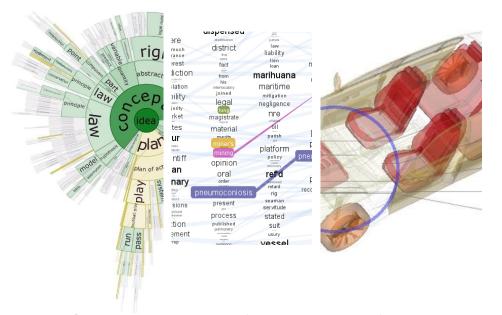


Supporting Student Success with Visual Analytics

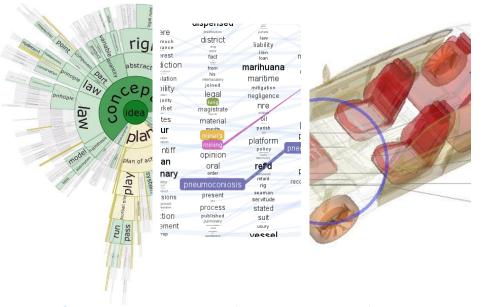
Christopher Collins Canada Research Chair and Associate Professor Ontario Tech University







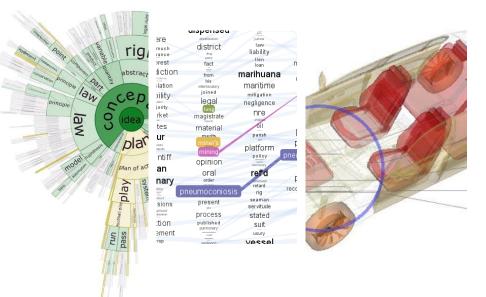
Information Visualization, Analytics, and Graphical Perception



Information Visualization, Analytics, and Graphical Perception



Interaction Design

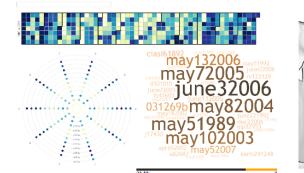


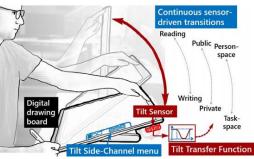
Information Visualization, Analytics,

and Graphical Perception

Interaction Design

was hung all over with a heathenish array of monstrous clubs and spears. Some were thickly set with glittering teeth resembling ivory saws; others were tufted with knots of human hair; and one was sickle-shaped, with a vast handle sweeping round like the segment made in the new-mown grass by a long-armed mower. You

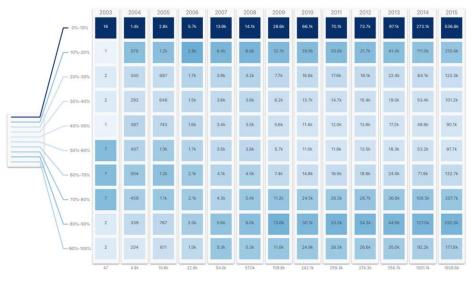




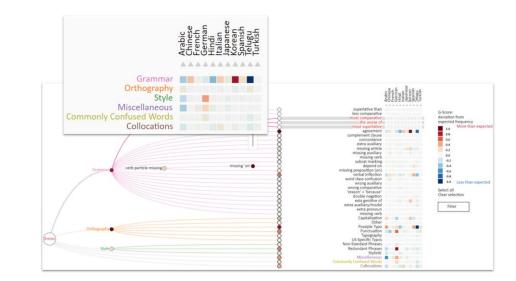
Areas of application: education, software, productivity, security, humanities, healthcare



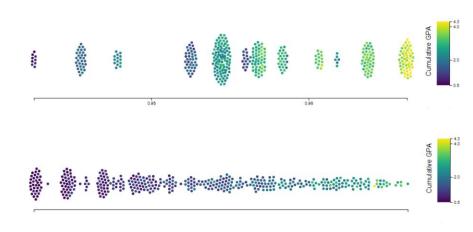
Document Annotation Tools



Large-scale Text Analytics



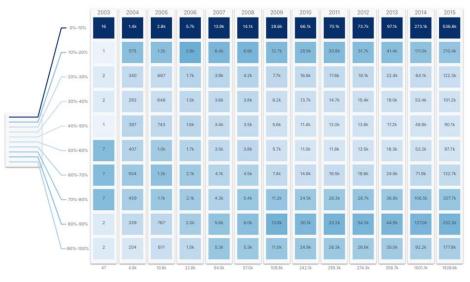
Apps for Language Learning



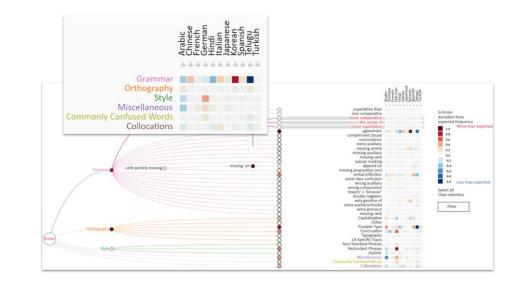
Explainable Machine Learning



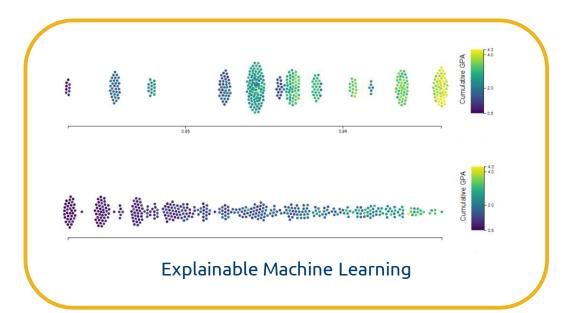
Document Annotation Tools



Large-scale Text Analytics

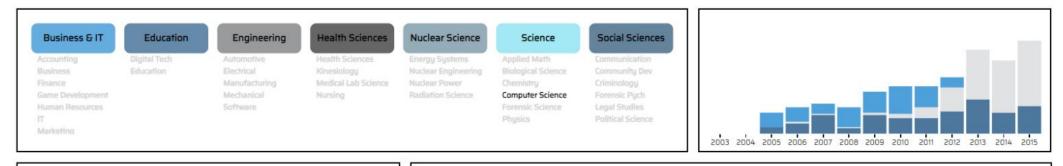


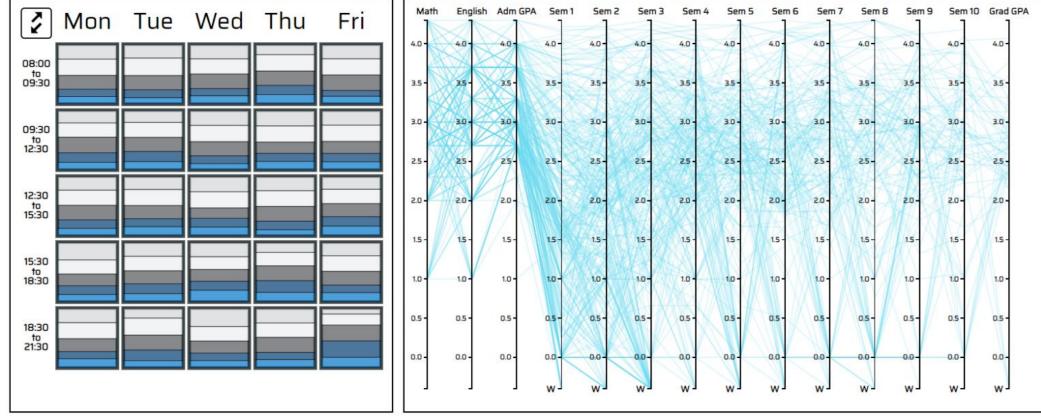
Apps for Language Learning



Riley Weagant, Taylor Smith, Michael Lombardo

CASE STUDY: DASHBOARD FOR INSTITUTIONAL ANALYTICS





Business & IT

Accounting Business Finance Game Development Human Resources IT Marketing

Education

Digital Tech / Education E

Engineering

Automotive Electrical Manufacturing Mechanical Software

Health Sciences

Health Sciences Kinesiology Medical Lab Science Nursing

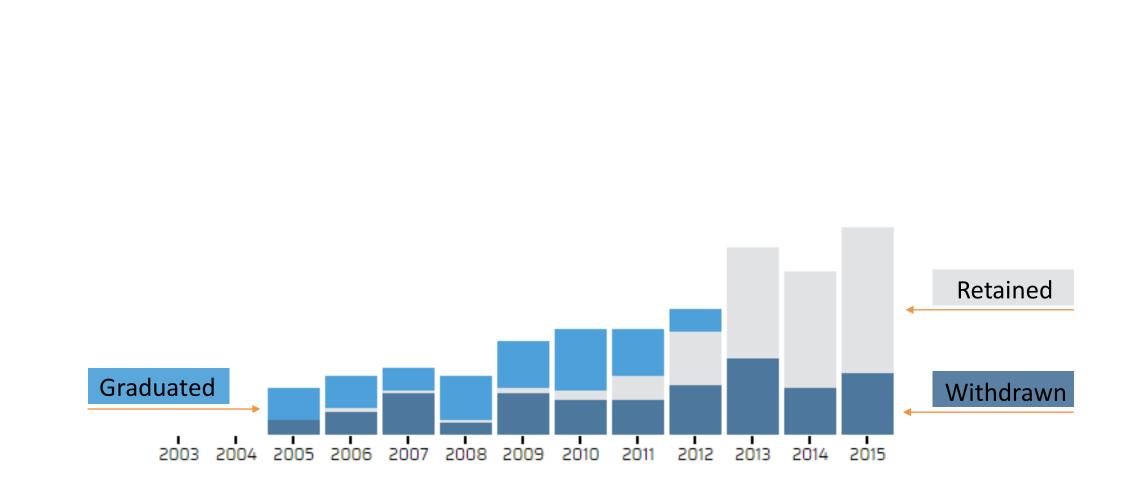
Nuclear Science

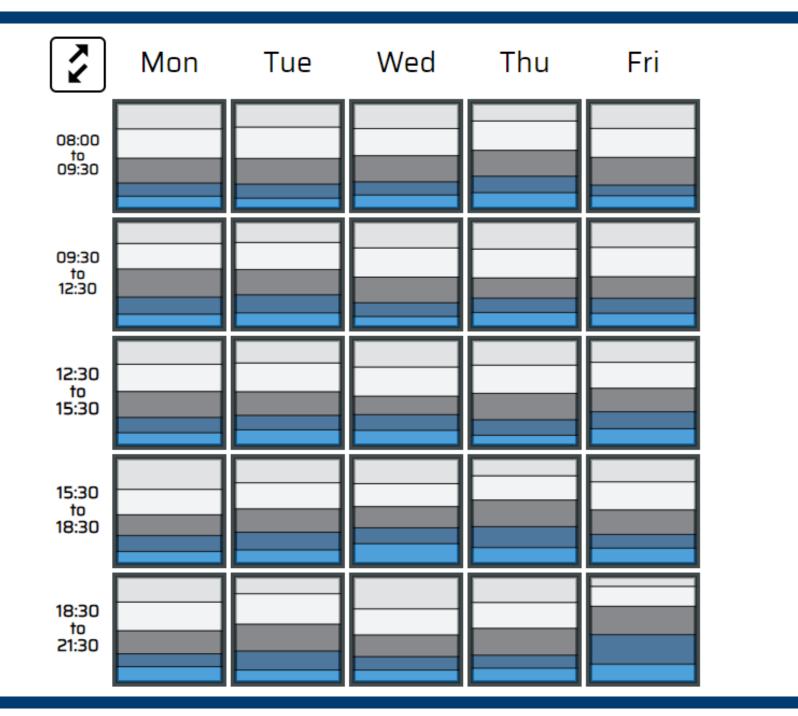
Energy Systems Nuclear Engineering Nuclear Power Radiation Science

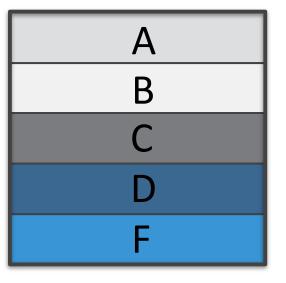
Science

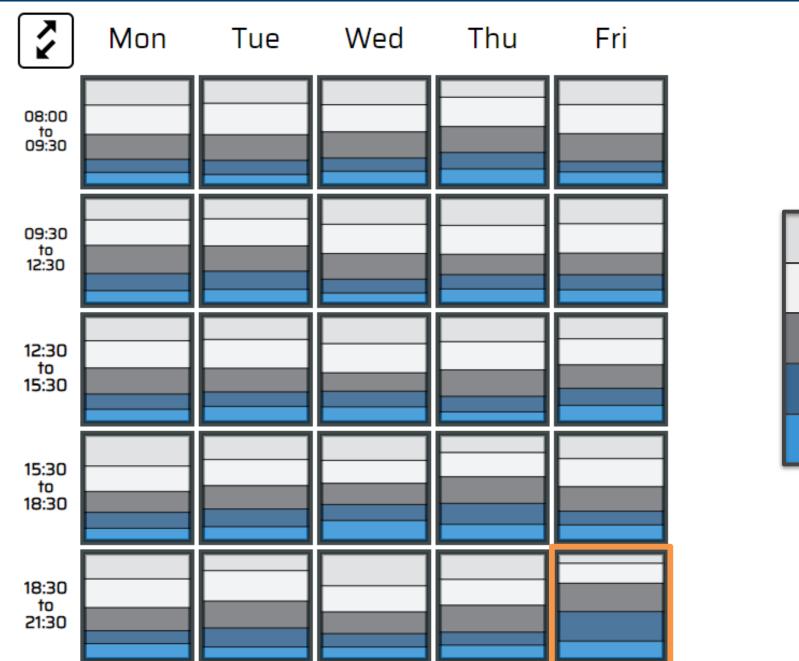
Applied Math Biological Science Chemistry Computer Science Forensic Science Physics Social Sciences

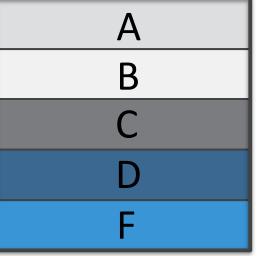
Communication Community Dev Criminology Forensic Pych Legal Studies Political Science











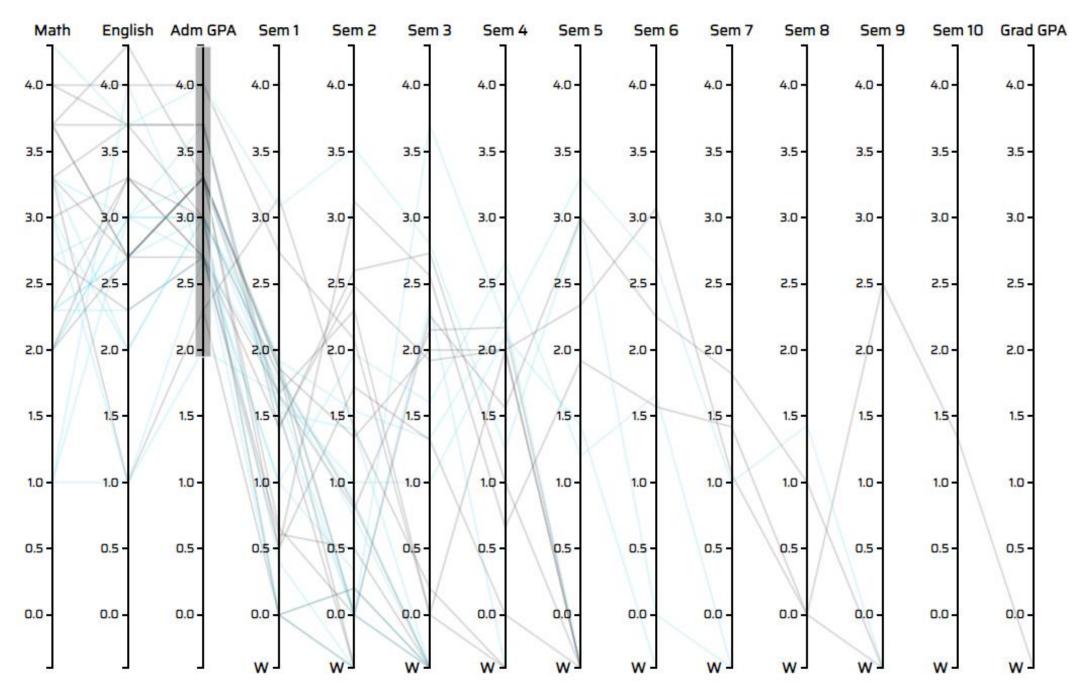
Math	English	Adm GPA	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5	Sem 6	Sem 7	Sem 8	Sem 9	Sem 10	Grad GPA
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3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -
3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -
2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -
2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0-	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -
1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -
1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -
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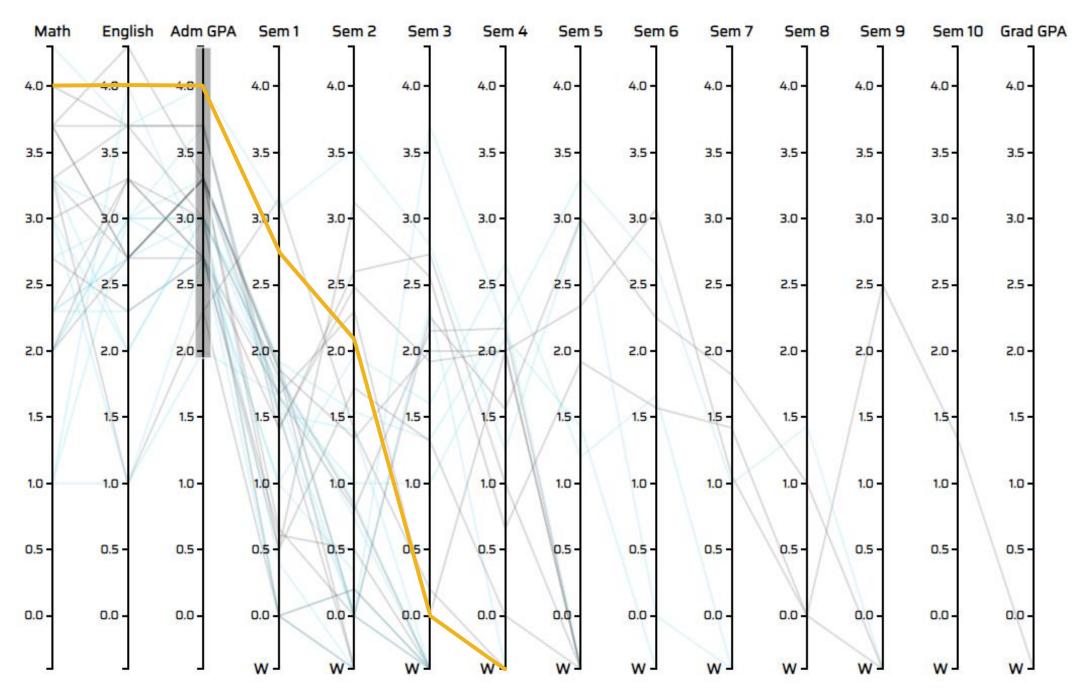
Math	English	Adm GPA	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5	Sem 6	Sem 7	Sem 8	Sem 9	Sem 10	Grad GPA
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3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -
3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -
2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -
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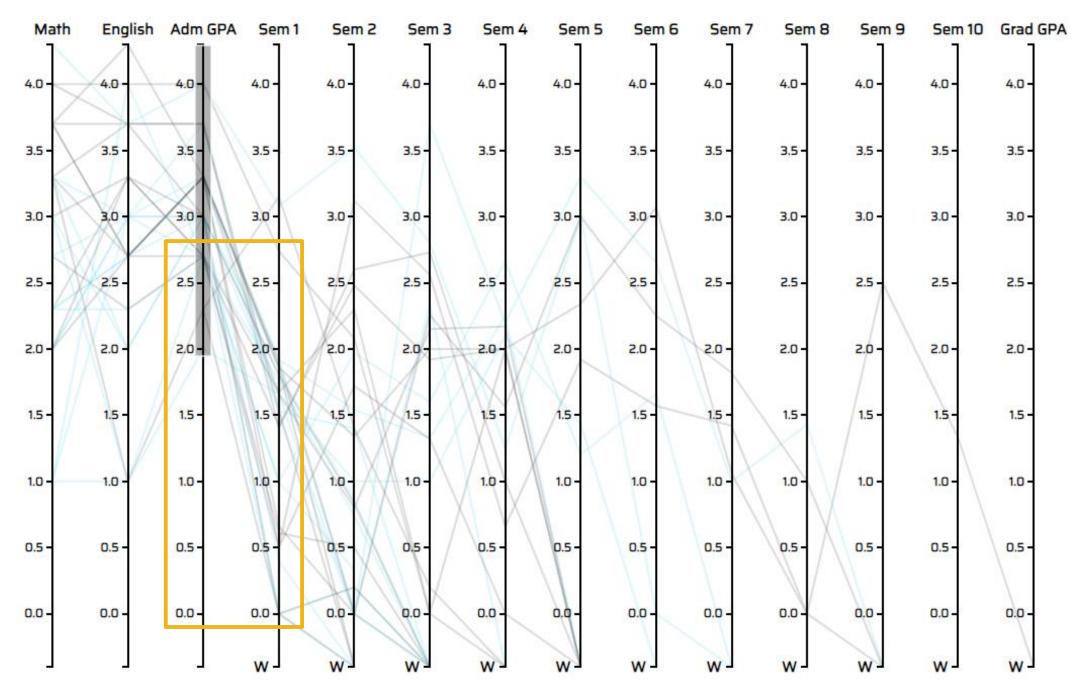
Math	English	Adm GPA	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5	Sem 6	Sem 7	Sem 8	Sem 9	Sem 10	Grad GPA
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3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -
3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -
2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -
2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -
1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -	1.5 -
1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -	1.0 -
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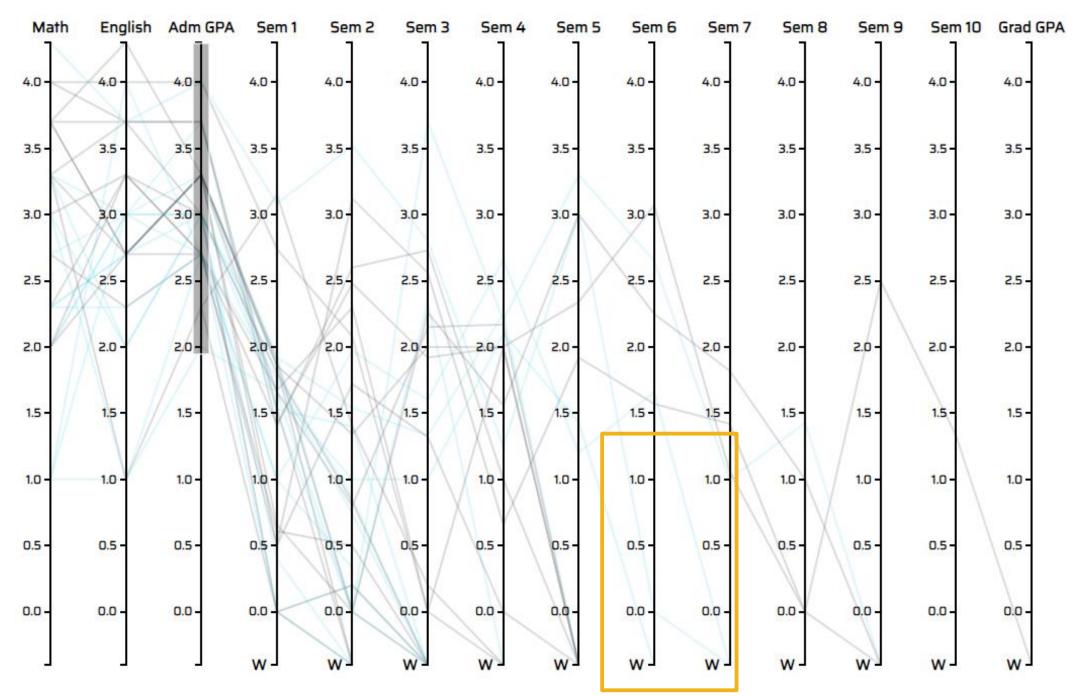
Math T	English T	Adm GPA	Sem 1	Sem 2 7	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5 7	Sem 6 7	Sem 7 7	Sem 8 7	Sem 9 7	Sem 10 T	Grad GPA
4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -
3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -
3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -
2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -
2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -	2.0 -
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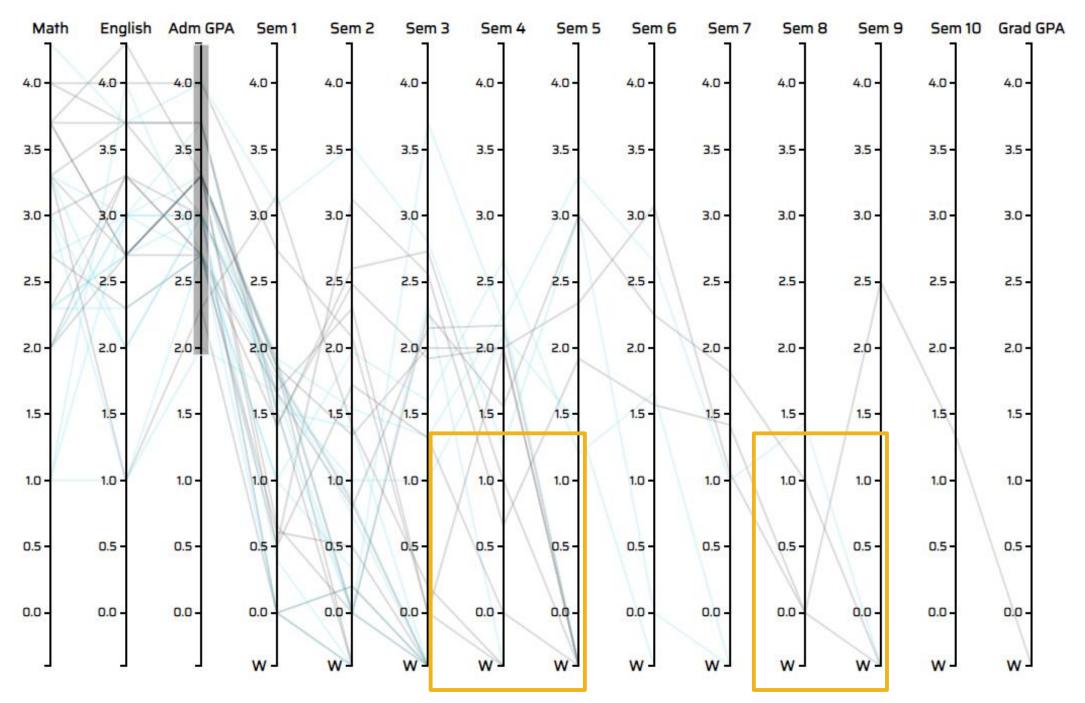
Math	English	Adm GPA	Sem 1	Sem 2	Sem 3	Sem 4	Sem 5	Sem 6	Sem 7	Sem 8	Sem 9	Sem 10	Grad GPA
4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -	4.0 -
3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -	3.5 -
3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -	3.0 -
2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -	2.5 -
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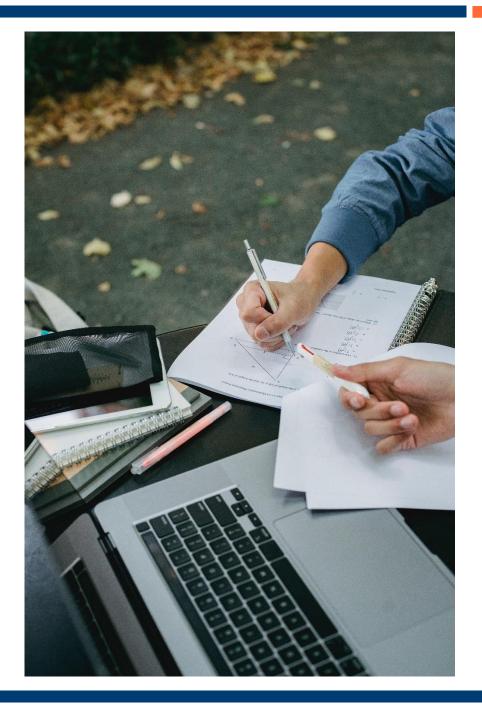




I'm struggling...

What courses should I take?

What should I focus on?

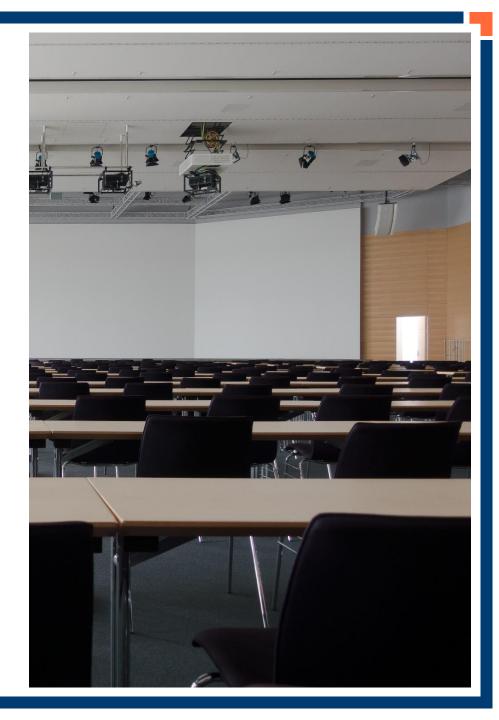


Some students are leaving...

Can data-driven advice help?

We need to reduce revenue loss.

How to improve outcomes and reputation?





Riley Weagant

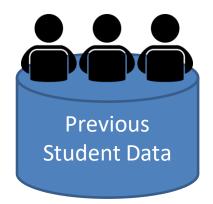
CASE STUDY: SUPPORTING RETENTION WITH MACHINE LEARNING

Data

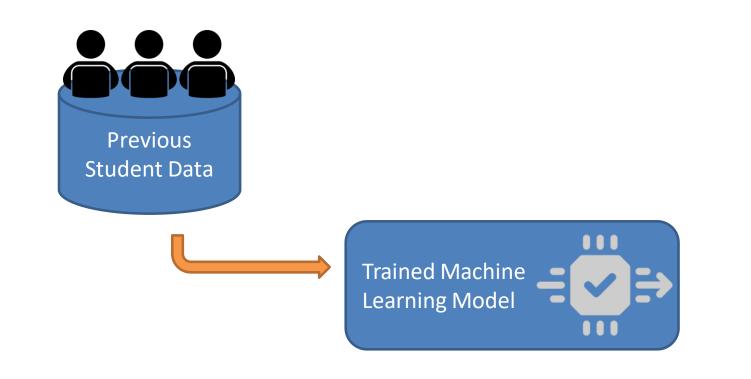
- All course outcomes, all students (anonymized)
- Admission GPA
- Retention status

De	mographic	Inforn	nation	Course Information						
id	year		adm_gpa	ACHL0100T	ACHL0201T		WMST1000T	WRIT1001T		
1	2010		2.3	С	0		0	A-		
2	2005		3.3	0	0		0	0		
3	2007		3.0	D	С		0	0		
4	2011		4.3	0	0		А	B-		
5	2008		3.7	0	A+		0	0		

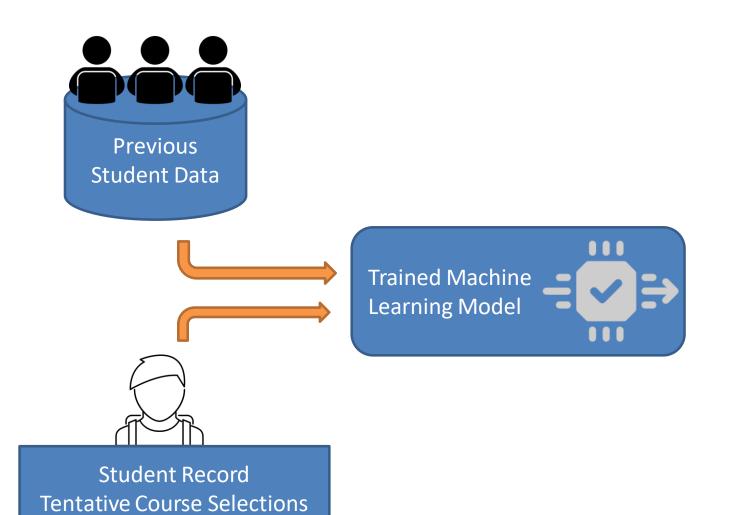
Predictive Model

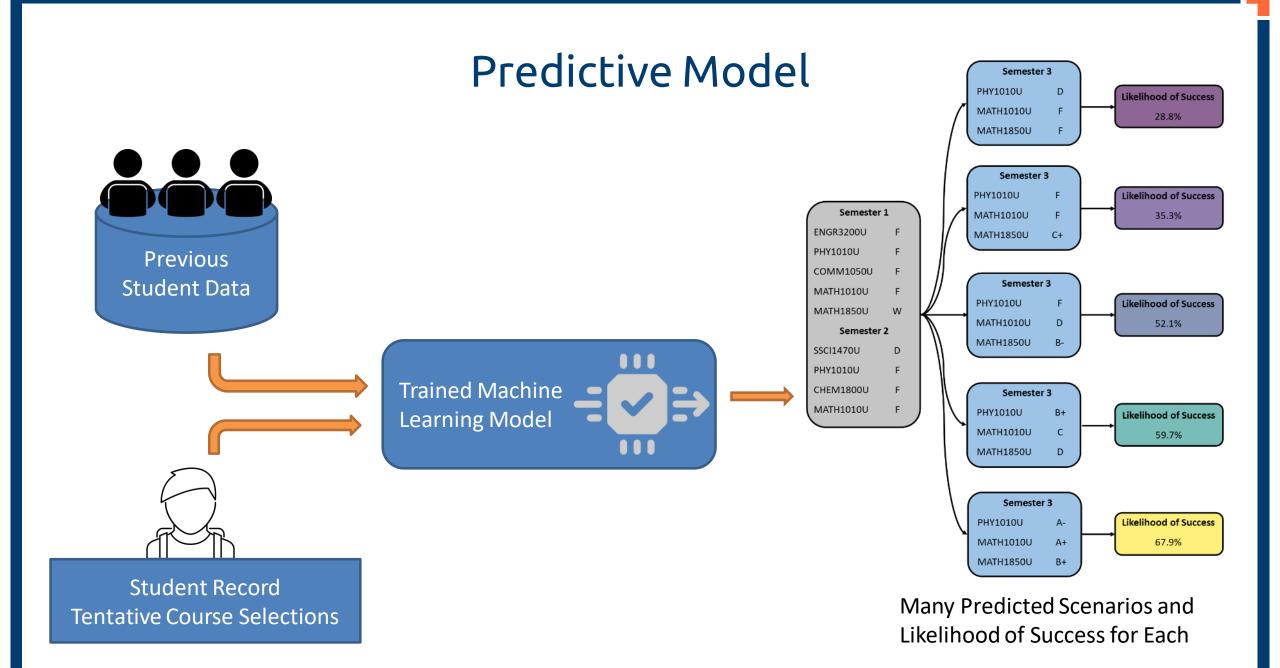


Predictive Model



Predictive Model







Student ID (6 digits):

Current semester number:

Student ID: 186381

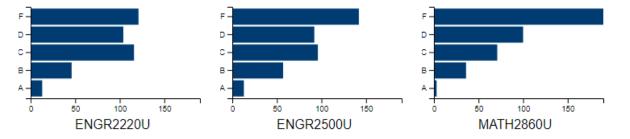
Add Course

Submit

Courses (up to 7):



Withdraw





Success

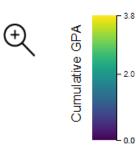
- 3.8

- 2.0

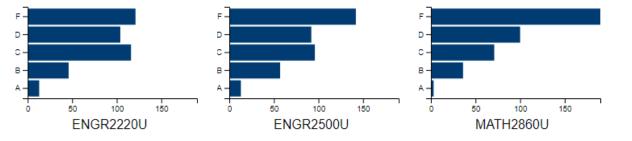
- 0.0



visualization for information analysis		Student ID: 18	6381		
Student ID (6 digits):]				
Current semester number:					
Courses (up to 7):	Add Course				
Submit		Withdraw			



Success





Student ID (6 digits):

Courses (up to 7):

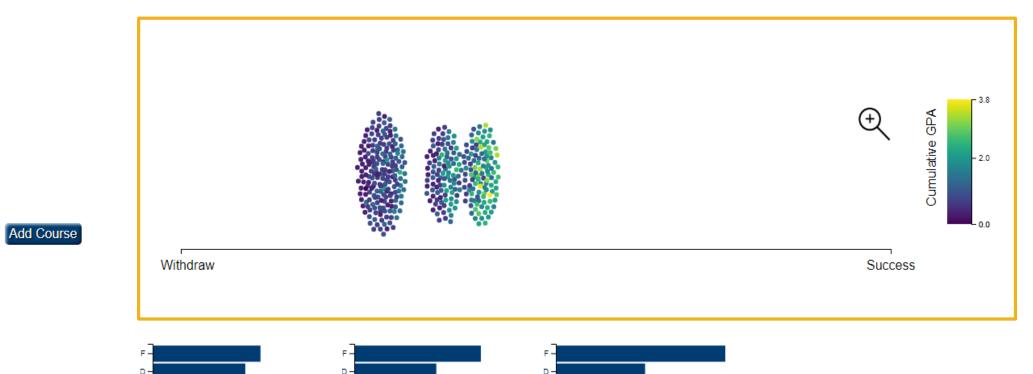
Submit

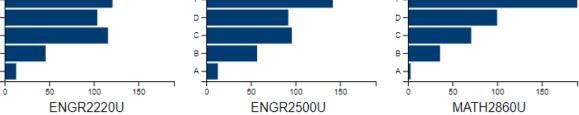
Current semester number:

Student ID: 186381

с-

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Student ID (6 digits):

Current semester number:

Student ID: 186381

Add Course

Cumulative GPA

Success

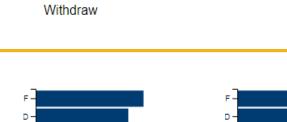
- 3.8

- 2.0

- 0.0

Submit

Courses (up to 7):



100

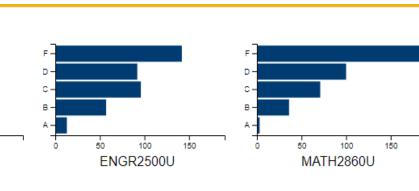
ENGR2220U

150

50

C.

в-



Case Study - Holly

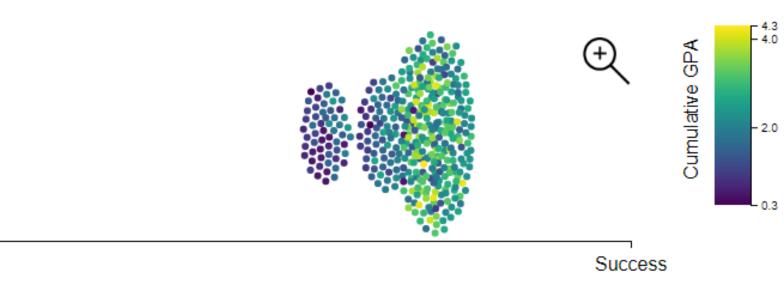
- Involved in clubs and varsity sports
- Struggled with Calculus and Physics
- Increased course load
- Increased demand from varsity team

Program	Software Engineering
Semester 1 GPA	2.88
Semester 2 GPA	1.67
Cumulative GPA	2.27

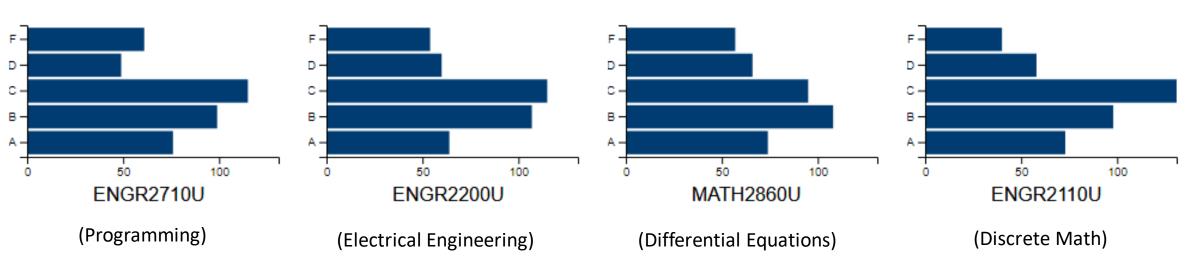
Holly's Plan

- Predict likelihood of success in semester 3
- 4 required courses and a liberal studies elective

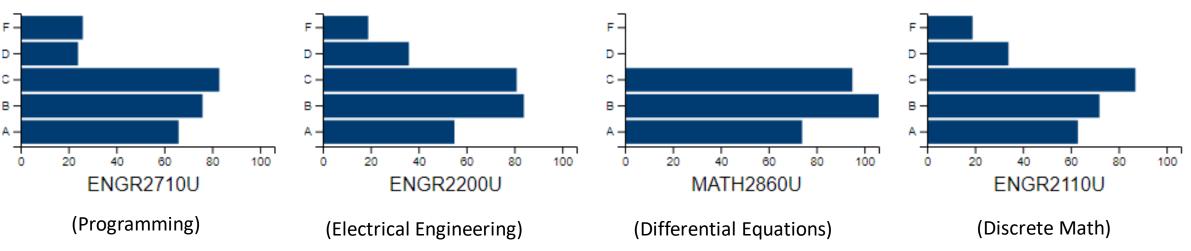
Course Code	Course Name
ENGR2110U	Discrete Mathematics
ENGR2200U	Elec. Eng. Fundamentals
ENGR2710U	Object Oriented Programming
MATH2860U	Differential Equations



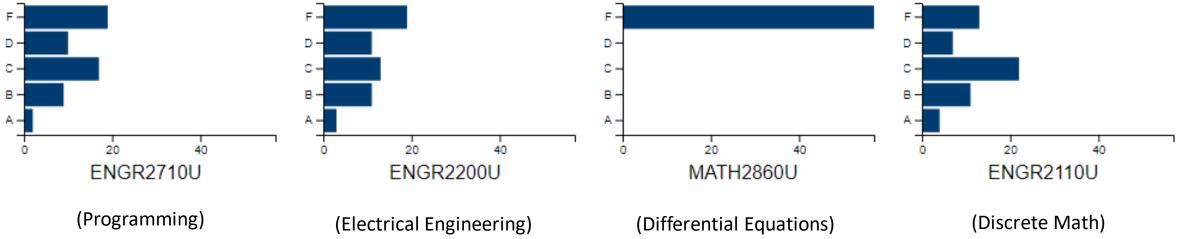
Withdraw





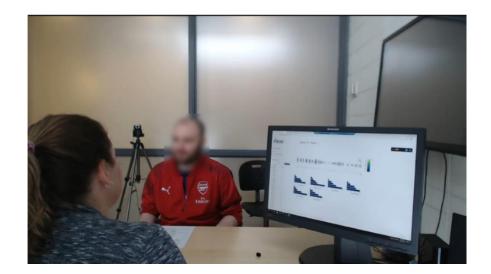


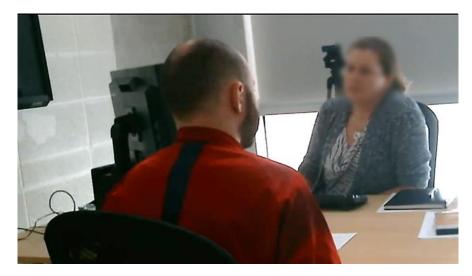




Impact

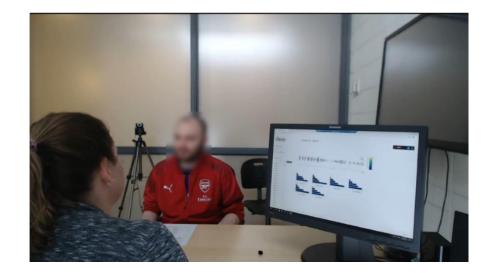
- 10 mock advising sessions conducted
- Students assigned a *persona* for the experience

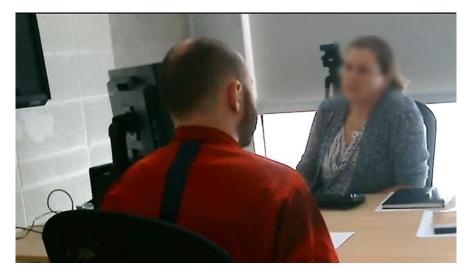




Impact

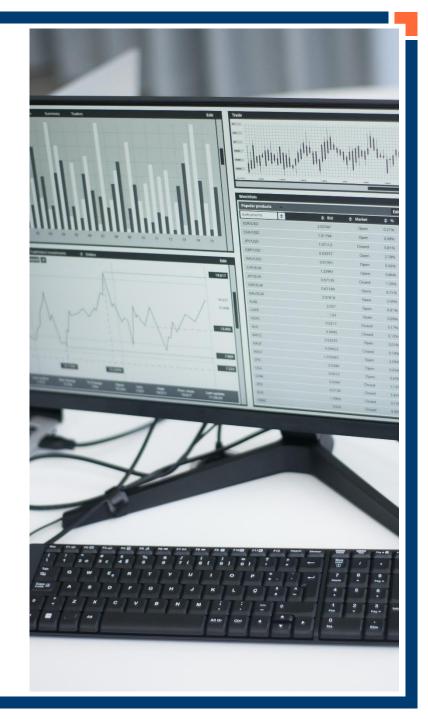
- 10 mock advising sessions conducted
- Students assigned a *persona* for the experience
- "Motivating", "Explore different paths"
- 3 of 4 advisors wanted to continue to use the system; the fourth wanted more training
- Use of technology introduced long stretches of silence (data input, interpretation)
 - Two students were not aware that the advisor was viewing data related to their case

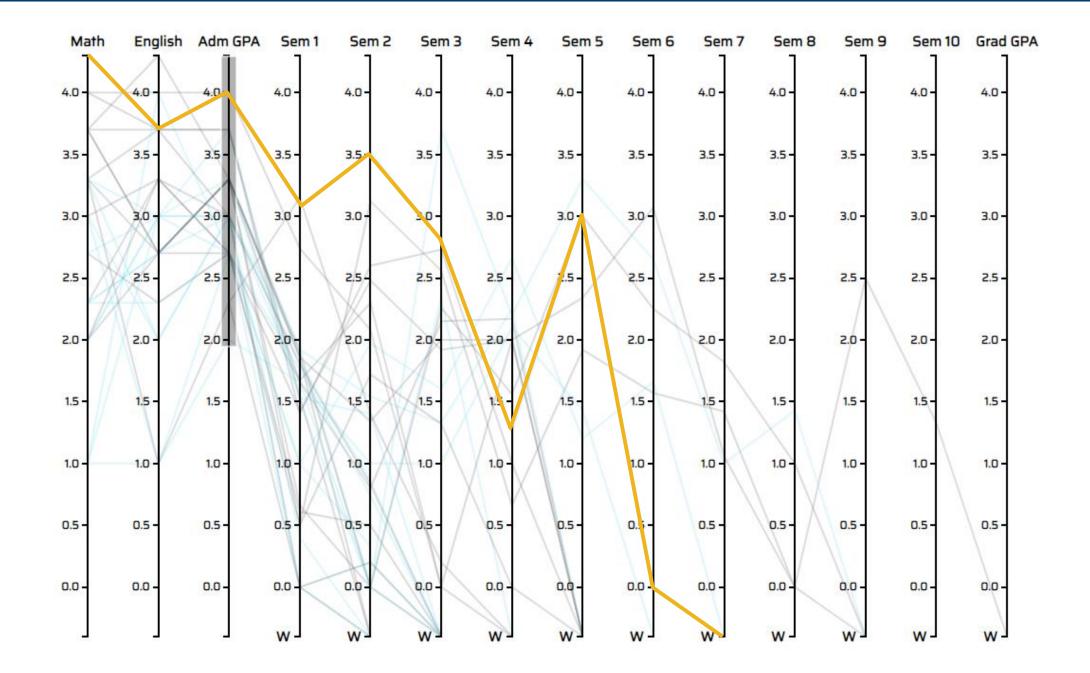




Limitations

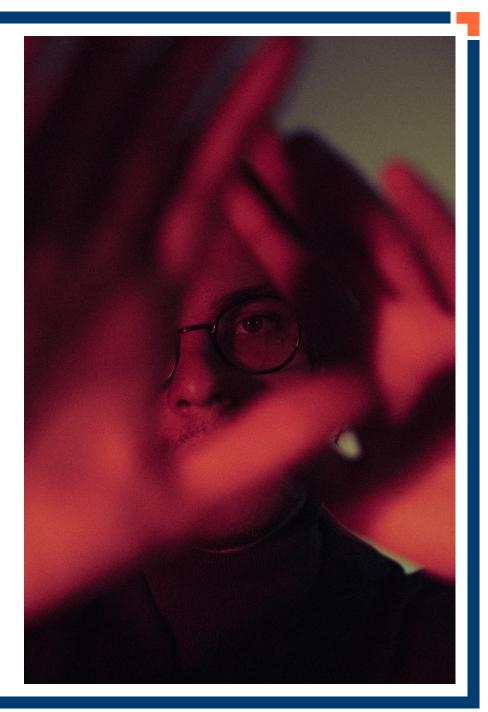
- Data quality issues can impact prediction confidence
 - Courses change names, numbers
 - Unusual paths are underrepresented in the data
 - Students withdraw early, when we have the least info





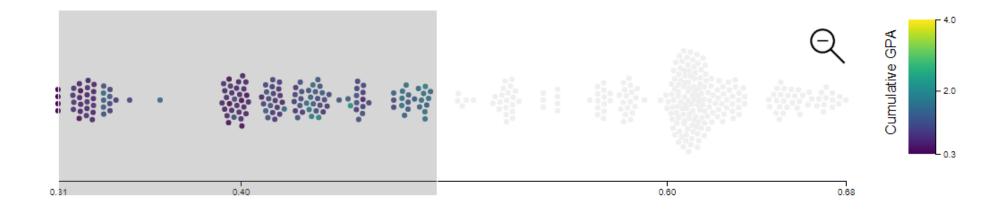
Limitations

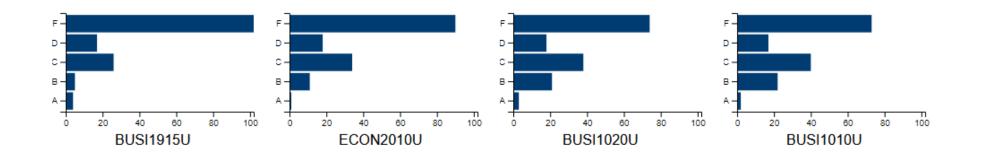
- Limited view of inputs and predictions
 - Data does not account for all the impacts on student success especially personal circumstances
 - Predictions only vary courses and grades



Cautions

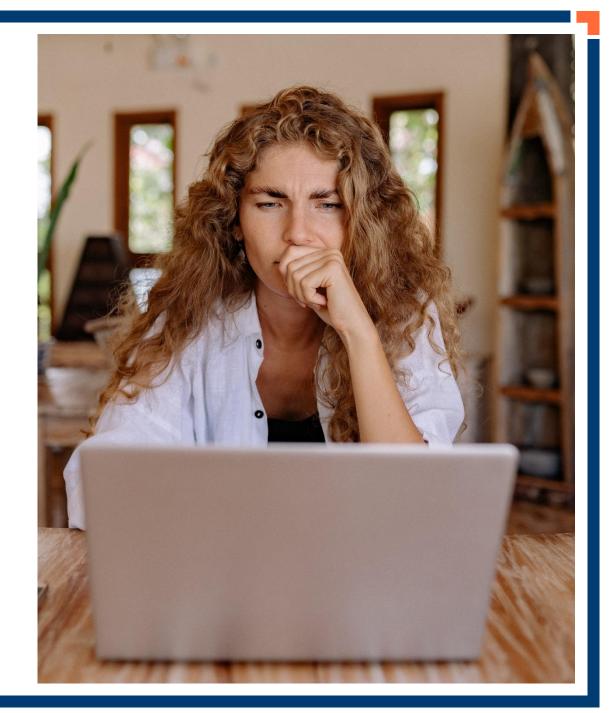
• Predicting failure can demotivate – other mental health impacts?

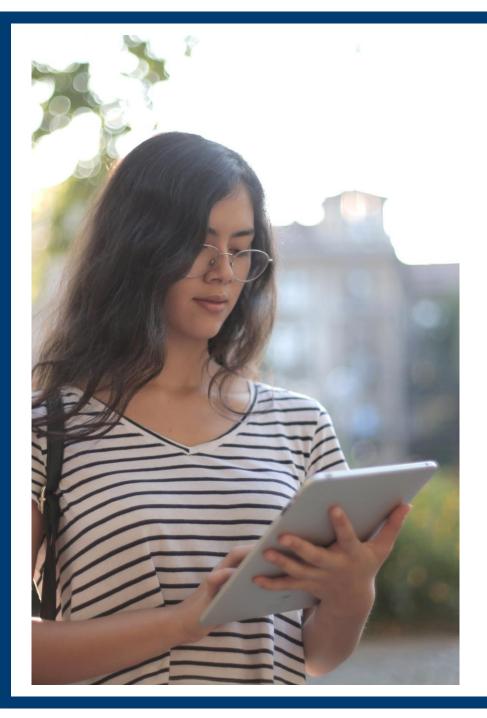




Uncertain Interpretation

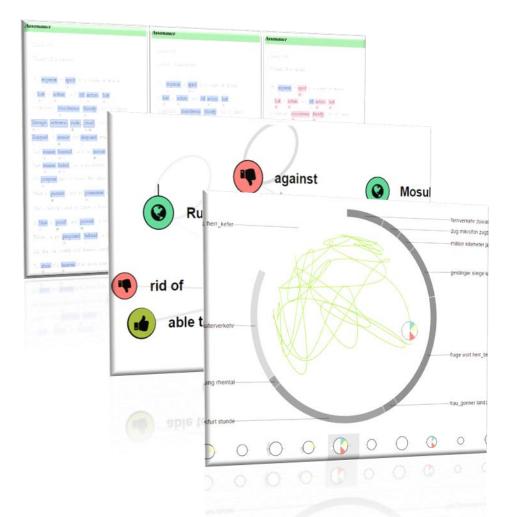
- People struggle to judge uncertainty
- Personality traits (optimistic/pessimistic) bias interpretation
- More AI explanation and detail is not always better (slower/more complex)





Moving Forward

- *Human-in-the-loop*, AI-informed advising strategy
- Ethical AI, guard against inappropriate predictions
- Train staff to use analytics with students
- Empower students to examine data
- Integration with LMS/Registration systems
- Should we harvest more data?
 - Time on campus (WiFi connections)
 - Contacts with advising
 - Messages and time spent in LMS
 - Demographic data





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POUR L'INNOVATION

Christopher.Collins@ontariotechu.ca http://vialab.ca





Ontario





Council on University Planning and Analysis (CUPA) conference 2022

@isabel pedersen

June 21, 2022







Chaires de recherche du Canada

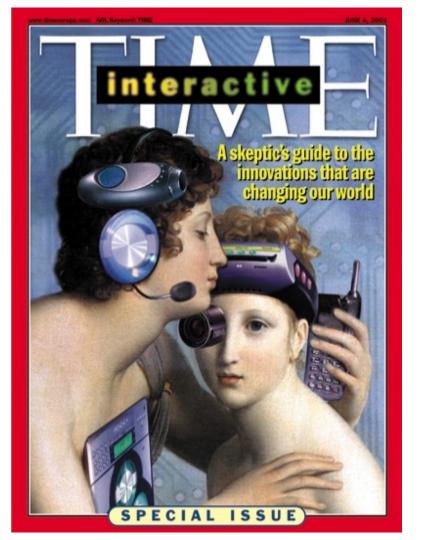


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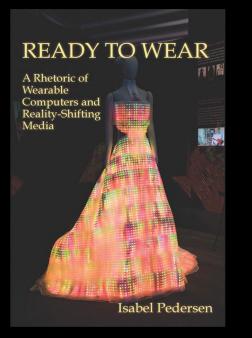
Chairs





Time Magazine June 2001





Embodied Computing Verrables, Implantables, Embeddables, Ingestibles

como er Isabel Pedersen an Andrew Iliadis

Ready to Wear Isabel Pedersen Parlor Press 2013 Embodied Computing Isabel Pedersen and Andrew Iliadis MIT Press 2020 Writing Futures Ann Hill Duin and Isabel Pedersen Springer 2021

Springer

Forthcoming Augmentation Technology Ann Hill Duin and Isabel Pedersen Routledge 2023

Studies in Computational Intelligence 969

Writing Futures:

Collaborative,

Algorithmic,

Autonomous

Ann Hill Duin

Isabel Pedersen

Animal=setclass("Animal")

function inal.methods:init(action, cutename) cell.superaction = action ff.supercutename = cutename end

cliger=setclass("Tiger", cAnimal)

Amble

'Around bodies'

function self:init_cutenane) self:init_super("HUNI" fl.action = "ROAR FOR MEHT self.cutename = cutename end



MIT press, 2020

Continuum of Embodiment

'On bodies'

Embodied Computing:

edited by Isabel Pedersen & Andrew Iliadis

Wearables, Implantables, Embeddables, Ingestibles

Visceral 'In bodies'

Smartwatches brain interfaces ingestible tech robots smart cities Smartphones AR/VR headsets neural implants remote facial recognition

Biometric Data & Artificial Intelligence

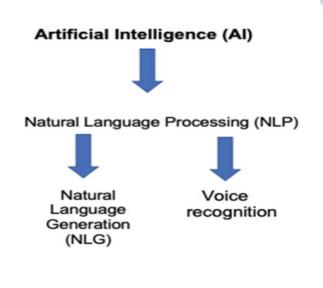
Image credit: https://www.maxpixel.net/Data-Computer-Hacking-Hack-Technology-Coding-Code-2275593

AI Writers

What are they? Are we prepared?

Case Study on AI writers and Automating writing

"Professional writing and digital publishing platform companies increasingly require human writers to employ AI for automating and analyzing writing tasks across a range of functions that are becoming ever more intertwined."



Writing Futures: Collaborative, Algorithmic, Autonomous

Ann Hill Duin and Isabel Pedersen Springer 2021 P. 91



Case Study on AI writers and Automating writing



Fig. 4.3 Screenshot of AI Writer website (Photo permission: AI Writer.com)



Artificial Humans & Digital Teachers

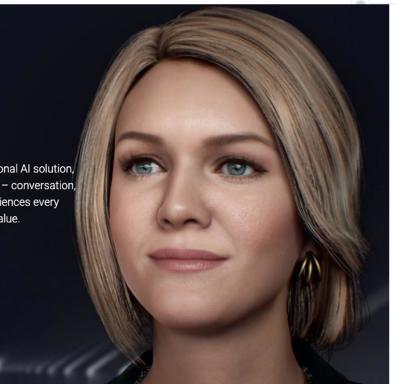
What are they?

Are we prepared?

$M = L M^{\circ}$ Conversational Al

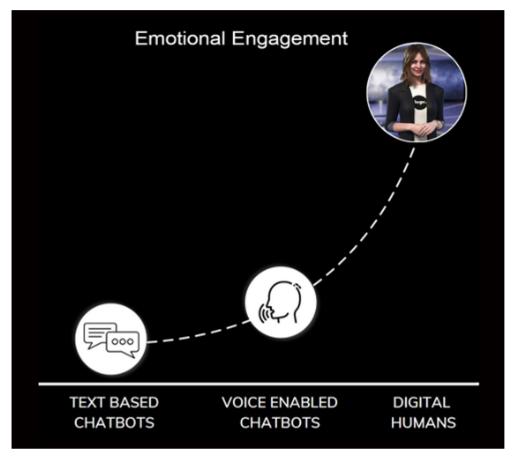
As the market-leading Digital Employee and Conversational AI solution, Amelia delivers the best elements of human interaction – conversation, expression, emotion and understanding – to user experiences every day, driving deeper connections and greater business value.

Request a Demo



https://amelia.ai

Video https://fabricofdigitallife.com/Detail/objects/539



"Digital humans elevate today's chatbots and are quickly becoming the ultimate user interface."

> Quantum Capture

https://www.quantumcapture.com/why-use-a-virtual-human

Soul Machines

Say hello to Digital People

Create a digital workforce that enhances your web experience today and your metaverse experience tomorrow.

I understand how to get the best experience talking to Viola and give consent to use my camera and mic

TALK TO VIOLA

https://fabricofdigitallife.com/Detail/objects/

https://fabricofdigitallife.com/Detail/objects/

Soul Machines: Education use case



Use Cases Products Technology Resources Contact

Request a Demo Q



We tend to forget that online education started two decades ago and the confinement imposed by the pandemic has only accelerated its advancement and acceptance. The positive impact of digital learning tools is becoming measurable and mobile learning is expanding at a fast pace thanks to improve communications and 50 technology. Use Cases Products Technology Resources Contact

Request a Demo Q

online education started two decades ago and the confinement imposed by the pandemic has only accelerated its

advancement and acceptance. The positive impact of digital learning tools is becoming measurable and mobile learning is expanding at a fast pace thanks to improved communications and 5G technology.

- 63% of US high school students use digital learning tools daily
- 81% of US college students agree that digital learning tools help them improve their grades
- In 2017, approximately 77% of US corporations used online learning, but 98% planned to incorporate it in their program by 2020.

Despite the positive transformation that is underway, online and mobile education must continue evolving and offer 1:1 personalization to make sure that the success of the students is not undermined by a lack of empathy and attention. Institutions also need to build scalable platforms which can deliver high-quality programs to an unprecedented number of students while coping with the alarming shortage of educators exacerbated by the pandemic (early retirement, burnout, demotivation to onboard eLearning).

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is an essential enabler to solve this problem. It is already well deployed for Natural Language Processing (NLP), context awareness, and other capabilities enhancing human-machine communications. But, a unique emerging value of AI in education will be the personalization of interactions with students and employees in training so they can thrive with digital learning technologies.

Soul Machines, the leader in humanizing AI

Since 2016, Soul Machines has been humanizing Al through a visual platform that is able to contextualize human interactions and interpret difficult elements such as tone of voice, cadence, and facial expressions. Soul Machines' patented Human OS Platform with Autonomous Animation is the basis for the creation of Digital PeopleTM who have the capacity to process complex information, take inputs, and respond accordingly.

Digital People can hear, see, understand, think and relate to customers autonomously in real-time and in as many as 12 languages. In education, their empathic human behavior transforms impersonal online interactions into meaningful visual connections making the students feel supported and mentored through their academic endeavors.

Case Study: Marketing AI Agents for Learning environments



Figure 3. Canbot's robot teaches a child at home without the presence of a human teacher

AI Agents, Humans and Untangling the Marketing of Artificial Intelligence in Learning Environments

Isabel Pedersen & Ann Hill Duin, 2022

Conference: 55th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences | 2022



Human-autonomy teaming

- How might educators think and respond critically to proposed teams of humans and autonomous agents?
- How should we envision the future of communication as artificial intelligence is increasingly capable of automated activities?

Metaverse as the next phase of the Internet . .

The Economist ≡ Menu

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Weekly edition Q Search \sim

Business | Schumpeter

The billionaire battle for the metaverse

£43

Forget space. The race is on to take people beyond reality



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^{Маг} 24 Upcoming Event

Social Impact of Emergent Embodied Computing ightarrow

Digital Life Institute examines the impact of digital technologies on humans.

It is an international research network of multidisciplinary scholars studying the social implications of disruptive digital technologies.

Research Clusters

https://www.digitallife.org

Special Thanks

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada







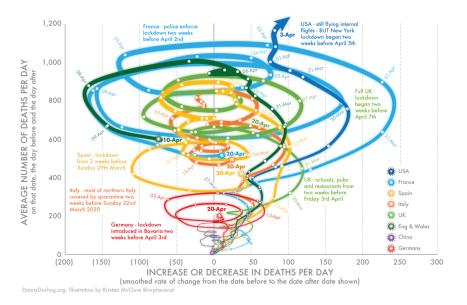
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR HUMAN-CENTERED VISUALIZATION

Tech With a Conscience: Human-Centered AI and Ethical Elements of Data Visualization and Machine Learning

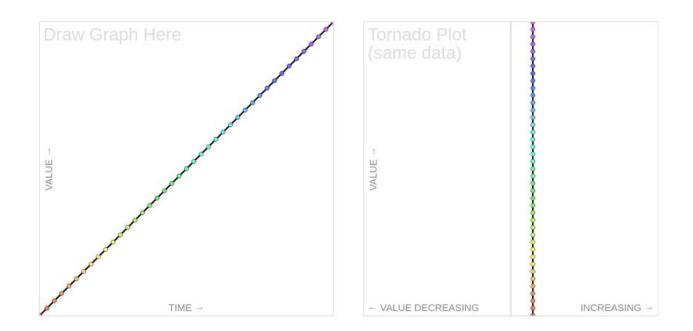
CUPA Conference June 21, 2022

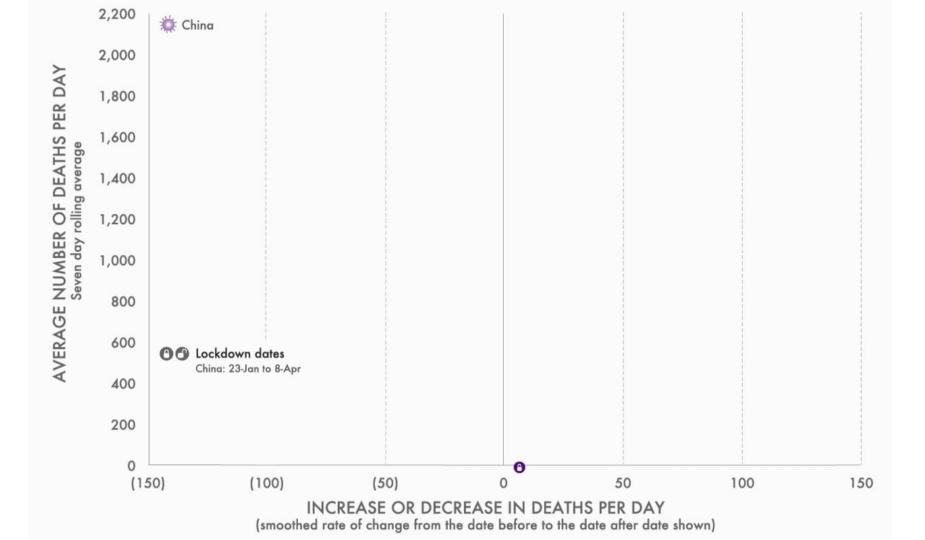
Gabby Resch, Assistant Professor Faculty of Business and Information Technology, Ontario Tech University

Challenges



- Misunderstanding Visualization
- Varying Degrees of Experience
- Avoiding Our Own Biases





- # Explore
- <u></u> Settings

Thread



Calling for a temporary ban on data visualization until we figure out what is going on



12:32 PM · Apr 28, 2020 from San Bruno, CA · Twitter for iPhone

9.1K Retweets 1.6K Quote Tweets 50.6K Likes



Emma Wager @emmawage · Apr 28

I have nothing to promote but please stay home, wash your hands, and stop publishing charts with default Excel formatting

17 96

Emma Wager @emmawage · Apr 28 And follow @CPR4healthcare!!



bambam 145K Tweets

Liberal

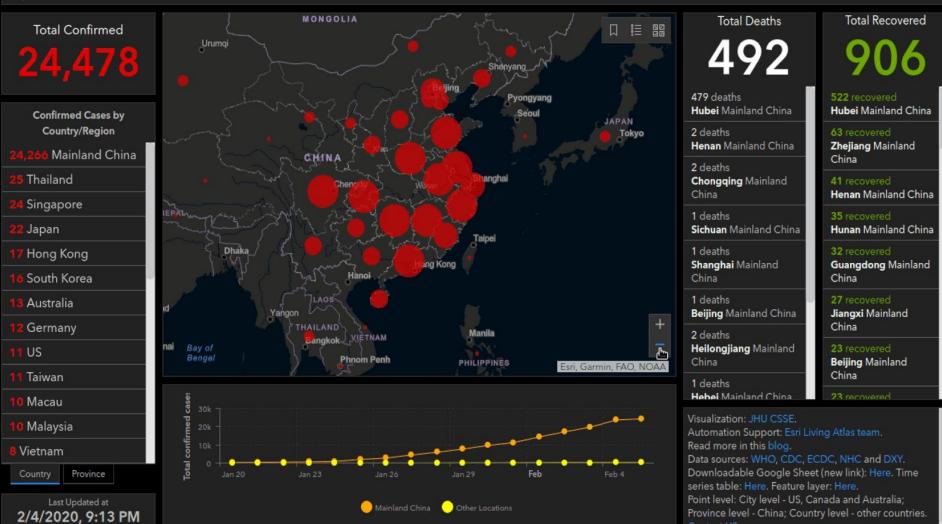


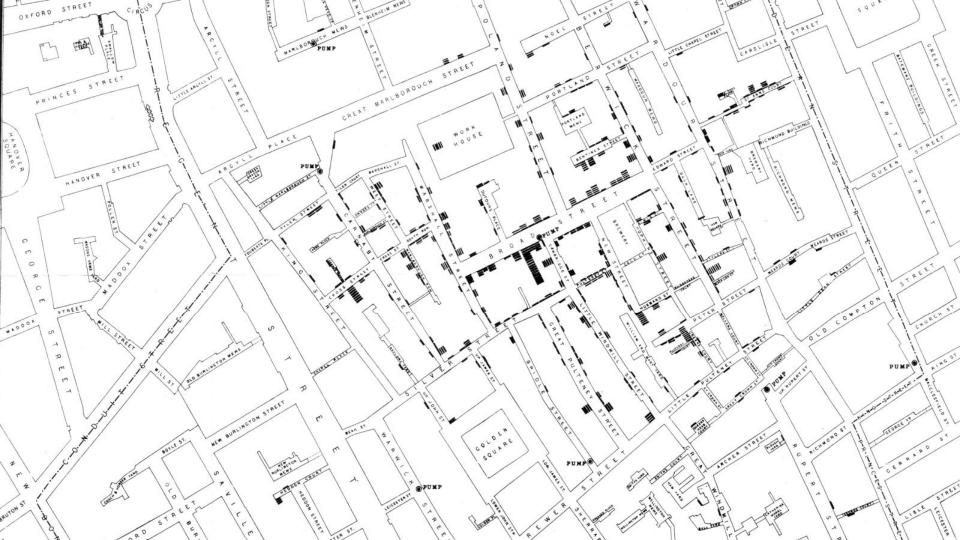
Sign up Log in

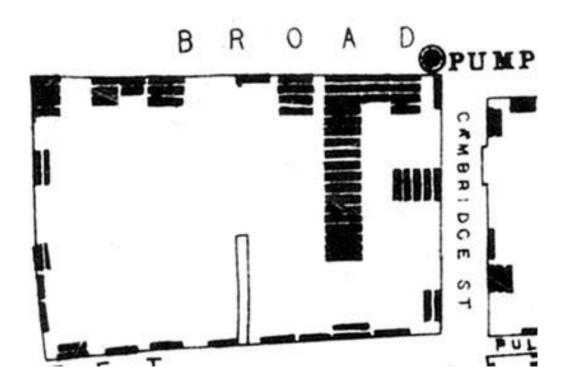
Don't miss what's happening People on Twitter are the first to know.

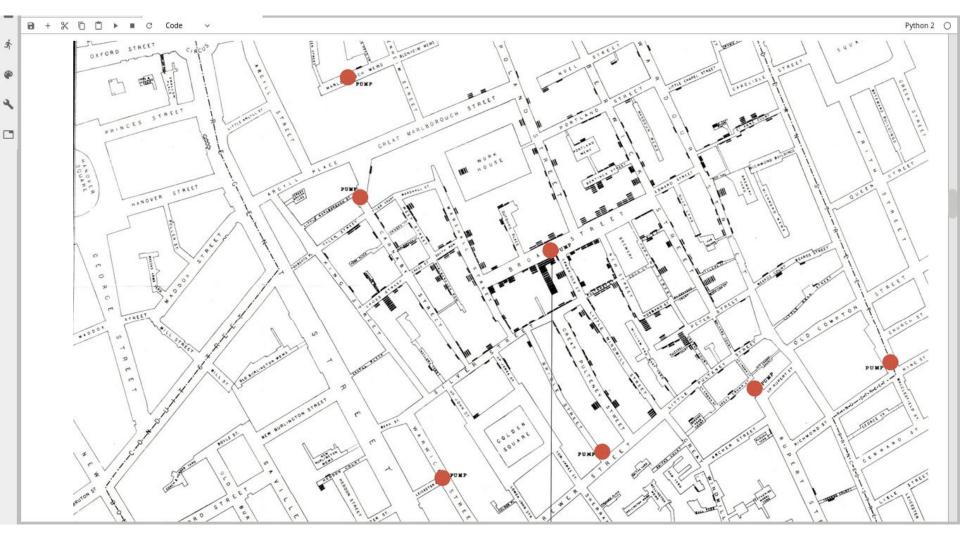


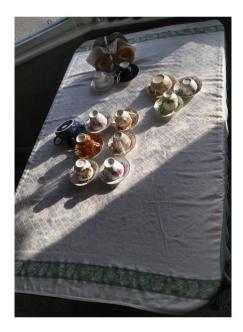
🗑 COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University (JHU)





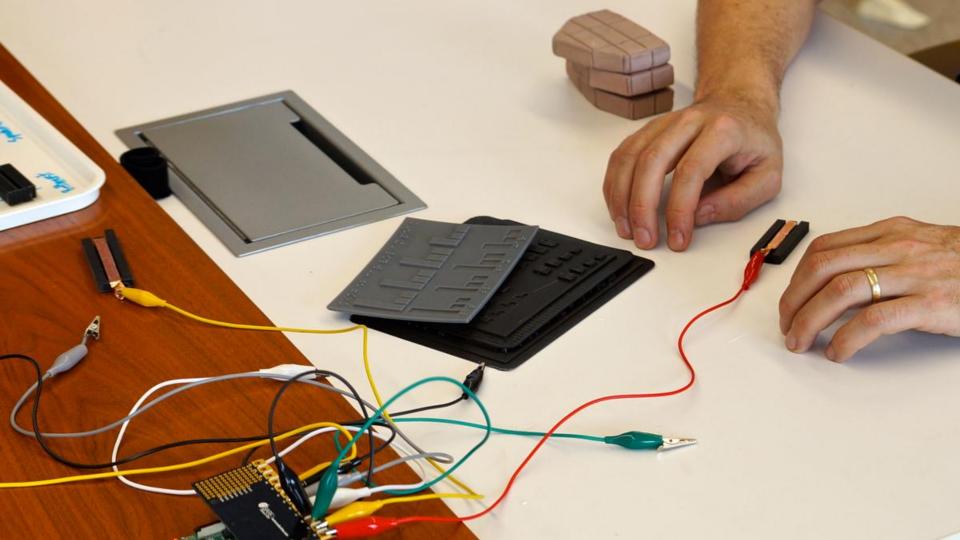


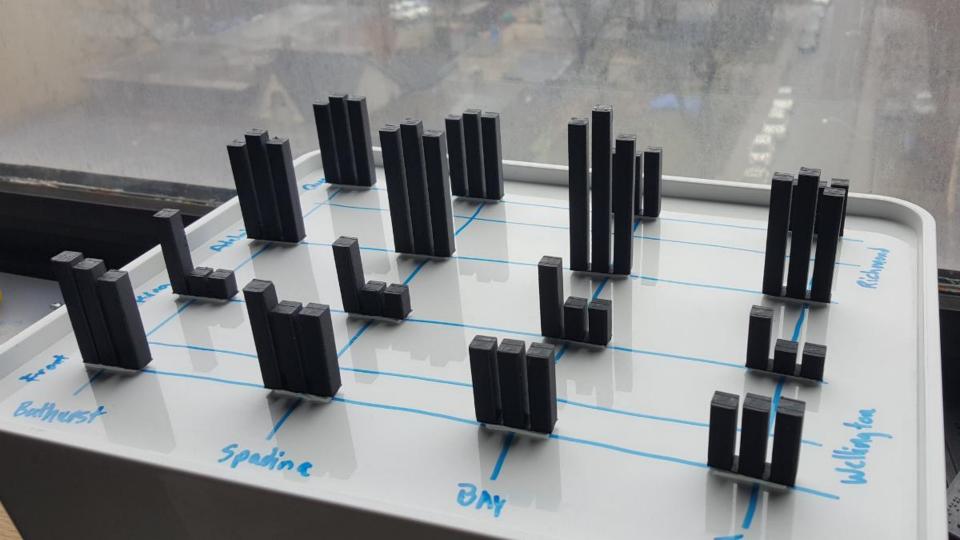














gabby.resch@ontariotechu.ca





Dr. Peter Lewis Associate Professor & Canada Research Chair in Trustworthy AI



Al or "Al"?

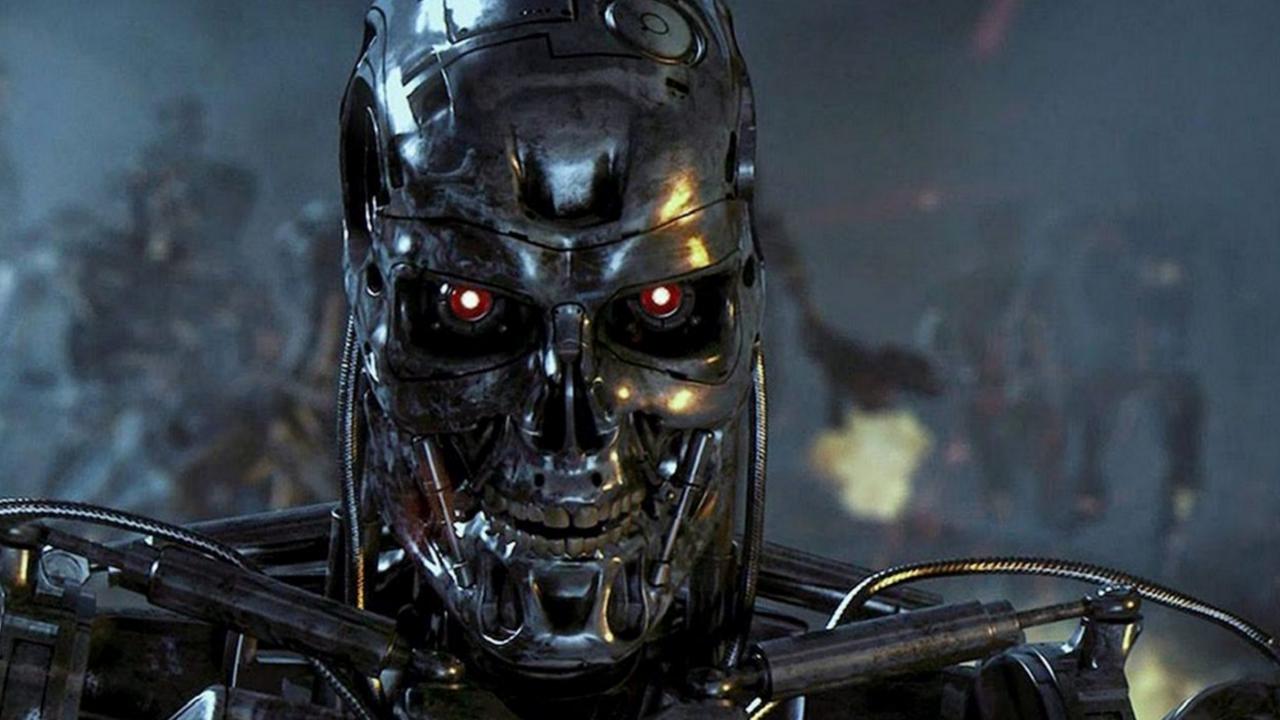
This talk is based on:

PR Lewis, S Marsh, J Pitt (2021). *AI vs "AI": Synthetic Minds or Speech Acts.* IEEE Technology and Society Magazine 40 (2), 6-13 Available at: https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=9445758









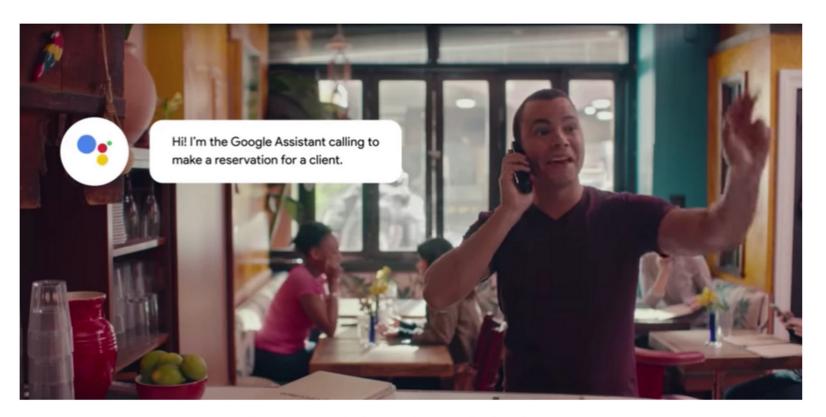


Al-powered booking service Google Duplex rolls out to iOS & Android 5.0+ devices

Sarah Perez @sarahintampa / 2 weeks ago

Comment

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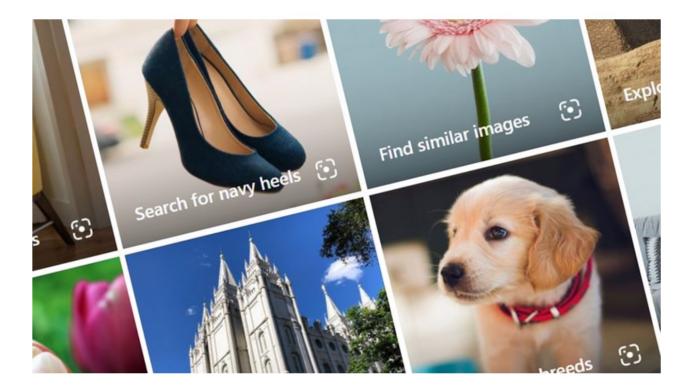


Google • confirmed its Google Assistant feature for booking restaurant reservations via the phone, powered by Duplex's AI technology, has begun to roll out in English to more Android and iOS devices across the U.S. The expansion sets the stage for potential mainstream adoption — especially as it goes cross-

Intelligent search from Bing

Bing uses AI to make it even easier to find what you're looking for. With its powerful understanding of the web, Bing gives quick, well-rounded answers, even when your questions are nuanced. Bing also lets you search within an image so you can find what you see.

Try Bing > Learn about AI at scale in Bing >



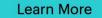


Why Visier Solutions Platform Customers Resources Company

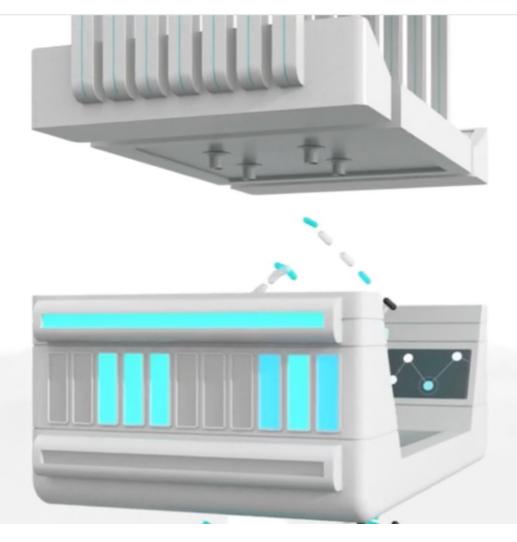


Al-Powered People Analytics

Visier provides AI you can trust, lighting the way for people answers powered by predictive insights



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Qualcomm's new AI-powered camera design platform could popularize the use of computer vision

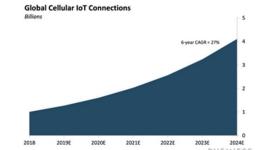
George Paul Apr. 11, 2019, 9:12 AM



- This is an excerpt from a story delivered exclusively to Business Insider Intelligence IoT Briefing subscribers.
- To receive the full story plus other insights each morning, click here.
- Visit BusinessInsider.com for more stories.

Qualcomm released its next-generation AI-powered camera design platform using its latest purpose-built systems on a chip (SoCs) to better enable on-device machine learning and processing capabilities.

The platforms are designed for edge computing use cases that need support for video processing and analytics. The SoCs can be applied to an array of devices including smart





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— Data and AI

THE AI-POWERED ENTERPRISE

Unlocking the potential of AI at scale



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OVERVIEW

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Al has the potential to allow companies to not only do different things, but also to do things differently. It represents a step change in balancing growth, profitability, sustainability and trust.

With 46 percent of executives indicating that AI will drive increased revenue opportunities, getting AI right makes companies more valuable to their ecosystem and helps them maintain a competitive position in a world that will soon be powered by AI.

But to realize real and sustainable benefits, AI must evolve from being a hot new trend to a seamless enabler — woven into the fabric of the enterprise and working alongside and augmenting people.



of organizations say AI will create new categories of products, services, business models and markets.



Your boss is watching: How AIpowered surveillance rules the workplace

Companies are buying increasingly intrusive artificial intelligence tools to keep an eye on their workers.



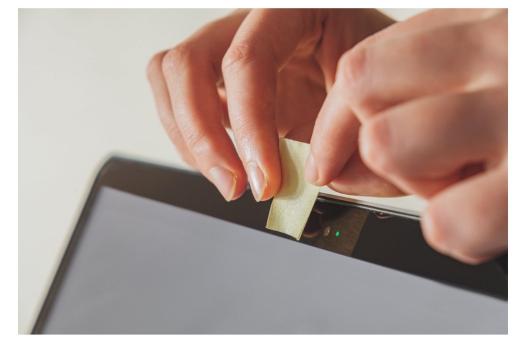
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE & PRIVACY

Privacy in the Precision Economy: The Rise of AI-Enabled Workplace Surveillance during the Pandemic



June 8, 2021





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(Shutterstock)

Barclays faces \$1.1B fine over alleged monitoring of employees

Published Aug. 10, 2020



<u>Dan Ennis</u> Senior Editor

in 🖬 🎔 🖶 🖬



Oli Scarff via Getty Images



It is the use of the phrase "artificial intelligence" here that is particularly concerning.



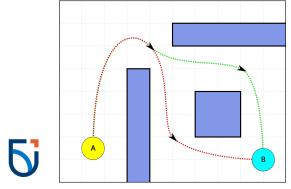
Artificial Intelligence vs "Artificial Intelligence"

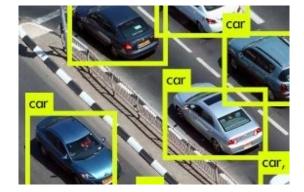
- Al is a set of technologies with practical application that replicate some of things that minds can do.
- They range from simple reasoning systems...

...through complex statistical pattern matchers and prediction machines...

...to Turing's *"imaginable digital computers which would do well in the imitation game"* or theoretically Haugeland's *synthetic minds.*

• It's also a research field that explores the how and limits of this, giving insights into the mind itself.





"Al" is a speech act, a declaration.
Consider the call centre scenario: *"It is intelligent."*

The implication is "we don't trust you (as much as it)".

- It is a social constructor, stemming from science fiction (that tends to the apocalyptic).
- It can be used to 'dress up' rather simple technology, to intentionally invoke preconceptions and misconceptions about what the technology is.



AI-Powered, Self-Driving Robots Are Taking On a Bigger Role at Walmart Stores

The world's largest retailer is making a growing bet on robots and artificial intelligence to gain a competitive edge.

Danny Vena (TMFLifelsGood) Mar 19, 2019 at 7:31AM

Competition in the retail industry has never been more cutthroat. The dawn of e-commerce has caused a paradigm shift, with traditional retailers having to change with the times or <u>fall by the wayside</u>.

Walmart (NYSE:WMT) is representative not only of the old guard of retail, but also of the transition that is happening among brick-and-mortar stores to adapt to this new reality. In addition to a fierce move into e-commerce, the once-stodgy retailer has embraced cutting-edge technology to help keep costs in check and provide a better shopping experience for its customers.

Case in point: Self-propelled robots are now taking on an increasing role in Walmart's operations.



This is quite a sensible application of robotics.

But if we are replacing human janitors with machines with 'intelligence'...

...wouldn't we normally rank trustworthiness above smarts, when hiring for these roles?

Words Matter

'Words matter.

'Starting today, [we] will stop using the terms "artificial intelligence," "AI," and "machine learning" in our work to expose and mitigate the harms of digital technologies in the lives of individuals and communities.

'Al has become a phrase that now functions in the vernacular primarily to obfuscate, alienate, and glamorize.'

Emily Tucker, Executive Director

Centre on Privacy & Technology at Georgetown Law



Why Intentionally Evoke Misconceptions?

- Those who use "AI" as marketing speak often go on to ask how they can get people to find their technology "trustworthy".
- The implication is that it is *beyond the control of its creators* when it leaves the shop floor.
- 'Don't blame us... it's autonomous and learnt things for itself.'
- This is an unacceptable attempt to evade responsibility by people who would rather not be held accountable.
- A claim of *"AI gone awry"* is a travesty of justice.

Uber's Self-Driving Car Killed Someone. Why Isn't Uber Being Charged?

BY JESSE HALFON

OCT 20, 2020 • 9:00 AM



Union accuses PM of 'shrugging away disaster' after Johnson says problems have been 'sorted out'



Boris Johnson sits in on a class at Castle Rock school in Coalville, Leicestershire. Photograph: Jack Hill/AP



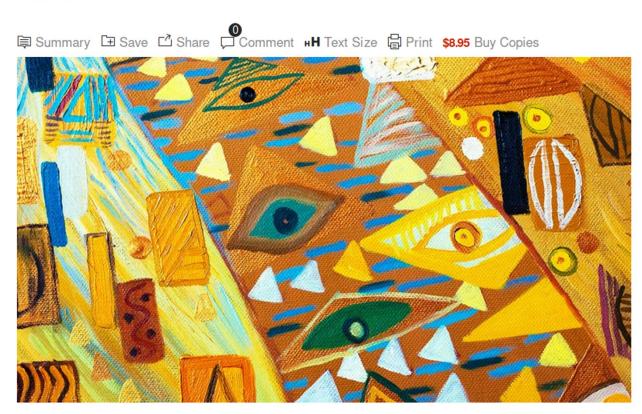


TECHNOLOGY

To Get Consumers to Trust Al, Show Them Its Benefits

by Ellen Enkel

APRIL 17, 2017



'I want to trust the trustworthy and distrust the untrustworthy.'

Baroness Onora O'Neill

We need *information*, not *convincing*.

Accountability Matters



Technology Intelligence

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Microsoft's racist bot shows we must teach AI to play nice and police themselves

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Amazon

Amazon ditched AI recruiting tool that favored men for technical jobs

Specialists had been building computer programs since 2014 to review résumés in an effort to automate the search process

<

317

Reuters

Thu 11 Oct 2018 00.42 BST \square

This article is over 3 months old

Amazon's machine-learning specialists uncovered a big problem: their new recruiting engine did not like women.

The team had been building computer programs since 2014 to review job applicants' résumés, with the aim of mechanizing the search for top talent, five people familiar with the effort told

Accountability Matters

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Tech							

Alexa tells 10-year-old girl to touch live plug with penny

() 28 December 2021





Amazon has updated its Alexa voice assistant after it "challenged" a 10year-old girl to touch a coin to the prongs of a half-inserted plug.

The suggestion came after the girl asked Alexa for a "challenge to do".



Autonomous killer drones set to be used by Turkey in Syria

f) 💟 🕲 🧰 🔂 🖂 🚭

TECHNOLOGY 20 September 2019

By David Hambling



The Turkish army is increasingly using drones in combat Soner Kilinc/Anadolu Agency/Getty

Turkey is to become the first nation to use drones able to find, track and kill people without human intervention.



If "AI" is a speech act intended to help evade accountability, at which point should it be trusted?



Too Much to Ask?

We should expect AI providers to have the means to explain:

- What the system is doing;
- Why it does what it does;
- How it does this thing;
- Why it does it this way;

... in ways that the people affected by it understand.



We may not always be in control of the AI systems we build.

But as creators, sellers, and marketers, we are in control of "AI".

