Compute Threshold (AI Governance)

compute-threshold · compute · concept

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Summary

A regulatory trigger expressed as floating-point operations (FLOPs) consumed during model training, above which specific reporting, evaluation, or governance obligations attach.

At a glance

Used by

2 instrument(s)

Related concepts

frontier-tier, systemic-risk, designated-systemic

Primary source

Regulation (EU) 2024/1689, Art. 51(2) + Annex XIII pt. (a)

Details

Compute thresholds operationalize the intuition that capability scales (imperfectly) with training compute. Jurisdictions have adopted different thresholds: US EO 14110 used 10^{2}v FLOPs for foundation-model reporting; EU AI Act Art. 51 uses 10^{2}u FLOPs as the systemic-risk presumption; China's GenAI Measures use no compute threshold (registration triggered by public-facing deployment instead); UK AISI commitments are voluntary and capability-based rather than compute-thresholded. Critics note that thresholds become outdated as algorithmic efficiency improves and that compute alone is an imperfect capability proxy.

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APA

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CHICAGO

Policy Window. n.d.. "Compute Threshold (AI Governance)." Wiki article (Concept). https://policywindow.org/wiki/compute-threshold.

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