

# AIRO: an Ontology for Representing AI Risks based on the Proposed EU AI Act and ISO Risk Management Standards

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**Abstract.** The growing number of incidents caused by (mis)using Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a matter of concern for governments, organisations, and the public. To control the harmful impacts of AI, multiple efforts are being taken all around the world from guidelines promoting trustworthy development and use, to standards for managing risks and regulatory frameworks. Amongst these efforts, the first-ever AI regulation proposed by the European Commission, known as the AI Act, is prominent as it takes a risk-oriented approach towards regulating development and use of AI within systems. In this paper, we present the AI Risk Ontology (AIRO) for expressing information associated with high-risk AI systems based on the requirements of the proposed AI Act and ISO 31000 series of standards. AIRO assists stakeholders in determining 'high-risk' AI systems, maintaining and documenting risk information, performing impact assessments, and achieving conformity with AI regulations. To show its usefulness, we model existing real-world use-cases from the AIAIC repository of AI-related risks, determine whether they are high-risk, and produce documentation for the EU's proposed AI Act.

**Keywords.** AI, Ontology, Semantic Web, Risk, Risk Management, AI Act, ISO

## 1. Introduction

The adoption of AI has brought many benefits to individuals, communities, industries, businesses, and society. However, use of AI systems can involve critical risks as shown by multiple cases where AI has negatively impacted its stakeholders by producing biased outcomes, violating privacy, causing psychological harm, facilitating mass surveillance, and posing environmental hazards [1,2]. The growing number of incidents caused by (mis)using AI is a matter of concern for governments, organisations, and the public. With the rapid progression of AI technologies and the wide adoption of innovative AI solutions, new forms of risk emerge quickly, which in turn adds to the uncertainties of already complex AI development and deployment processes. According to ISO risk management standards, risk management practices aim to manage uncertainties, in this case regarding AI systems and their risks, by adopting a risk management system for identification, analysis, evaluation, and treatment of risks [3].

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To guide and in some cases mandate organisations in managing risk of harms associated with AI systems, multiple efforts are currently underway across the globe. These activities aim to provide recommendations on development and use of AI systems, and consist of creating ethical and trustworthy AI guidelines [4], developing AI-specific standards such as the AI risk management standard [5], and establishing AI regulatory frameworks - prominently the EU's AI Act proposal (hereafter the AI Act) [6].

The AI Act aims to avoid the harmful impacts of AI on critical areas such as health, safety, and fundamental rights by setting down obligations which are proportionate to the type and severity of risk posed by the system. It distinguishes specific areas and the application of AI within them that constitutes 'high-risk' and has additional obligations (Art. 6) that require providers of high-risk AI systems to identify and document risks associated with AI systems at all stages of development and deployment (Art. 9).

Existing risk management practises consist of maintaining, querying, and sharing information associated with risks for compliance checking, demonstrating accountability, and building trust. Maintaining information about risks for AI systems is a complex task given the rapid pace with which the field progresses, as well as the complexities involved in its lifecycle and data governance processes where several entities are involved and need to share information for risk assessments. In turn, investigations based on this information are difficult to perform which makes their auditing and assessment of compliance a challenge for organisations and authorities. To address some of these issues, the AI Act relies on creation of standards that alleviate some of the compliance related obligations and tasks (Art. 40).

In this paper, we propose an approach regarding the information required to be maintained and used for the AI Act's compliance and conformance by utilising open data specifications for documenting risks and performing AI risk assessment activities. Such data specifications utilise interoperable machine-readable formats to enable automation in information management, querying, and verification for self-assessment and third-party conformity assessments. Additionally, they enable automated tools for supporting AI risk management that can both import and export information meant to be shared with stakeholders - such as AI users, providers, and authorities.

The paper explores the following questions: (*RQ1*) What is the information required to determine whether an AI system is 'high-risk' as per the AI Act? (*RQ2*) What information must be maintained regarding risk and impacts of high-risk AI systems according to the AI Act and ISO risk management standards? (*RQ3*) To what extent can semantic web technologies assist with representing information and generating documentation for high-risk AI systems required by the AI Act?

To address *RQ1* and *RQ2*, in Section 3.2, we analyse the AI Act and ISO 31000 risk management series of standards to identify information requirements associated with AI risks. To address *RQ3*, we create the AI Risk Ontology (AIRO), described in Section 3.3, and demonstrate its application in identification of high-risk AI systems and generating documentation through analysis and representation of real-world use-cases in Section 4.

## 2. State of the Art

### 2.1. AI Risk Management Standards

The ISO 31000 family of standards support risk management in organisations by providing principles, guidelines, and activities. ISO 31000:2018 Risk management – Guidelines [3] is the main standard that provides generic principles, framework, and processes for managing risks faced by organisations throughout their lifecycle. Another member of this family is ISO 31073:2022 Risk management — Vocabulary [7] which provides a list of generic concepts in risk management and their definitions to promote a shared understanding among different business units and organisations.

There is ongoing work within ISO to further apply these risk standards within the domains and processes associated with AI. In particular, ISO/IEC 23894 Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Risk management [5] specifically addresses risk management within AI systems. Efforts are also underway to provide agreements on a vocabulary of relevant AI concepts (ISO/IEC 22989 [8]) and addressing ethical and societal concerns (ISO/IEC TR 24368 [9]). These are intended to be utilised alongside recently published standards regarding AI, such as those relating to trustworthiness (ISO/IEC TR 24028:2020 [10]), and bias and decision making (ISO/IEC TR 24027:2021[11]).

### 2.2. AI Risk Taxonomies

There is a growing body of literature on discovering types of risk stemming from AI techniques and algorithms. For example, a taxonomy of AI risk sources, proposed in [12], classifies the sources that impact AI trustworthiness into two categories: sources which deal with ethical aspects and the ones that deal with reliability and robustness of the system. The US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) [13] has developed an AI risk management framework which includes a taxonomy of the characteristics that should be taken into account when dealing with risks. The taxonomy identifies three categories of risk sources associated with AI systems, namely sources related technical design attributes such as accuracy, sources related to the way the system is perceived e.g. transparency, and sources associated with principles mentioned in trustworthy AI guidelines e.g. equity. The framework also identifies three types of harmful impacts: harm to people, harm to an organisation/enterprise, and harm to a system.

Andrade and Kotschieder [14] developed a taxonomy of potential harms associated with machine learning applications and automated decision-making systems. The taxonomy identifies the root cause of the harms, their effects, the impacted values, and technical and organisational measures needed for mitigating the harms. Roselli et al. [15] proposed a taxonomy of AI bias sources and mitigation measures, which classifies AI bias into three categories based on the source: bias that arises from translating business goals to system implementation, bias stemmed from training datasets, and bias that is present in individual input samples.

The mentioned studies provide taxonomies without formally modelling the relationships that exist between concepts, e.g. the relation between risk and its controls that indicates which controls are suitable or effective to mitigate the risk. An ontology that expresses the semantic relations between risk concepts enables reasoning over risk information and exploring patterns in the risk management process. This paper goes further

than defining a hierarchy of concepts and proposes an ontology for AI risk. The identified concepts and proposed classifications in resources such as the aforementioned studies can be used to populate the AI risk ontology.

### 2.3. Risk Models and Ontologies

There are attempts to provide a general model of risk such as the common ontology of value and risk [16] which describes risk by associating it to the concept of value and the ontology presented in [17] which models the core concepts and relations in ISO/IEC 27005 standard for infrastructure security risk management.

There are also several studies where ontologies were developed to facilitate risk management in different areas such as construction and health. For instance, Masso et al. [18] developed SRMO (Software Risk Management Ontology) based on widely-used risk management standards and guidelines to address ambiguity and inconsistency of risk terminologies. Hayes [19] created a risk ontology to represent the risk associated with online disclosure of personal information. A key feature of this ontology is separation of consequence of risk from harm. McKenna et al. [20] implemented the Access Knowledge Risk (ARK) platform which employs SKOS data models to enable risk analysis, risk evidence collection, and risk data integration in socio-technical systems.

To the best of our knowledge, there is no ontology available for expressing fundamental risk concepts based on ISO 31000 series of standard, nor one specific to AI risks. Our future ambition is to investigate the state of the art in the areas of (AI) risk modelling as the literature advances and systematically compare our work with the recent advances in an iterative manner.

## 3. AIRO Development

Given the lack of readily available semantic ontologies regarding risk management and AI systems, answering *RQ3* regarding use of semantic web technologies necessitated creation of an ontology to represent risks associated with AI systems based on ISO risk management standards. The AI Risk Ontology (AIRO) provides a formal representation of AI systems as per the requirements of the AI Act with the risk and impacts being represented based on ISO 31000 family of standards. It is the first step in identifying and demonstrating the extent of semantic web technologies in enabling automation of risk documentation, querying for legal compliance checking, and facilitating risk information sharing for the AI Act and other future regulations.

### 3.1. Methodology

The development of AIRO followed the “Ontology Development 101” guideline provided by Noy and McGuinness [21] and the Linked Open Terms (LOT) methodology [22]. The steps followed for creating AIRO are as follows:

1. *Ontology requirements specification*: The requirements regarding identification of high-risk AI systems and generating technical documentation are extracted from the AI Act and materialised as competency questions.

2. *Ontology implementation*: To build the ontology we first identify core risk concepts and relations from ISO 31000 series of standards. The top-level AI concepts are derived from the AI Act. Then, the Act and ISO/IEC FDIS 22989 Information technology — Artificial intelligence — Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology [8], which provides a uniform reference vocabulary regarding AI concepts and terminology, are used for further expanding the core concepts.
3. *Ontology evaluation*: To ensure that AIRO fulfils the requirements identified in the first step, the ontology is evaluated against the competency questions and its applicability is evaluated by modelling example use-cases from the AIAAIC repository [2]. The quality of the ontology is ensured by following Semantic Web best practices guidelines, including W3C Best Practice Recipes for Publishing RDF Vocabularies<sup>2</sup> and the Ontology Pitfall Scanner (OOPS!) [23].
4. *Ontology publication*: The documentation is created using WIDOCO [24] - a tool for generating HTML documents from ontology metadata. AIRO is available online at <https://w3id.org/AIRO> under the CC BY 4.0 license.
5. *Ontology maintenance*: Since the proposed AI Act is subject to change, requirements and concepts derived from it will need to be revised as newer versions are published. Additionally, relevant documents including trustworthy AI guidelines and AI incident repositories e.g. AIAAIC, will also influence the design through concepts such as types of AI and known impacts. This leads to an iterative process for updating the ontology, with appropriate documentation of changes.

### 3.2. AIRO Requirements

The purpose of AIRO is to express AI risks to enable organisations (i) determine whether their AI systems are ‘high-risk’ as per Annex III of the AI Act and (ii) generate the technical documentation required for conformity to the AI Act.

#### 3.2.1. Describing High-Risk AI Systems

The EU’s proposed AI Act aims to regulate the development, deployment, and use of AI systems with the purpose of eliminating harmful impacts of AI on health, safety, and fundamental rights. At the heart of the Act there is a four-level risk pyramid that classifies AI systems into the following categories where the level of risk corresponds to the strictness of rules and obligations imposed: 1) prohibited AI systems, 2) high-risk AI systems, 3) AI systems with limited risk, 4) AI systems with minimal risk.

According to the AI Act, AI systems are software systems that are developed using at least one of the three types of techniques and approaches listed in Annex I namely, machine learning, logic- and knowledge-based, and statistical approaches. High-risk AI systems are either (i) a product or safety component of a product, for example medical devices, as legislated by existing regulations listed in Annex II; or (ii) systems that are intended to be used in specific domains and purposes as mentioned in Annex III.

A major part of the AI Act is dedicated to the requirements of high-risk AI systems and the obligations for providers and users of these systems. To understand their legal obligations regarding the development and use of AI systems, providers need to identify whether the system falls into the category of high-risk. To facilitate this process, we

<sup>2</sup><https://www.w3.org/TR/swbp-vocab-pub/>

analysed the requirements of the AI Act, in particular the list of high-risk systems in Annex III, and identified the specific concepts whose combinations determine whether the AI system is considered high-risk; for example, according to Annex III 6(d), use of AI in the domain of law enforcement (`Domain`) by law enforcement authorities (`AI User`) for evaluation of the reliability of evidence (`Purpose`) in the course of investigation or prosecution of criminal offences (`Environment Of Use`) is high-risk. These are listed in Table 1 in the form of: competency questions, concepts, and relation with AI system.

**Table 1.** Questions necessary to identify whether an AI system is high-risk according to Annex III

Competency question	Concept	Relation
What techniques are utilised in the system?	<code>AITechnique</code>	<code>usesTechnique</code>
What domain is the system intended to be used in?	<code>Domain</code>	<code>isAppliedWithinDomain</code>
What is the intended purpose of the system?	<code>Purpose</code>	<code>hasPurpose</code>
What is the application of the system?	<code>Application</code>	<code>hasApplication</code>
Who is the intended user of the system?	<code>AIUser</code>	<code>isUsedBy</code>
Who is the subject of the system?	<code>AISubject</code>	<code>affects</code>
In which environment is the system used?	<code>EnvironmentOfUse</code>	<code>isUsedInEnvironment</code>

### 3.2.2. Technical Documentation

To conform to the AI Act, high-risk AI systems need to fulfil the requirements laid out in Title III, Chapter 2. One of the key obligations is implementing a risk management system to continuously identify, evaluate, and mitigate risks throughout the system’s entire lifecycle (Art. 9). To demonstrate conformity to authorities, the providers of high-risk systems need to create a technical documentation (Art. 11) containing information listed in Annex IV. In addition, providers have to identify the information needed to be registered in the EU public database (Art. 60) and provided to the users (Art. 13) [25].

To assist with this process, we identified the information required to be provided as the technical documentation for an AI system as per AI Act Annex IV, with relevant concepts and relations as presented in Table 2. Recording the sources from which the ontology’s requirements are identified is helpful in the maintenance process where AIRO should be updated with regard to the amendments that will be applied to the AI Act.

### 3.3. AIRO Overview

AIRO’s core concepts and relations are illustrated in Figure 1. The upper half shows the main concepts required for describing an AI System (green boxes), and the lower half represents key concepts for expressing Risk (yellow boxes). The relation `hasRisk` links these two halves by connecting risk to either an AI system or a component of the system.

The core concepts related to an AI System are: (1) the intended `Purpose` of the system, (2) the `Domain` the AI system is supposed to be used in, (3) the AI `Application` of the system, (4) the `Environment Of Use` which specifies the environment the system is designed to be used in, e.g. publicly accessible spaces, (5) the AI `Technique(s)` utilised by the system such as knowledge-based, machine learning, and statistical approaches, (6) `Output(s)` the system generates and (7) the system’s incorporating AI `Component(s)`. Furthermore, the key stakeholders in the AI value chain are modelled

**Table 2.** Information needed to be featured in the AI Act technical documentation

Annex IV Clause	Required information	Domain	Relation	Range
1(a)	System's intended purpose System's developers System's date System's version	AISystem AISystem AISystem AISystem	hasPurpose isDevelopedBy dcterms:date hasVersion	Purpose AIDeveloper Version
1(c)	Versions of relevant software or firmware	System/ Component	hasVersion	Version
1(d)	Forms in which AI system is placed on the market or put into service	AISystem	isUsedInFormOf	AISystemForm
1(e)	Hardware on which the AI system run	AISystem	hasExecutionEnvironment	AIHardware
1(f)	Internal layout of the product which the system is part of	AISystem	hasDocumentation	Blueprint
1(g)	Instruction of use for the user Installation instructions	AISystem AISystem	hasDocumentation hasDocumentation	InstructionOfUse InstallationInstruction
2(a)	third party tools used Pre-trained system used	AISystem AISystem	hasComponent hasComponent	Tool Pre-trainedSystem
2(b)	Design specifications of the system	AISystem	hasDocumentation	SystemDesignSpecification
2(c)	The system architecture	AISystem	hasDocumentation	SystemArchitecture
2(d)	Data requirements	Data	hasDocumentation	Datasheet
2(e)	Human oversight measures	HumanOversightMeasure	modifiesEvent	Event
2(g)	Testing data Validation data Characteristics of data Metrics used to measure accuracy/robustness/ cybersecurity Discriminatory impacts of the system Test log Test report	AISystem AISystem Data Accuracy/ Robustness/ CybersecurityMertic Consequence  AISystem AISystem	hasComponent hasComponent hasDocumentation isUsedToMeasure  hasImpact  hasDocumentation hasDocumentation	TestingData ValidationData Datasheet AISystemAccuracy/ Ro- bustness/ Cybersecurity Impact  TestLog TestReport
3	Expected level of accuracy Foreseeable unintended outcomes of the risk Sources of the risk Human oversight measures Technical measures Specification of input data	AISystem Risk  RiskSource HumanOversightMeasure TechnicalMeasure InputData	hasExpectedAccuracy hasConsequence  isRiskSourceFor modifiesEvent modifiesEvent hasDocumentation	AISystemAccuracy Consequence  Risk Event Event Datasheet
4	Risks associated with the AI system Sources of the risk Consequences of the risk Harmful impacts of the risk Probability of risk source/ risk/ consequence /impact Severity of consequence/ impact Impacted stakeholders Impacted area Risk management measures applied	AISystem RiskSource Risk Consequence RiskSource/ Risk/ Con- sequence/ Impact Consequence/ Impact Impact Impact Control	hasRisk isRiskSourceFor hasConsequence hasImpact hasLikelihood  hasSeverity hasImpactOnAISubject hasImpactOnArea modifiesEvent	Risk Risk Consequence Impact Likelihood  Severity AISubject AreaOfImpact Event
6	Standard applied Harmonised standards applied Technical specifications applied	AISystem AISystem AISystem	usesStandard usesStandard usesTechnicalSpecification	Standard HarmonisedStandard TechnicalSpecification
7	EU declaration of conformity	AISystem	hasDocumentation	EUDeclarationOfConformity
8	Post-market monitoring system  Description of the post-market system that evaluates the performance	AISystem  PostmarketMonitoringSystem	hasPostmarketMonitoringSystem  dcterms:description	PostmarketMonitoringSystem

including (8) AI Users who utilise the system, (9) AI Developers that develop(ed) the AI system, and (10) AI Subjects that are impacted by the system including individuals, groups, and organisations. To specify the area that is impacted by the system the concept of (11) Area Of Impact is defined.

The key risk concepts in AIRO are: (1) Risk Source, indicates an event that has the potential to give rise to risks, (2) Consequence, indicates an outcome of risks, (3)

Impact, represents an effect of consequences on AI Subject(s), and (4) Control, indicates a measure that is applied to detect, mitigate, or eliminate risks. ISO 31000 sees risk as being both an opportunity and a threat. However, in the context of the AI Act the concept of risk, and therefore its consequence and impact, refers to the risk of harm. To reflect this, AIRO only refers to risks in the context of harms. AIRO also distinguishes between Consequence and Impact to indicate consequence as direct outcomes which may or may not involve individuals, which can then lead to an impact (harm) to some AI subjects. Risks, consequences, and impacts can be addressed using Control that can relate to detection, mitigation, and elimination.

To further expand AIRO, the top-level concepts are populated by the classes obtained from the AI Act and ISO/IEC 22989. Then, the classes are categorised using a bottom-up approach. To give an example, the AI Act refers to some of the potential purposes of using AI, such as dispatching emergency services, generating video content (using deepfake), monitoring employees' behaviour, and assessing tests. After identifying sub-classes of Purpose, they are classified into more general categories. In this case, we identified six high-level classes for Purpose namely, Generating Content, Knowledge Reasoning, Making Decision, Making Prediction, Monitoring, and Producing Recommendation. The current version of AIRO incorporates 45 object properties and 276 classes, including 13 AI Techniques, 76 Purposes, 47 Risk Sources, 18 Consequences, 7 Areas of Impact, and 18 Controls.

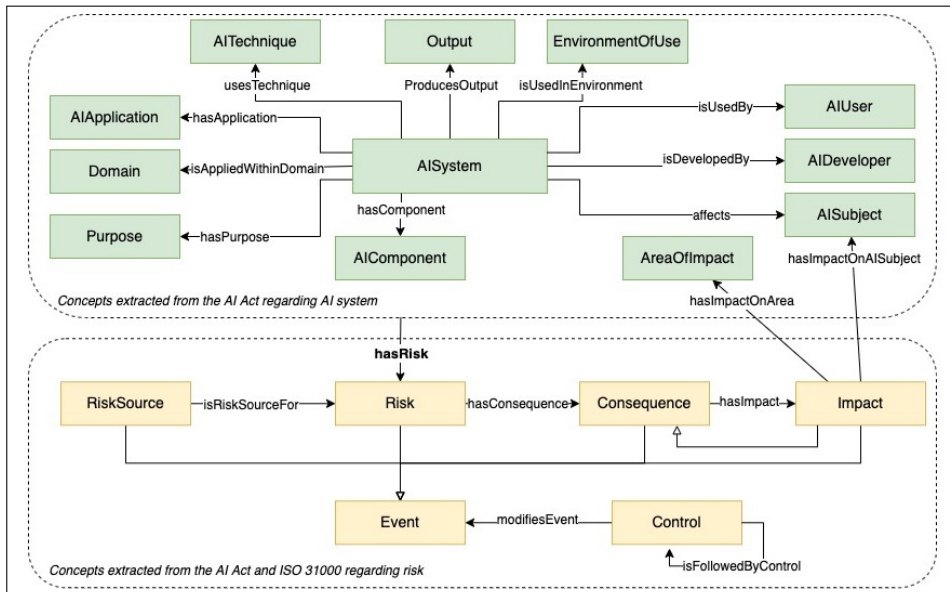


Figure 1. Overview of AIRO's main concepts and relations

#### 4. Applying AIRO by Modelling Real-World Use-Cases

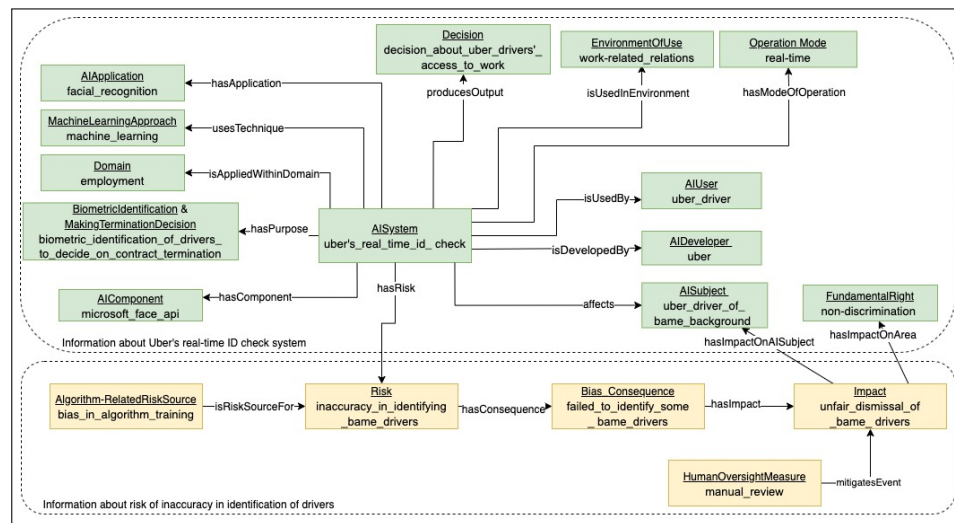
The AI and Algorithmic Incidents and Controversies (AIAAIC) is an ongoing effort to document and analyse AI-related problematic incidents. As of July 2022, it has over



850 incidents collected from news articles, reports, and other sources. Here, we utilise two scenarios from this repository, selected based on availability of detailed information regarding AI system in use and topicality, and manually represent them using AIRO, with potential for automation in future. We then evaluate and demonstrate how AIRO can be used to query relevant information, identify missing concepts, and generate technical documentation - as per the AI Act. RDF representations for both are available online<sup>3</sup>.

#### 4.1. Use-case 1: Uber's Real-time ID Check System

This use-case<sup>4</sup> describes an instance where Uber used a facial recognition identification system, known as the Real Time ID (RTID), to ensure that the driver's account is not used by anyone other than the registered Uber driver. If the system failed to recognise a person for two consecutive times, the driver's contract would be terminated and their driver and vehicle licenses would be revoked. Multiple incidents where the system failed to verify drivers of BAME (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic) background proved that the use of the facial recognition system involved risks of inaccuracy which could have led to unfair dismissal of drivers. Figure 2 illustrates how AIRO is used in modelling the use-case described.



**Figure 2.** AIRO-based representation of Uber's facial recognition system use-case

#### 4.2. Use-case 2: VioGén Domestic Violence System

This use-case<sup>5</sup> describes the VioGén Domestic Violence System that was used by the Spanish law enforcement agencies to assess the likelihood of a victim of gender violence

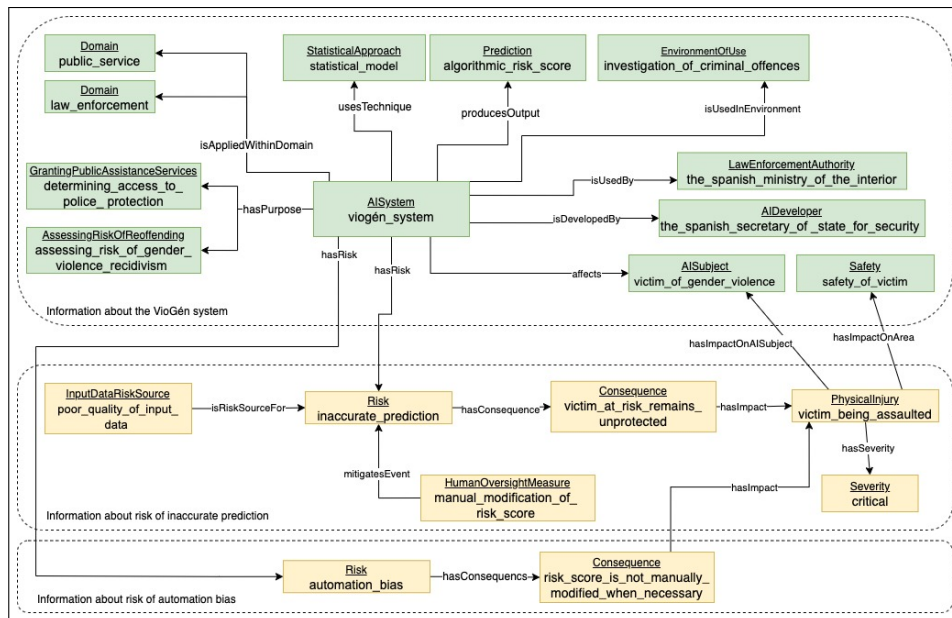
<sup>3</sup><https://github.com/DelaramGlp/AIRO/>

<sup>4</sup><https://www.aiaaic.org/aiaaic-repository/ai-and-algorithmic-incidents-and-controversies/uber-real-time-id-check-racial-bias#h.8t0z8j1p0rj0>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.aiaaic.org/aiaaic-repository/ai-and-algorithmic-incidents-and-controversies/viog%C3%A9n-gender-violence-system#h.hh0s4mc5o6ec>

to be assaulted by the same perpetrator again, which is used for determining the victim’s eligibility for police protection [26].

Its use of statistical models to predict the risk faced by a victim raise questions regarding the accuracy of its predictions since these would be highly dependent on the quality of data fed into the models. The input data was generated based on a questionnaire answered by victims who filed a report. The ambiguity of questions and timing of questionnaire could have lead to inaccurate or biased predictions, and if the score was not modified by police officers - the victim would not required protection. To control this risk, police officers were granted the power to increase the risk score calculated by the system. However, according to [27], in most cases the officers trusted the system’s scoring despite warning signs, which led to “automation bias” i.e. over-reliance on the system’s outcomes. Figure 3 shows the representation of this use-case using AIRO.



**Figure 3.** AIRO-based representation of VioGén system use-case

### 4.3. Identification of High-risk AI Systems

To assist with determination of whether the system would be considered a high-risk AI system under the AI Act, the concepts presented in Table.1 need to be retrieved for the use-case and compared against the specific criteria described in Annex III. This can be achieved through several means: such as using a SPARQL ASK query, SHACL shapes, or any other rule-based mechanism.

For demonstration, we first utilise a SPARQL query, depicted in Listing 1, to list the concepts necessary to determine whether the system is high-risk (see Table 3). It is worth noting that one of the contributions of this paper is translating the high-risk conditions specified in Annex III of the AI Act into 7 concepts which can be retrieved

using the SPARQL query depicted in Listing 1. A manual inspection of the use-cases and query results shows that both systems would be considered as high-risk under the AI Act. Uber’s system falls within the category of high-risk since it was employed for the purpose of biometric identification of natural persons (Annex III, 1-a) and for making decisions on termination of work-related relationships (Annex III, 4-b). VioGén system is considered a high-risk AI system as it is employed by law enforcement authorities as means for predicting the risk of gender violence recidivism (Annex III, 6-a) that in turn is used for determining access to public services, i.e. police protection (Annex III, 5-a).

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```

1 PREFIX airo: <https://w3id.org/AIRO#>
2 SELECT ?system ?technique ?domain ?purpose
3        ?application ?user ?subject ?environment
4 WHERE {
5     ?system a airo:AISystem ;
6            airo:usesTechnique ?technique ;
7            airo:isUsedWithinDomain ?domain ;
8            airo:hasPurpose ?purpose ;
9            airo:hasApplication ?application ;
10           airo:isUsedBy ?user ;
11           airo:affects ?subject ;
12           airo:isUsedInEnvironment ?environment . }

```

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Listing 1: SPARQL query retrieving information for determining high-risk AI systems

**Table 3.** Information retrieved from the use-cases for identification of high-risk AI systems using the SPARQL query

<b>AIRO concept</b>	<b>Uber’s Real-time ID Check</b>	<b>VioGén system</b>
AISystem	uber’s_real_time_id_check	viogén_system
AITechnique	machine_learning	statistical_model
Purpose	biometric_identification_of_drivers_to_decide_on_contract_termination	determining_access_to_police_protection & assessing_risk_of_gender_violence_recidivism
Domain	employment	law_enforcement & public_service
AIApplication	facial_recognition	profiling
AIUser	uber_driver	the_spanish_ministry_of_the_interior
AISubject	uber_driver_of_bame_background	victim_of_gender_violence
EnvironmentOfUse	work_relate_relations	investigation_of_criminal_offences
High-Risk?	Yes (Annex III. 1-a & 4-b)	Yes (Annex III. 6-a & 5-a)

To show automation in determination of whether an AI system is high-risk, and to show the usefulness of our analysis and AIRO’s concepts, we created SHACL shapes, depicted in Listing 2, representing two of the high-risk conditions defined in Annex III, and then applied them over the use-cases. Annex III defines criteria where systems are high-risk, and SHACL shapes are meant to fail when constraints are not satisfied. Therefore, we modelled these SHACL shapes to check where AI systems are *not high-risk*,

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1 @prefix dash: <http://datashapes.org/dash#> .
2 @prefix sh: <http://www.w3.org/ns/shacl#> .
3 @prefix airo: <https://w3id.org/AIRO#> .
4 @prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
5 :AnnexIII-1
6   a sh:NodeShape ;
7   sh:targetClass airo:AISystem ;
8   sh:message "High-Risk AI System as per AI Act Annex III-1"@en ;
9   sh:description "Biometric Identification of Natural Persons"@en ;
10  sh:not [
11    a sh:PropertyShape ;
12    sh:path airo:hasPurpose ;
13    sh:class airo:BiometricIdentification; ] .
14 :AnnexIII-6a
15   a sh:NodeShape ;
16   sh:targetClass airo:AISystem ;
17   sh:message "High-Risk AI System as per AI Act Annex III-6a"@en ;
18   sh:description "AI systems intended to be used by law enforcement..."
19     "... or the risk for potential victims of criminal offences;"@en ;
20   sh:not [ sh:and (
21     sh:property [
22       a sh:PropertyShape ;
23       sh:path airo:isUsedWithinDomain ;
24       sh:hasValue airo:law_enforcement ;
25     ]
26     sh:property [
27       a sh:PropertyShape ;
28       sh:path airo:hasPurpose ;
29       # omitted (sh:or .. airo:AssessingRiskOfReoffending) here for brevity
30       sh:class airo:AssessingRiskOfReoffending ; ] ) ] .

```

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Listing 2: Examples of SHACL shapes identifying high-risk AI Systems from Annex III of the AI Act

that is - they fail when a condition such as purpose being `BiometricIdentification` is met, with the annotation assisting in identifying the source in Annex III-1.

We preferred SHACL since it is a standardised mechanism for expression validations, it always produces a Boolean output, and it can be annotated with documentation and messages. Also, SHACL has been demonstrated to be useful for legal compliance tasks where constraints can first ensure the necessary information is present and in the correct form, and then produce outputs linked to appropriate legal clauses [28].

#### 4.4. Generating Technical Documentation

To demonstrate how AIRO assists with producing technical documentation as required by Art. 11 and described in Annex IV of the AI Act, we utilised SPARQL queries to retrieve the information regarding the two use-cases. The (summarised) results of this

**Table 4.** Retrieving Information for generating technical documentation using AIRO

Anx.IV. Required Information	Concept	Uber's Real-time ID Check	VioGén system
1(a). System's intended purpose	Purpose	biometric_identification_of_drivers .to.decide.on.contract.termination	assessing_risk_of_gender_violence .recidivism determining_access_to_police .protection
1(a). System's developers	AIDeveloper	uber	the_spanish_secretary_of_state_for .security
1(d). Forms in which AI system is placed on the market or put into service	AISystemForm	service	software
2(e) & 3. Human oversight measures	HumanOversightControl	manual_review	manual_modification_of_risk_score
2(g). Discriminatory impacts of the system	Impact	unfair_dismissal_of_bame_drivers	lower_risk_scores_assigned .to_women_without_children
	ImpactedArea	non-discrimination	non-discrimination
3. Expected level of accuracy	AISystemAccuracy	high	high
3. Foreseeable unintended outcomes of the risk 4. Consequences of the risk	Consequence	failed_to_identify_some_bame_drivers	(1) victim_at_risk_remains .unprotected (2) risk_score_is_not_manually .modified_when_necessary
3 & 4. Sources of the risk	RiskSource	bias_in_algorithm_training	(1) poor_quality_of_input_data (2) N/A
4. Risks associated with the AI system	Risk	inaccuracy_in_identifying_bame_drivers	(1) inaccurate_predictions (2) automation_bias
4. Harmful impacts of the risk	Impact	unfair_dismissal_of_bame_drivers	(1&2) victim_being_assaulted
4. Severity of impact	Severity	N/A	critical
4. Impacted stakeholders	AISubject	uber_driver_of_bame_background	victim_of_gender_violence
4. Impacted area	AreaOfImpact	non-discrimination	safety_of_victim
4. Risk management measures applied	Control	manual_review	(1) manual_modification_of_risk .score (2) N/A

are shown in Table 4. Within the table, the “N/A” cells represents lack of information in the available sources regarding the related concept. For the sake of brevity, the rows with “N/A” values for both use-cases are excluded from the table.

In the future, we plan to demonstrate the application of AIRO in modelling multiple, different use-cases where comprehensive information about the AI system and its risks is publicly available.

## 5. Conclusion & Further Work

In this paper, we presented AIRO - an ontology for expressing risk of harm associated with AI systems based on the proposed EU AI Act and ISO 31000 family of standards. AIRO assists with expressing risk of AI systems as per the requirements of the AI Act, in a machine-readable, formal, and interoperable manner through use of semantic web technologies. We demonstrated the usefulness of AIRO in determination of high-risk AI systems and for generating the technical documentation based on use of SPARQL and SHACL by modelling two real-world use-cases from the AIAAIC repository.

### *Benefit to Stakeholders*

AIRO assists organisations in maintaining risk information in a machine-readable and queryable forms. This enables automating the retrieval of information related to AI systems and their risks, which is necessary to create and maintain technical documentation as required by Art. 11. Furthermore, by assigning timestamp values to the machine-readable risk information expressed by AIRO, organisations can keep track of changes of

risks, which is useful for implementation of the post-market monitoring system requirements referred to in Art. 61. Utilising AIRO for modelling AI incidents helps with classification, collation, and comparison of AI risks and impacts over time. This can be helpful in addressing the gaps exist between the ongoing AI regulation and standardisation activities and real-world AI incidents.

### *Further Work*

In the future, the design of AIRO and the SHACL shapes represented for determination of high-risk AI systems will be revisited in the light of the amendments to the proposed AI Act. Our future investigations aim to extend AIRO to (i) represent known categories of AI incidents through their identification within incident reports, such as from the AIAAIC repository, (ii) provide the information required for creating incorporated documents within the technical documentation such as system architecture, datasheet, and the EU declaration of the conformity, (iii) express fundamental risk management concepts from the ISO 31000 family, which are essential for modelling AI risk and impact assessments, and (iv) express provenance of AI risk management activities, which is helpful in the AI Act conformity assessment process and implementation of post-market monitoring systems, by reusing the PROV Ontology <sup>6</sup>.

We plan to demonstrate application of AIRO in sharing risk information between entities in the AI governance and value chain. Given the similarity and overlap between the AI Act's risk and impact assessments with the GDPR's Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA), we aim to investigate how the use of AIRO can provide a common point for the information management and investigations regarding risks and impacts associated with use of AI.

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<sup>6</sup><https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/>

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