

Responsible Artificial Intelligence & the role of measurement

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Computation and Society

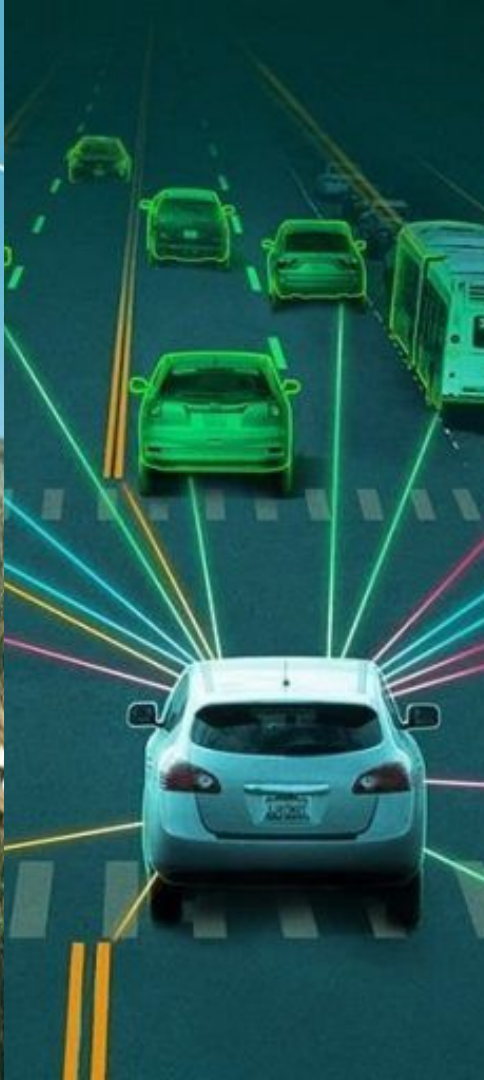
at Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences



AI is everywhere

**Enterprise Artificial Intelligence (AI) Market is
Expected To Reach USD 59.17 Billion By 2028**

**AI Adoption Skyrocketed
Over the Last 18 Months**



Problems

Amazon scraps secret AI recruiting tool that showed bias against women

Increased use of AI in health care raises questions about fairness and equity

AI Bias Harms Black Families and Businesses. Howard University Is Working to Change That

Machine Bias

Another Arrest, and Jail Time, Due to a Bad Facial Recognition Match



Responsible AI to the rescue?

Australia's Artificial Intelligence Ethics Framework

PRINCIPLES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ETHICS FOR THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY

Business Roundtable Roadmap for Responsible Artificial Intelligence

What do we mean by AI?

- This talk: **supervised machine learning**
- Essentially just pattern matching
- Given input-output pairs, make output predictions for new inputs

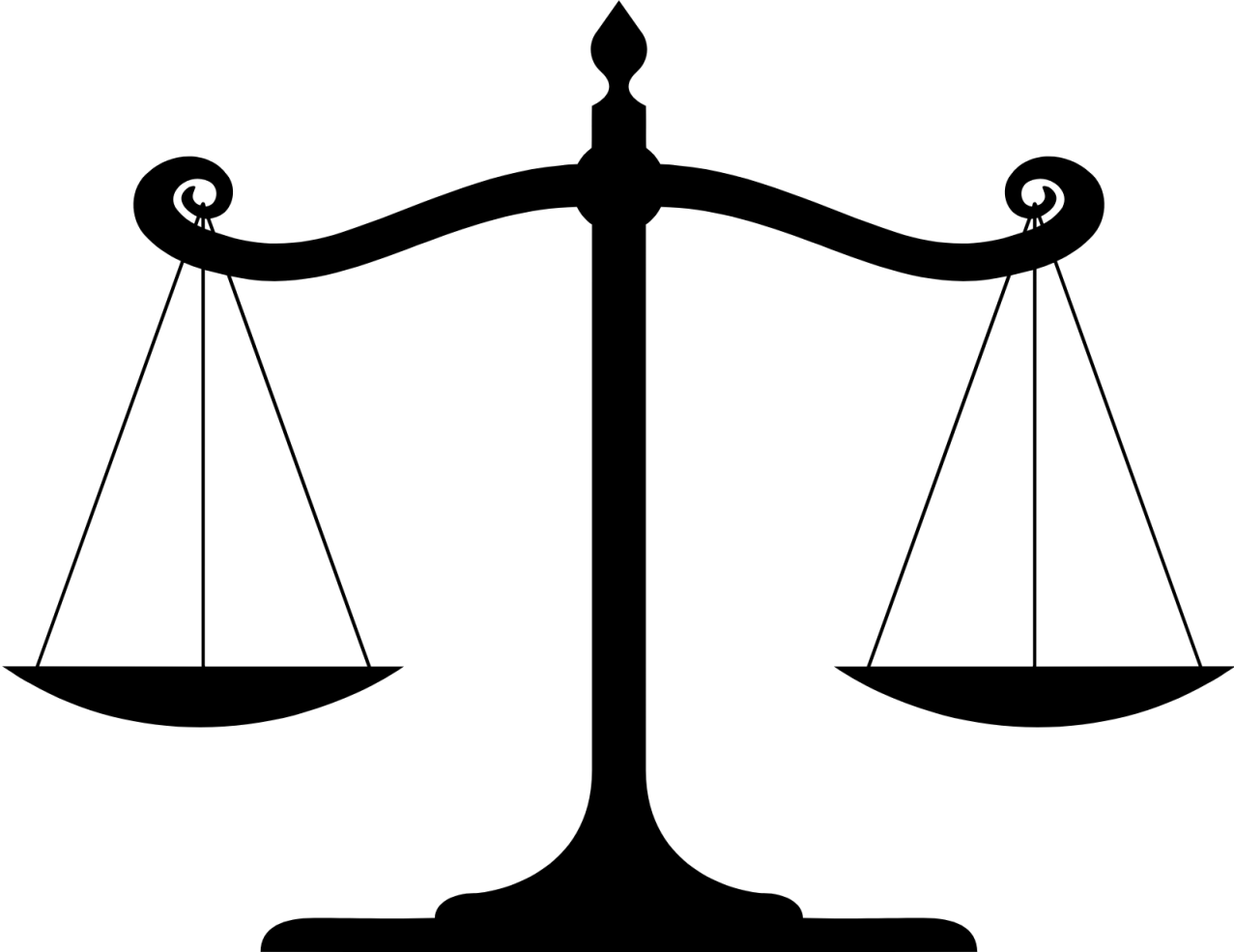
Why is AI any different?

- We don't necessarily understand it
- New levers for observation & control
- Regulatory uncertainty

This talk: Measurement

- **Not** about governance, organizational principles, etc.
- **Not** about the technical methods
- What can quantitative measures tell us?
- Where should we be cautious?

Measurement



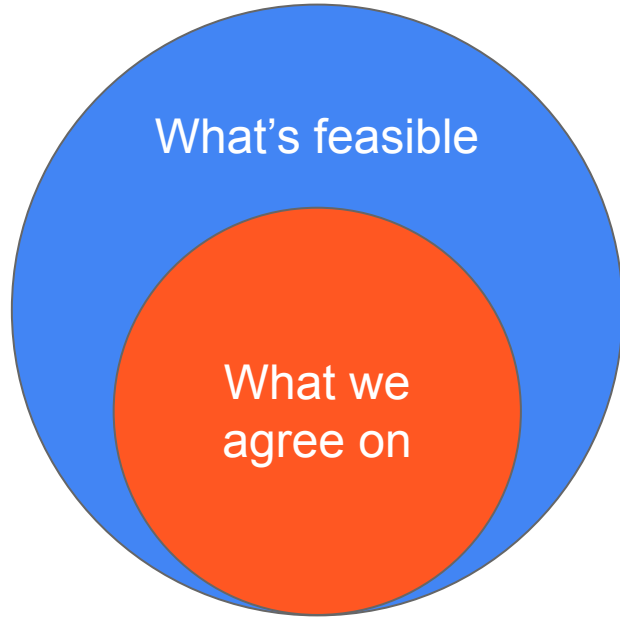


Metrics: a solution for responsible AI?

Plan

1. Formally define “responsible”
2. Build systems that respect this definition

**Problem #1:
Metrics need
normative
values**



What's feasible

What we
agree on

Metrics in criminal justice

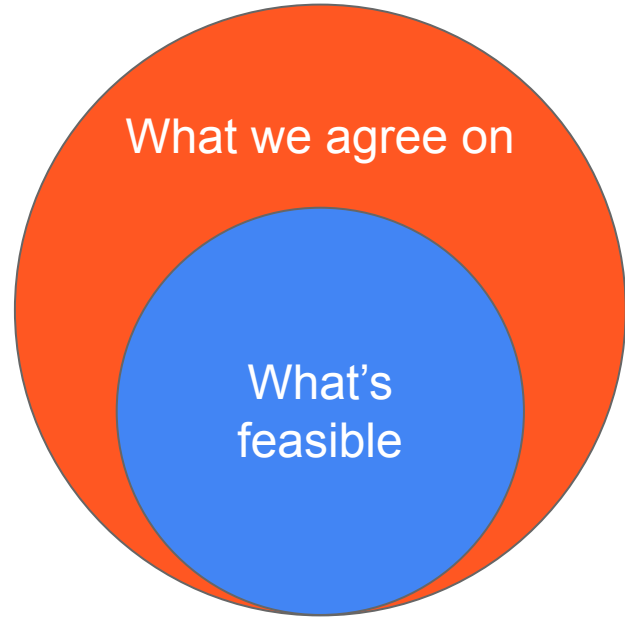
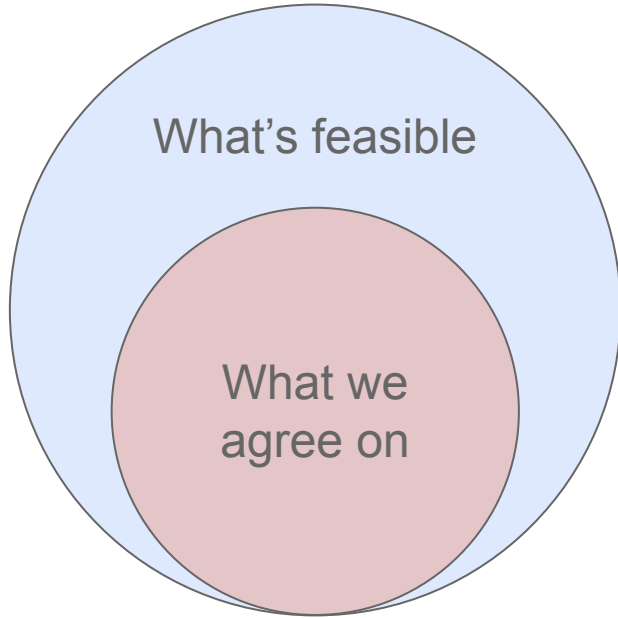
		WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN
Labeled Higher Risk, But Didn't Re-Offend	(FPR)	23.5%	44.9%
Labeled Lower Risk, Yet Did Re-Offend	(FNR)	47.7%	28.0%

Angwin, Larson, Mattu, and Kirchner, 2016

Theorem: Unless predictions are systematically dishonest, they will **necessarily** generate error rate disparities.

Kleinberg, Mullainathan, and Raghavan, 2017






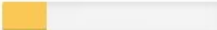











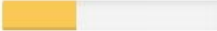
**Problem #2:
Metrics can't
make disparities
disappear**





Metrics as diagnosis?

Diagnosis in facial analysis

Gender Classifier	Darker Male	Darker Female	Lighter Male	Lighter Female	Largest Gap
 Microsoft	94.0% 	79.2% 	100% 	98.3% 	20.8% 
 FACE++	99.3% 	65.5% 	99.2% 	94.0% 	33.8% 
 IBM	88.0% 	65.3% 	99.7% 	92.9% 	34.4% 

Diagnosis → improvement?

IBM Research Blog Topics ▾ Labs ▾

AI

Mitigating Bias in AI Models

 Microsoft | The AI Blog Our Company ▾ News and Stories ▾ Press Tools ▾

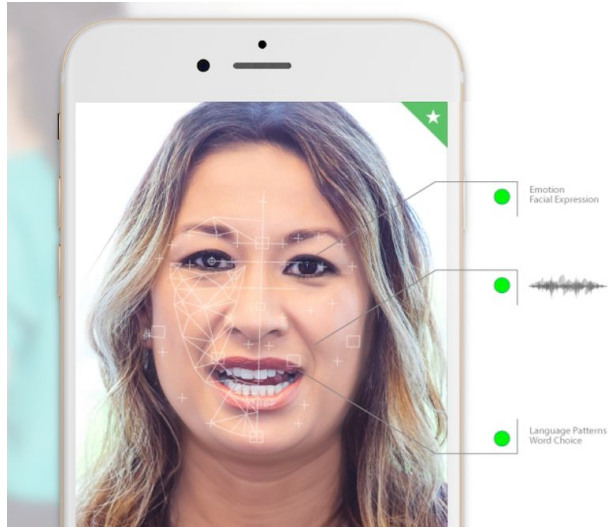
Microsoft improves facial recognition technology to perform well across all skin tones, genders



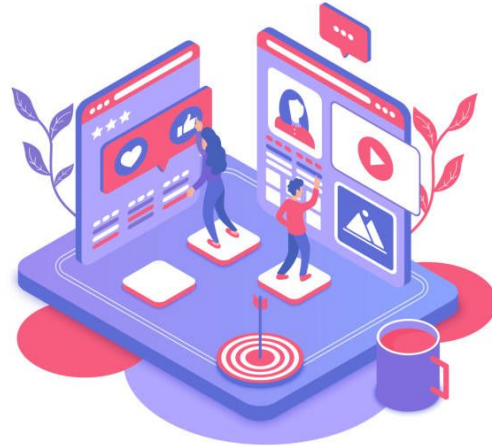
Beyond diagnosis

Today: two settings

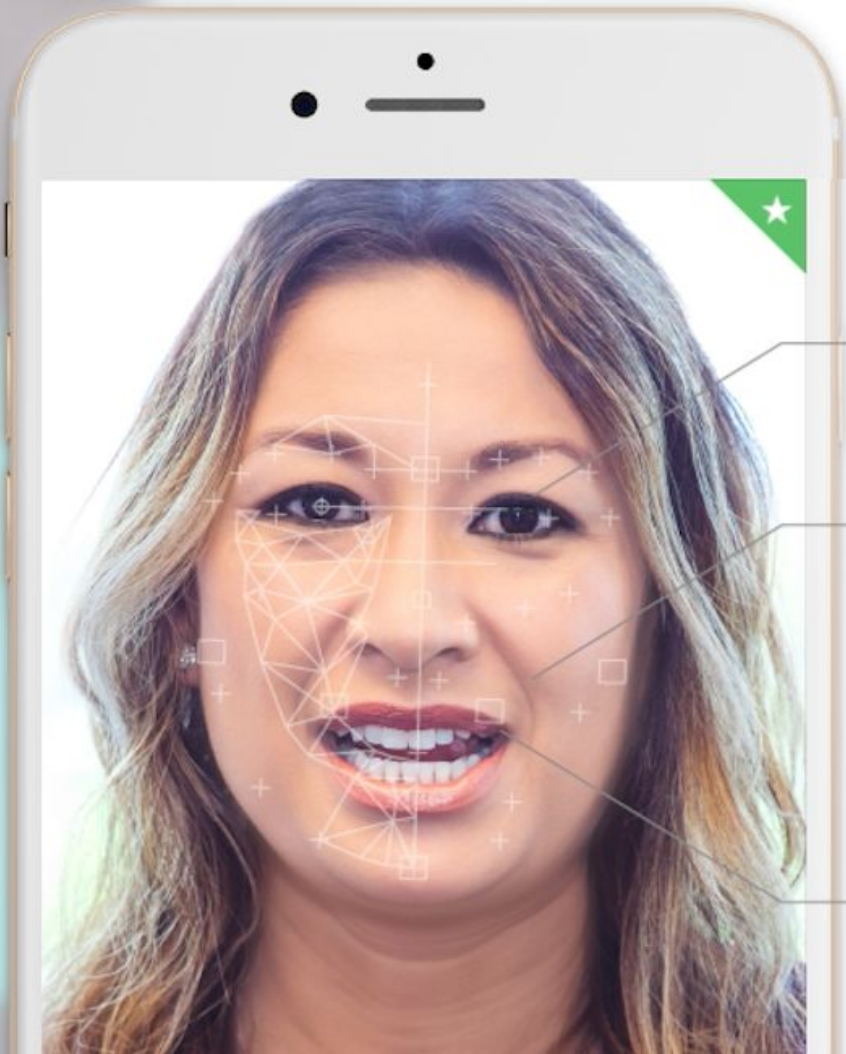
Algorithmic hiring



Online platforms



Algorithmic hiring



Emotion
Facial Expression



Language Patterns
Word Choice

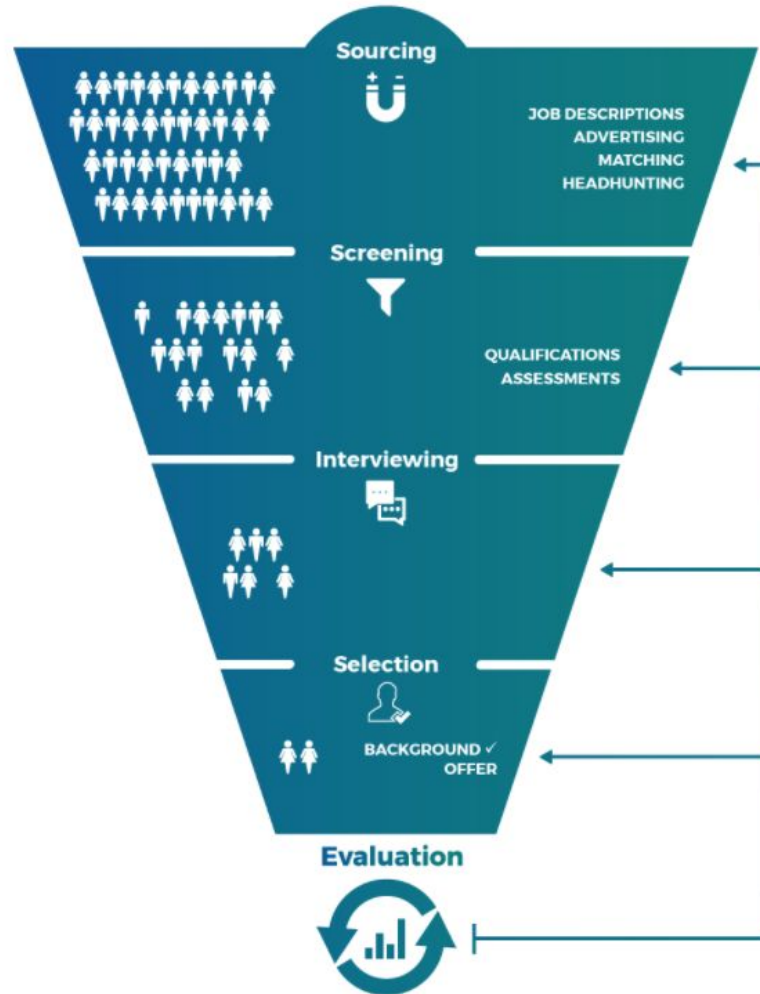
Basic problem: discrimination



Same resumes, different names
[Bertrand and Mullainathan, 2004]

Jessica Wolf/UCLA

THE HIRING FUNNEL



Advertising

Targeting

Optimization



Case study: HUD v. Facebook (2018)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

The Secretary, United States)
Department of Housing and Urban)
Development, on behalf of Complainant)
Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal)
Opportunity,)
)
Charging Party,)
)
v.)
)
Facebook, Inc.,)
)
Respondent)

HUD ALJ No.
FHEO No. 01-18-0323-8



CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION

Search

Who do recruiters see?

People

57 results for **Product, LinkedIn** [Save this search]

Sort by: **Relationship** ▾ View: **My customized view** ▾ [Edit]



Elliot Shmukler

Director, Product Management at LinkedIn

San Francisco Bay Area | Internet

277 connections

Current: Director, **Product** Management at **LinkedIn**

Past: Senior **Product** Manager, Finding Traffic Optimization ... more...

In Common: [▶ 186 shared connections](#) [▶ 4 shared groups](#)



Sunil Saha

Senior Product Manager at LinkedIn

San Francisco Bay Area | Internet

412 connections

Current: Senior **Product** Manager at **LinkedIn**

Past: Senior **Product** Manager at Yahoo!, **Product** Manager ... more...

In Common: [▶ 88 shared connections](#) [▶ 2 shared groups](#)



Esteban Kozak

Senior Product Manager at LinkedIn

San Francisco Bay Area | Internet

317 connections

Current: Senior **Product** Manager at **LinkedIn**

Past: Senior **Product** Manager at eBay Inc., **Product** ... more...

In Common: [▶ 150 shared connections](#) [▶ 2 shared groups](#)



Jen Granito

Product Manager at LinkedIn

San Francisco Bay Area | Internet

389 connections

Case study: LinkedIn Search (2018)

As of last week, LinkedIn's search results for recruiters are designed to reflect the gender distribution for particular types of job in each industry. For example, if 44 percent of the talent pool for account executives in the U.S. are women, each page of candidate results for that position will reflect that mix, said John Jersin, head of product for talent solutions at LinkedIn.

Assessments

Who should employers interview?

The screenshot displays the Plum recruitment platform interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'plum', 'RECRUITING', 'COMPANY', and 'MY ACCOUNT'. Below this, the job title 'Sales Hunter' is shown with search and location icons. The main focus is on the candidate profile for '96 Anika Agarwal', who applied 2 days ago. A 'SHORTLIST' button is visible next to her name. Below the profile, there are four tabs: 'SUMMARY', 'EXECUTION', 'PERSUASION', and 'DECISION MAKING'. A circular radar chart visualizes her skills across these categories. To the right of the chart, a 'HIGHLIGHTS' section lists her strengths: 'Extraordinary ability to execute', 'Great ability to persuade', 'Extraordinary decision making skills', 'Extraordinary ability to innovate', and 'Average ability to adapt'. Below the highlights, there is an email icon with the address 'anika.agarwal@email.com', and document icons for 'Resume' and 'Cover Letter'. On the left side of the interface, a list of other candidates is shown, including Alexander Donos (89), Allison MacPherson (87), Jasmine Reyes (83), Muhammad Ahmad (75), Sarah Dvir (68), Johan Pilay (66), Adiliah Khan (63), and Oliver Cider (58).

plum RECRUITING COMPANY MY ACCOUNT

< Sales Hunter

Q 🔍 📍

0 HIRED

0 OFFER

0 INTERVIEW

1 SHORTLIST ^

96 Anika Agarwal
Applied 2 days ago

20 IN REVIEW ^

89 Alexander Donos
Applied 12 days ago

87 Allison MacPherson
Applied 4 days ago

83 Jasmine Reyes
Applied 1 day ago

75 Muhammad Ahmad
Applied today

68 Sarah Dvir
Applied 2 days ago

66 Johan Pilay
Applied 3 weeks ago

63 Adiliah Khan
Applied 6 days ago

58 Oliver Cider
Applied 3 days ago

96 Anika Agarwal SHORTLIST v

APPLIED 2 days ago

SUMMARY EXECUTION PERSUASION DECISION MAKING

HIGHLIGHTS

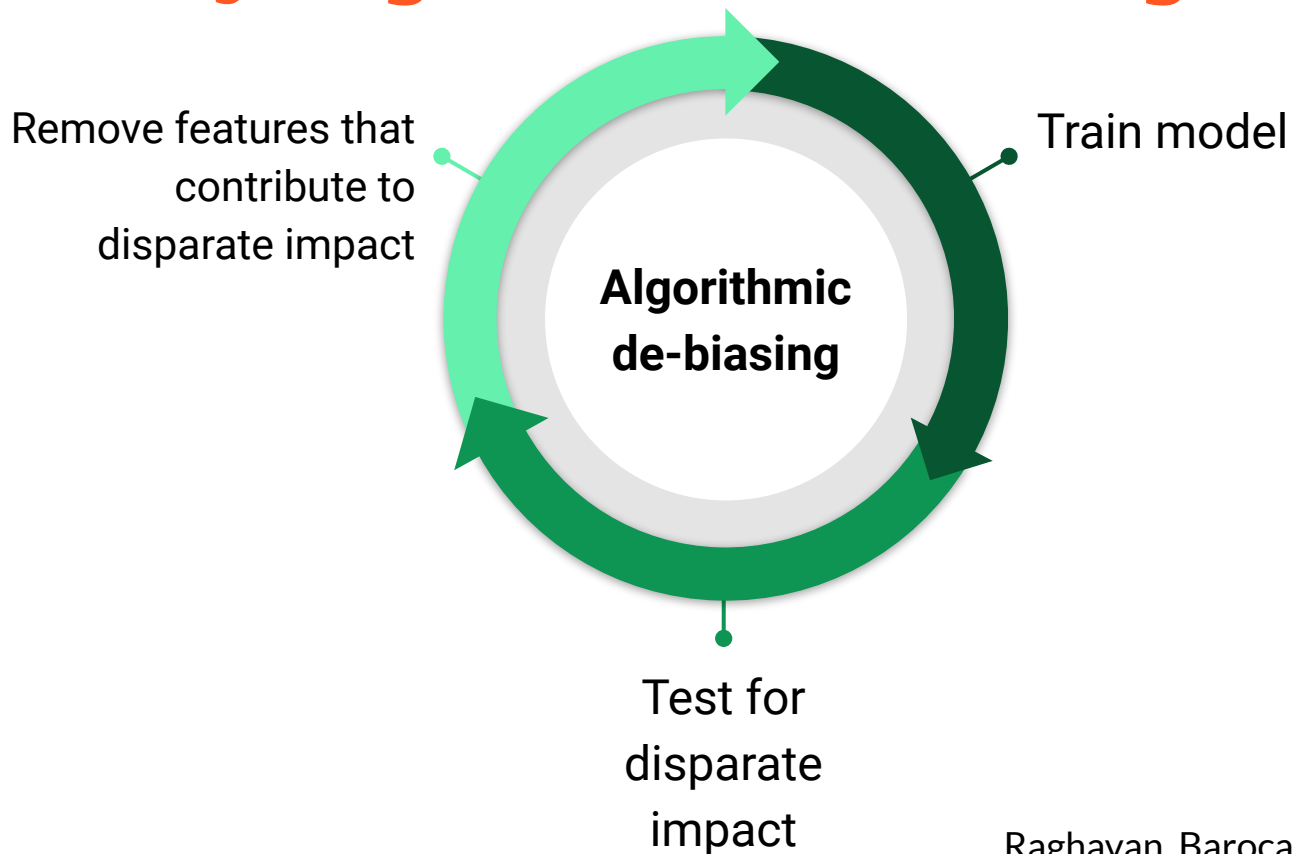
- Extraordinary ability to execute
- Great ability to persuade
- Extraordinary decision making skills
- Extraordinary ability to innovate
- Average ability to adapt

✉ anika.agarwal@email.com

📄 Resume

📄 Cover Letter

Case study: Algorithmic De-biasing



Takeaways

- Wide range of possible metrics
- Contextually dependent (advertising, search, assessments...)
- Rapidly changing legal environment

Online platforms





What determines what people see?

Content moderation

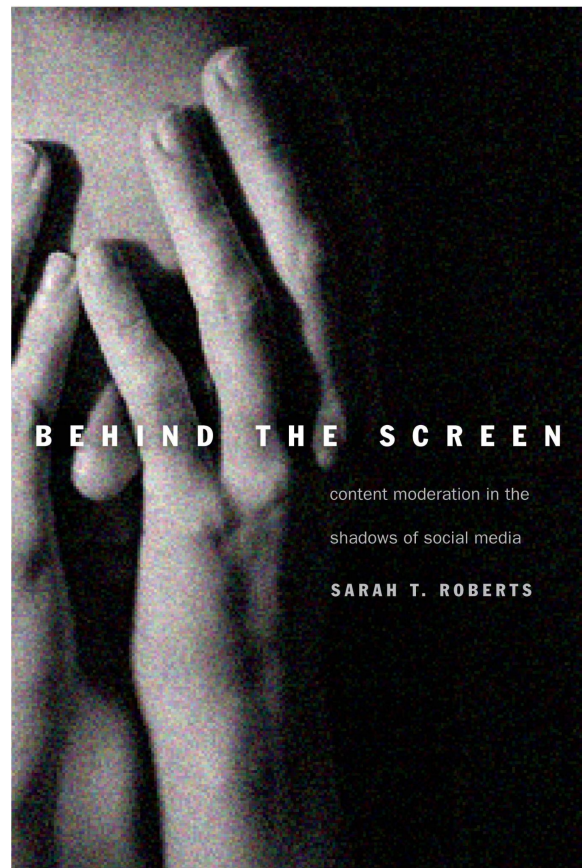
Content curation

Content moderation



Basics of content moderation

- Volume
- Hard, traumatizing work
- AI seems well-suited?



An AI problem

Given content, predict whether it violates standards...

...but how would you actually build this?

And how would you measure if it's working?

Not just an AI problem

 01/21/2022

Sen. Ted Cruz: Big Tech Censorship is the Greatest Threat to Free Speech in America

Where is the difference between moderation and censorship on tech platforms?

We ask Eric Berkowitz, author of “Dangerous Ideas” and human-rights lawyer

A Twitter censorship conundrum for Elon Musk, champion of free speech

- Musk’s biggest challenge will be how to deal with governments like Beijing, Moscow, Tehran and Kabul that censor Twitter while using it to push anti-US propaganda
- To truly protect freedom of speech, he may have to block the government-linked accounts of any country that doesn’t respect it

AI and content policy

- Given a policy, how do we use AI to implement it?
 - Where do we get labeled examples from?
- Is a given policy feasible to implement through AI?
 - More complex and nuanced rules are harder to implement
- How do you measure whether AI is doing what you want it to?
 - Are different groups held to different standards?
 - Can the public trust your measurement?

Example: Misinformation and censorship

Personality Type, as well as Politics, Predicts Who Shares Fake News

Highly impulsive people who lean conservative are more likely to share false news stories. They have a desire to create chaos and won't be deterred by fact-checkers

By many measures, conservatives share more fake news

How do we know if these are “unbiased” measures of misinformation?

Does such a measure exist?

And if it does, how would you convince a skeptic?

Content curation




Basics of content curation

- Lots of content out there
- You don't want to see most of it
- Platforms have to decide for you
- This is “The Algorithm”



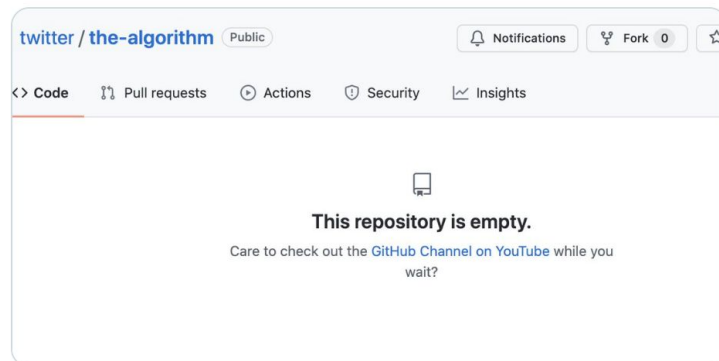
Clint Ehrlich
@ClintEhrlich



 **BREAKING:** Twitter employees are openly rebelling against Elon Musk.

He said he wanted to make the Twitter algorithm open source.

They just trolled him using Twitter's official Github: posting a public repo entitled "The Algorithm" with zero code.



11:34 PM · Apr 25, 2022



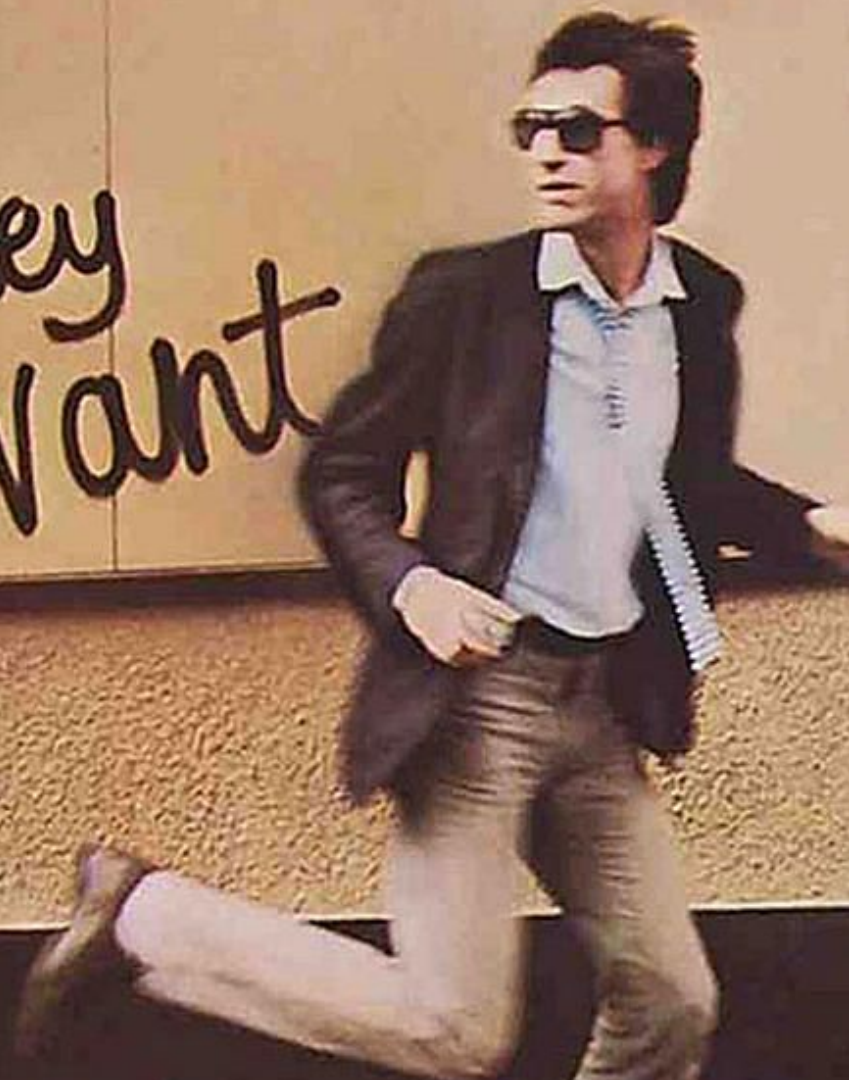
Soft censorship, bias, etc.

- Content curation presents **similar problems to moderation**
 - Which voices get elevated & suppressed?
 - And who decides?
- Measurement is similarly difficult

Is this the full story?

Give the people
what they want

**Engagement
optimization**



Engagement optimization

- The basis for how most platforms operate
- Fundamental assumption: people do what they want to do
- Therefore, we should measure and learn from behavior
- Behavioral data is ubiquitous

Is this a good assumption?

Measuring behavior isn't enough

Want vs. should

- Online groceries vs. in person [Milkman, Rogers, Bazerman 2010]
 - “Want”: ice cream
 - “Should”: vegetables
- Mail-order DVDs vs. streaming [Milkman, Rogers, Bazerman 2009]
 - “Want”: action movies
 - “Should”: documentaries

How would you measure “should” for online platforms?

Ongoing efforts

How do we learn whether users truly think content is good for them?

- Do survey responses match behavior?
- Can we learn from interventions (app crashes, break reminders, ...)?
- What else should we be measuring?



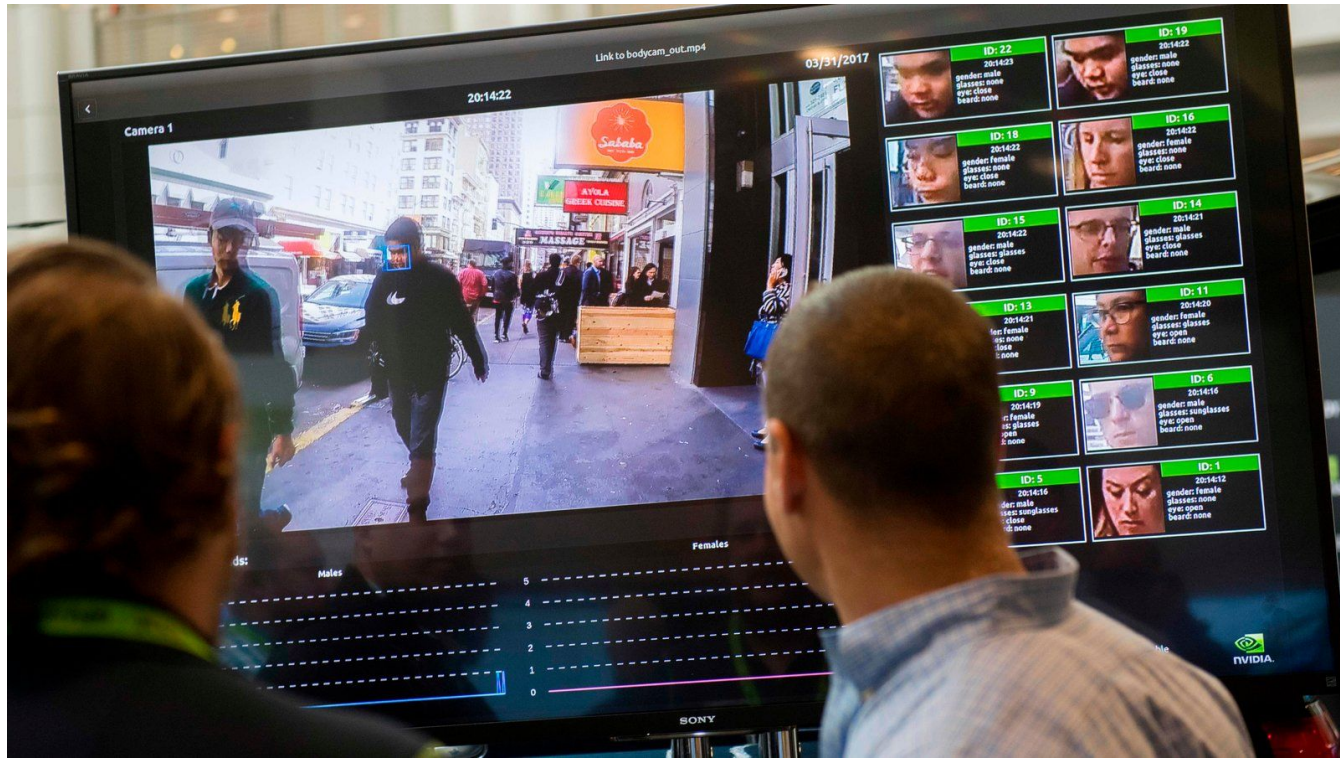
Caveats

Goodhart's Law

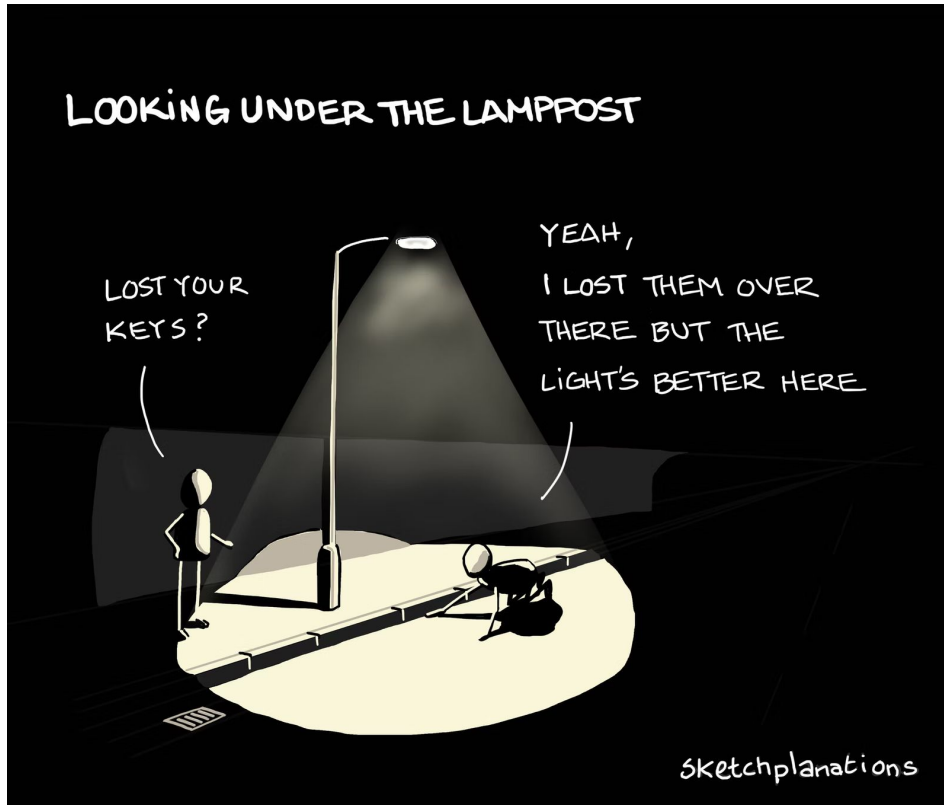


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Scope



Quantifiability



**Measurement
and metrics are
necessary, but
require caution**

Thanks!

mraghavan@g.harvard.edu