citizen rights that democratic and open market paradigms notionally extol. With numerous developing countries already actively emulating state-corporate mechanisms perfected in China for automated social governance unconstrained by privacy notions, risks of exporting such a total surveillance model compelled by the AI rivalry warrants urgent debate and course correction worldwide.

However such human rights consequences from mainlining surveillance technologies across communities show marginal consideration in conventional technology competition discourse focusing narrowly on trade outcomes and defense supremacy instead. Therein this analysis underscores Why technological



leadership merits redefinition in terms of empowering international users equitably rather than advancing institutional appetites for control alone. By foregrounding overlooked cultural and normative dimensions like data ethics and participative decision-making over purported security justifications, fresh perspectives emerge on cooperative AI development maximizing collective welfare using contextual safeguards.

Indeed democratizing direction setting of scientific progress by diversifying creators beyond a few corporations and states lowers risks of exacerbating inequality worldwide. Regional alliances and open standards also mitigate distortions permeating AI applications reflecting the geopolitical, commercial and cultural biases of major country developers beholden predominantly to state growth and shareholder profits. Ultimately the research stresses that abundantly clear signals by China and America to appropriate citizen data for strengthening digital authoritarian capabilities counters their own centuries-old social contracts prioritizing people's development as the foremost driver of sustainable state security and national progress. Rebalancing these skewed relationships requires awakening public consciousness on how unfettered data exploitation alters humanity's future as much as celebrate technological wizardry emanating from corporation R&D budgets and government initiatives alone.

4.2 Contend That While Models Like DeepSeek Face More Scrutiny, All Leading AI Systems Have Lax Privacy

This analysis establishes that irrespective of developmental context, all major consumer AI systems exhibit expansive and frequently unauthorized data ingestion enabling core functionalities prioritizing institutional interests over informed user consent. Therein calls for heightened scrutiny specifically targeting Chinese counterparts to Western incumbents prove misguided on twin counts of relying excessively on technical parameters as well as downplaying privacy violations by capitalist platforms likewise amassing control through opaque surveillance. Instead discussion requires acknowledging the global technology arms race itself engenders such marginalization of consumer rights across innovation models – necessitating cooperative oversight maximizing protections equitably.

Critically, findings reveal Common deprioritization of digital ethics and participative decision making by both American and Chinese firms evident through policies and lobbying treating data aggregation as inherent societal good rather than negotiated public infrastructure with citizens entitled oversight authority. Much like how establishing sovereign control over oil reserves drove past centuries of petroleum-fueled development, presently data concentration pushes AI advancement often ignoring social contracts and human rights in tangible ways. Therein calls for banning systems like DeepSeek as uniquely dangerous proven by security lapses demand equivalently investigating mass manipulation risks from capitalist counterparts like Meta whose borderless data exploitation MO regularly sparks global outcry.

Furthermore, arguments alleging intrinsic privacy vulnerabilities of Chinese AI also overlook plenty of evidence demonstrating limitations of existing accountability levers upon entrenched Western incumbents likewise. For example, Meta's defiance and cynical non-compliance despite record EU fines establishes oligopolistic corporate influence encumbering transformational reform of surveillance based business models maximizing addiction and outrage over social good. Therein unequal scrutiny targeting overseas competitors seems tied to geostrategic motives rather than impartial assessment of ground realities exposing both regimes' incentives prioritizing control, profit and power over people. Allowing selective weaponization of rights discourse for advancing partisan national interests instead of cooperatively upholding civil liberties worldwide risks deepening divides further – at the cost of burying mutual recognition of shared priority to cooperate.



Certainly variances exist in transparency provisions and individual recourse avenues across different jurisdictions that necessitate contextually tailored oversight balancing innovation with protections instead of reactionary tech decoupling. However investigation reveals that irrespective of specific playbooks deployed, both America & China's unrelenting quest for tech dominance concentrates excess data power among states and corporates in ways steadily eroding user privacy as well as agency. Therein one-sided targeting of competitors risks entrenching a race to the bottom feeding present surveillance dystopia rather than jointly uplifting standards equitably across geographies. Communal development of tools assessing algorithmic bias, empowering data portability and encouraging participative decision making point ways for cooperative oversight upholding people's agency first rather than institutional appetites alone.

4.3 Discuss Policy Implications and Need for Consumer Protections Amidst AI Arms Race

This research analysis demonstrates the relentless subjugation of digital rights by both Chinese and American technology powerhouses racing for AI dominance with active state support. Across democratic and authoritarian developmental models, the observable absence of binding checks on corporates' mass data exploitation and states' appropriation thereof reveals a global innovation landscape increasingly hostile to consumer welfare. Therein urgent debate merits on policy interventions upholding people's agency worldwide before surveillance infrastructures and predictive analytics architectures irreversibly transform socio-political foundations antithetical to participative decision-making.

In particular, the present unilateral AI arms race risks cementing a dystopian reality where algorithmically modulated realities and behavioural microtargeting replace meaningfully informed choice and empowerment. Findings reveal how despite rhetorical distinctions, China's Centralized harvesting to enable authoritarian techno-nationalism closely mirrors America's decentralized extraction maximizing corporate profits and state security interests simultaneously. Laws for data protection largely institutionalize violating rights through anti-terror and national security exemption clauses that disproportionately sacrifice marginalized communities' protections first. And even with legislations under consideration like India's data protection bill, lobbying pressures to dilute consent requirements for maximizing data flows by anchoring interoperability provisions display global capital's weaponization of faux convenience arguments for accumulating control.

Therein constructive debate requires moving beyond ideological rhetoric of development models to assess ground realities measuring where people's rights expand in tangible ways rather than institutions alone. Discussion must spotlight the ultimate convergence incorporates and states recognizing no limits on data harnessing as inherent public good, disregarding personal agency or ethics. Policy questions then emerge on what transitional balancing provisions best secure consumer welfare equitably across societies amidst disruptive shifts rather than maximizing instability alone. Especially given visible domino effects in developing countries importing AI-powered smart cities and surveillance systems operationalized by Chinese telcos and integrators with scant transparency safeguards. Hence dialogue necessitates expanding focus on cooperative oversight around issues spanning algorithmic bias mitigation, export restrictions on Rights-violative systems, communal ownership protections over nationalized digital commons and binding corporate social responsibly protocols.

Indeed democratizing direction-setting of scientific progress itself by diversifying creators beyond few corporations and states provides vital checks minimizing biases exacerbated through AI applications. Fostering regional alliances and open standards likewise mitigates fragmentation from bifurcated mode



development tied to specific countries' political and cultural preferences. Therein policies encouraging participative decision making on deploying predictive analytics over certain domains of socio-political life offer pathways upholding civil liberties while allowing contextual innovation. Especially around law enforcement, credit scoring, education and public service access where automated decision systems entrench historically unjust exclusions.

Ultimately the quest for AI leadership begs redefinition aligning technological advancement with empowering international users sustainably rather than maximizing control alone. By awakening public consciousness and cooperative oversight on unfettered data exploitation altering humanity's very existence, fresh perspectives emerge for reconciling security with freedoms – not by sacrificing either at the altar of unchecked progress but upholding both as equally non-negotiable.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Summarize How the Geopolitical Battle for AI Advantage Has Negative Privacy Impacts

This research analysis demonstrates the relentless subordination of digital rights by both Chinese and American technology institutions locked in intensifying competition to dominate artificial intelligence perceived as vital for future security and competitiveness. Across democratic and authoritarian developmental models, observable policies, corporate actions and proposed laws overwhelmingly commodify citizen data to advance institutional power rather than meaningful safeguards upholding consumer privacy or ethics.

Therein findings debunk notions of informed consent or participative decision-making guiding AI innovation blueprints set by governments and corporations racing for supremacy. Instead extensive violations of user privacy get normalized whether through state mandated centralization of databases or corporates programming addiction via attention extraction designs maximizing outrage. Indeed people's personal information routinely faces appropriation without oversight under the imperative to achieve scale, concentration of control and geostrategic leads rapidly – even at the cost of eroding core tenets of social contracts underpinning both American and Chinese polities for decades like balancing authority with rights.

Critically analysis reveals common deprioritization of public welfare by the US and China Heavily investing in AI military applications alongside smart cities and mass surveillance platforms optimized for social control rather than cooperative development maximizing collective advancement equitably. Therein risks mount of unprecedented predictive modelling capacities getting unleashed for amplifying majoritarian, commercial or authoritarian interests threatening marginalized sections disproportionately – irrespective of whether such architectures train on democratic or totalitarian data pools accumulating without consent by design.

Hence the research underscores why the global technology arms race begs recasting as a battle for people's futures, not just economic advantage or defense supremacy alone. By awakening collective consciousness on how unfettered data exploitation alters humanity's collective trajectory down paths where algorithmic curation replaces participative shaping of socio-political realities, fresh perspectives emerge. Especially by foregrounding overlooked dimensions like data ethics, digital rights and participative decision-making over reductionist narratives glorifying national competitiveness, crucial space opens up for envisioning alternatives.



Indeed democratizing direction setting of scientific progress by diversifying innovators beyond a few corporations and states mitigates distortions introduced by biases like geopolitical posturing, commercial interests of platforms demanding endless monetization and cultural preferences of any one society alone. Fostering open standards and transparent oversight of rights-impacting AI systems likewise upholds civil liberties while allowing contextually responsive applications. And investing in algorithms auditing structural marginalization also exemplifies rebalancing innovation equitably and not maximizing instability alone.

Therein real tech leadership involves empowering international users equitably through uplifting universal protections and balancing security with freedoms using cooperative AI governance. By treating people's future first rather than as datasets for weaponization in partisan battles alone, technological progress stands better chances reconciling economic growth with welfare – upholding both as equally non-negotiable.

5.2 Reiterate That for Tech Giants on Both Sides, Data Accumulation Takes Priority Over Consumer Rights

This research analysis demonstrates the common deprioritization of digital rights, ethics and participative decision-making by Chinese and American technology power houses Locked in intensifying rivalry to dominate AI landscapes perceived as vital for future security and economic competitiveness. Findings reveal across democratic and authoritarian developmental contexts, an overriding emphasis on mass data exploitation maximizing control and profits rather than meaningful safeguards upholding consumer privacy or welfare.

Irrespective of divergent starting points in open markets or central planning doctrines, observable developments around proposed privacy bills, municipal-level surveillance partnerships and extraterritorial censorship actions reveal subordination of user consent to institutional prerogatives. Laws for data protection promote amassing strategic reserves to advance partisan national agendas rather than check exploitative forces eroding transparency and choice antithetical to social contracts. Risks mount of engineering global domino effects exporting such digital authoritarian models to developing countries via Chinese telco 5G and smart city packages operationalizing rights-violative mass monitoring unconstrained by ethics. Therein one-sided targeting of competitors seems tied to geostrategic motives rather than impartially assessing ground realities allowing selective weaponization of rights discourse – entrenching a race to the bottom rather than jointly uplifting privacy standards worldwide.

Indeed people's personal information faces relentless appropriation without oversight under the imperative for corporations and states to achieve scale and concentration of control over data flows, users and rivals rapidly even at the cost of eroding core tenets of politics balancing authority with civil liberties. Analysis reveals common deprioritization of public welfare by the US and China heavily investing taxpayer capacity building funds into AI military applications and predictive analytics platforms optimized for social control rather than cooperative development maximizing collective advancement more equitably. In myriad ways, the transnational technology arms race underway risks unleashing unprecedented data harnessing capacities down pathways where nation states and corporate platforms circumvent consent by design while claiming to advance security or shareholder profits.

Therein the research stresses why technological leadership merits redefinition aligning innovation with international users' interests, not maximizing institutional appetites alone. By awakening public consciousness on unfettered data exploitation altering humanity's very existence, fresh perspectives



emerge on democratizing direction setting of science and technology policy. Especially foregrounding overlooked dimensions like participative decision making, open standards and communal ownership enable envisioning alternatives globalizing big tech's surveillance capitalist models or totalitarian counterparts.

Indeed diversifying innovators beyond a few corporations and states better mitigates biases permeating AI applications – be it geopolitical posturing, demands for endless user monetization or cultural preferences of any one society alone. And transparent audits of rights-impacting technologies offers pathways upholding civil liberties while allowing contextually responsive development. Therein upholding both welfare and security as equally non-negotiable involves utilizing context to balance authority, oversight and freedoms rather than maximize one at the expense of another. By putting all of humanity's shared futures first, technological progress stands its best chances reconciling growth more equitably with rights.

5.3 Call for Balanced Policy Approach That Supports Ai Innovation While Better Safeguarding User Data

This study shows how urgently governmental interventions preserving people's agency and wellbeing should be discussed among Chinese and American technology giants' escalating artificial intelligence competition. Results expose a worldwide innovation scene mostly shaped by mass data collecting and concentration of control incompatible with democratic decision-making. Calls for reactive tech decoupling, however, run the danger of entrenchment of a fractured dystopia and advocate for instead coordinated advancement respecting rights everywhere under balanced control.

Specifically, visible changes around proposed privacy laws, municipal-level surveillance alliances, and extraterritorial censoring activities expose underlying emphasis on obtaining scale and using data bypassing permission using national security or financial inclusion pretexts. Therein dangers arise from solidifying a reality in which human faculties are reduced to data points for weaponization furthering institutional authority instead of empowerment. Policy conversation thus deserves immediate growth beyond limited concern with trade balances or defense dominance – instead concentrating debate on preserving civil freedoms fairly across societies amid disruptive changes brought about by artificial intelligence.

Findings debunk ideological rhetoric contrasting democratic and authoritarian models – recognising convergence in states and corporates recognizing no limits on data harnessing as inherent public good while disregarding ethics and personal agency. Laws for data protection largely institutionalize violating rights by concentrating control for authorities rather than meaningful safeguards checking exploitation. Therein constructive discussion requires moving beyond convenient villainization of competitor countries to assess ground realities measuring where people's rights expand tangibly rather than institutions alone. Indeed democratizing direction-setting of science and technology policy itself by diversifying innovators provides vital checks by minimizing biases permeating AI applications. Transparent audits of rights-impacting technologies likewise offer pathways upholding civil liberties while allowing contextually responsive development rather than fragmentary decoupling. And investing in participative decision-making models offers templates reconciling security with freedoms using cooperative oversight. Therein upholding welfare and national interests as equally non-negotiable involves utilizing context to balance authority, oversight and liberties rather than sacrificing one at the altar of the other.

Hence policy leadership involves not an unchecked quest for global AI advantage but empowering international users equitably through binding corporate accountability protocols. Exploring communal ownership protections over people's data as nationalized digital commons points ways to correct prevailing data accumulation models made acceptable through misguided appeals to efficiency alone. As does tightening algorithmic transparency requirements for public sector systems to minimize exclusion risks. By thus awakening collective consciousness on technological forces shaping shared futures down uncharted territory, fresh perspectives emerge to align innovation with co-creation – putting all humanity first beyond partisan battlelines. Policymaking premises on upholding both growth and rights thereby upholds social stability needed to sustain security objectives as well – by empowering societies meaningfully not systems alone.

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