

# Privacy & Fairness in Data Science

CS848 Fall 2019

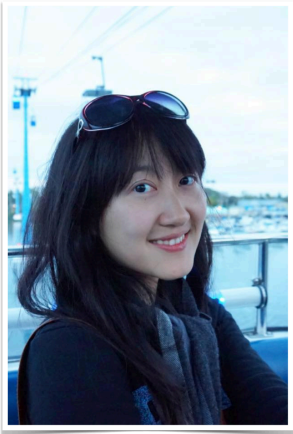


UNIVERSITY OF  
**WATERLOO**



Data  
Systems  
Group

# Instructor



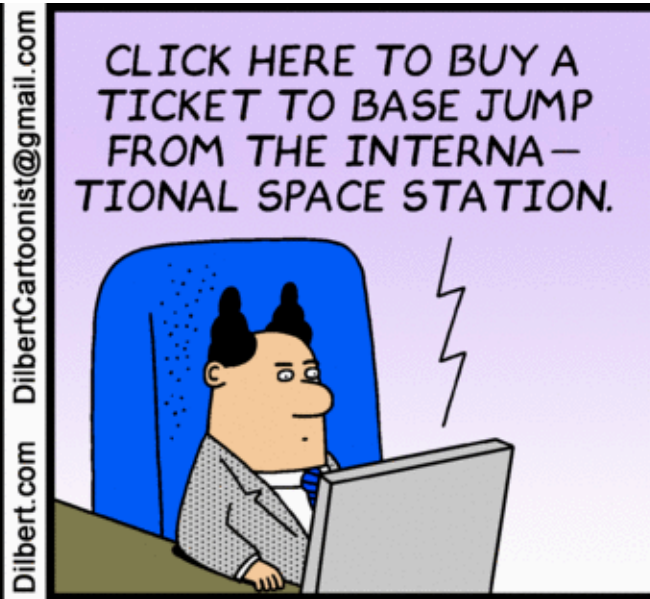
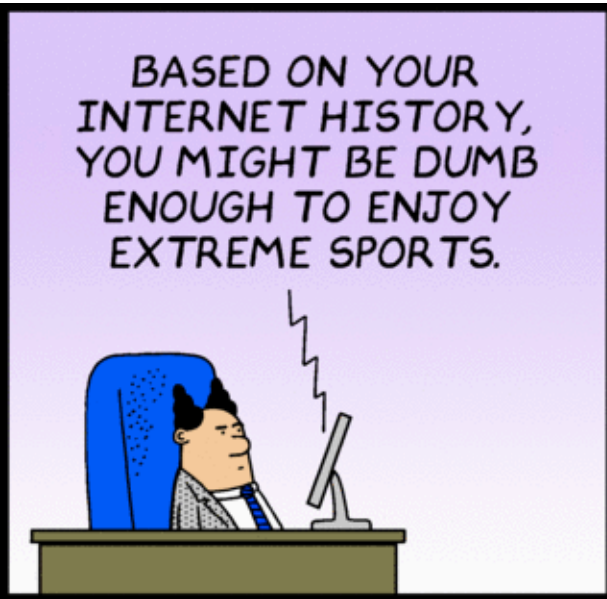
## Xi He:

- Research interest: privacy and fairness for big-data management and analysis
- CS848, Fall 2019:
  - Tue: 3:00pm - 5:50pm (DC2568)

Tell me ...

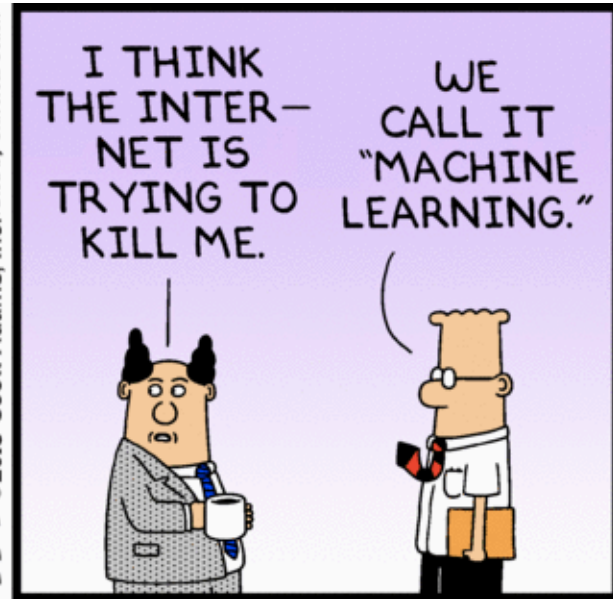
... why do you want to do this course?

# Personalization ...



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

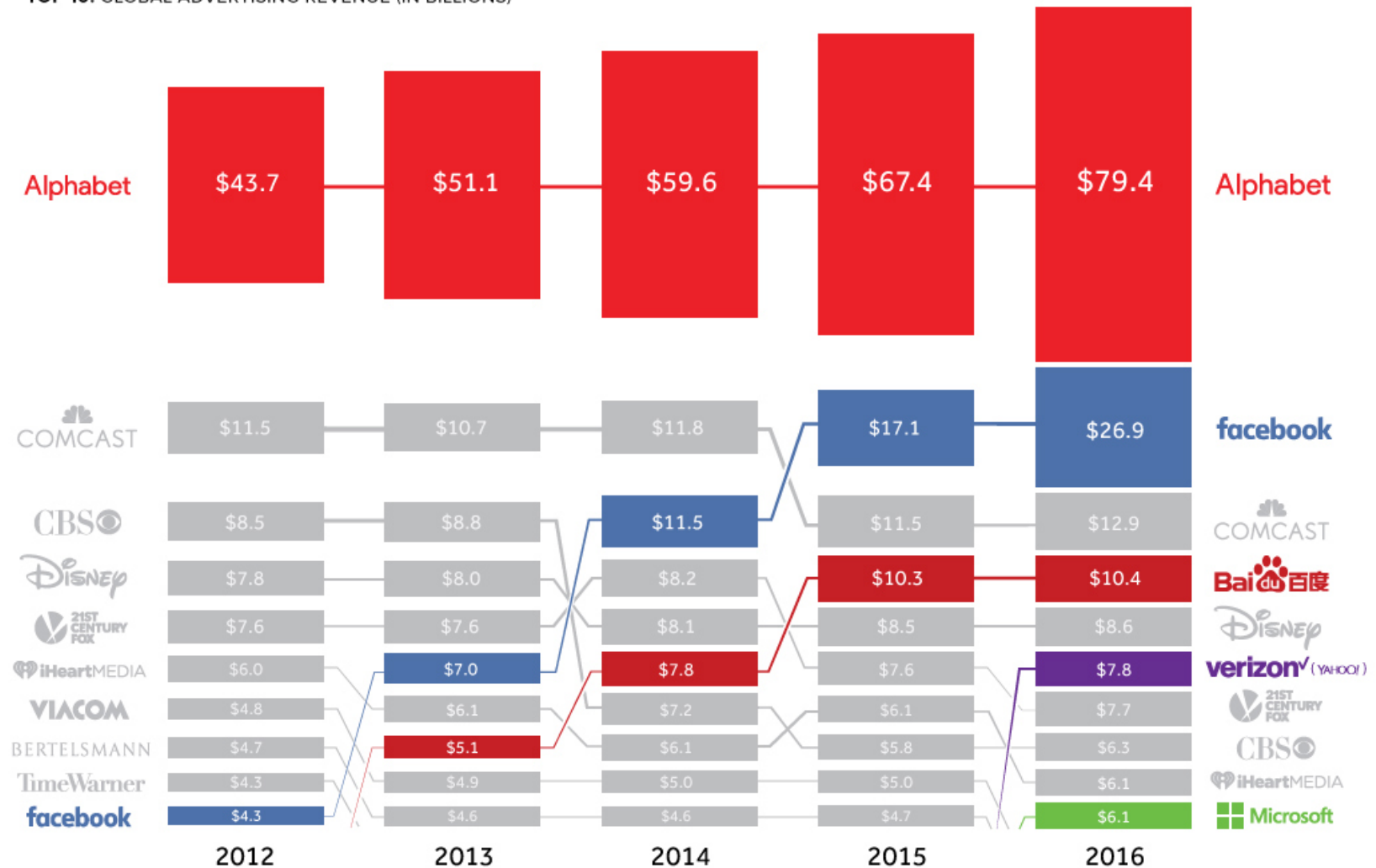
2-2-13 © 2013 Scott Adams, Inc. / Dist. by Universal Uclick





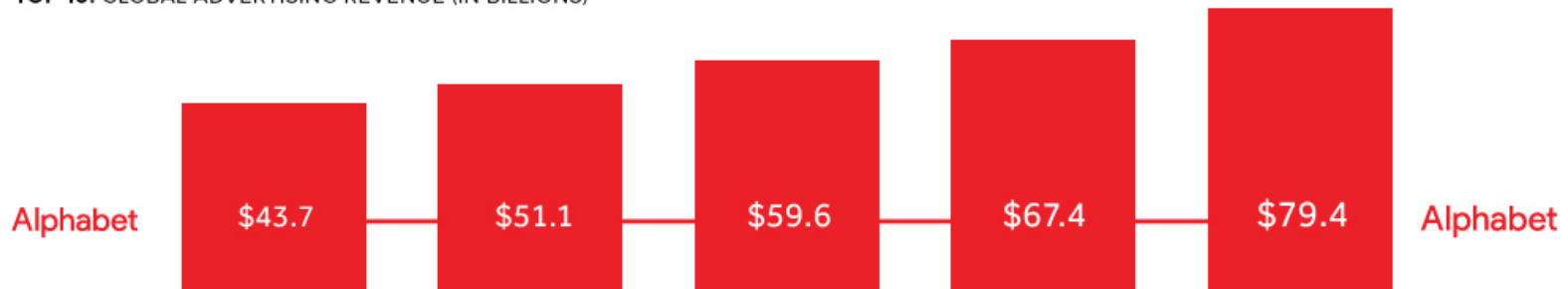
# Online Advertising

TOP 10: GLOBAL ADVERTISING REVENUE (IN BILLIONS)



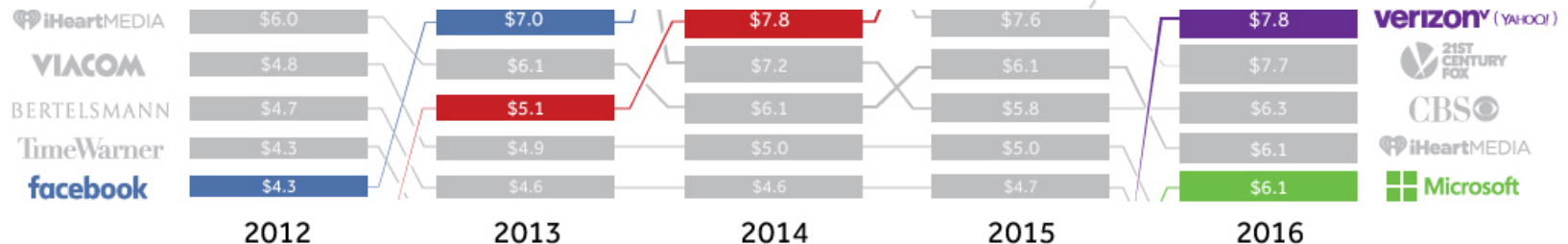
# Online Advertising

TOP 10: GLOBAL ADVERTISING REVENUE (IN BILLIONS)



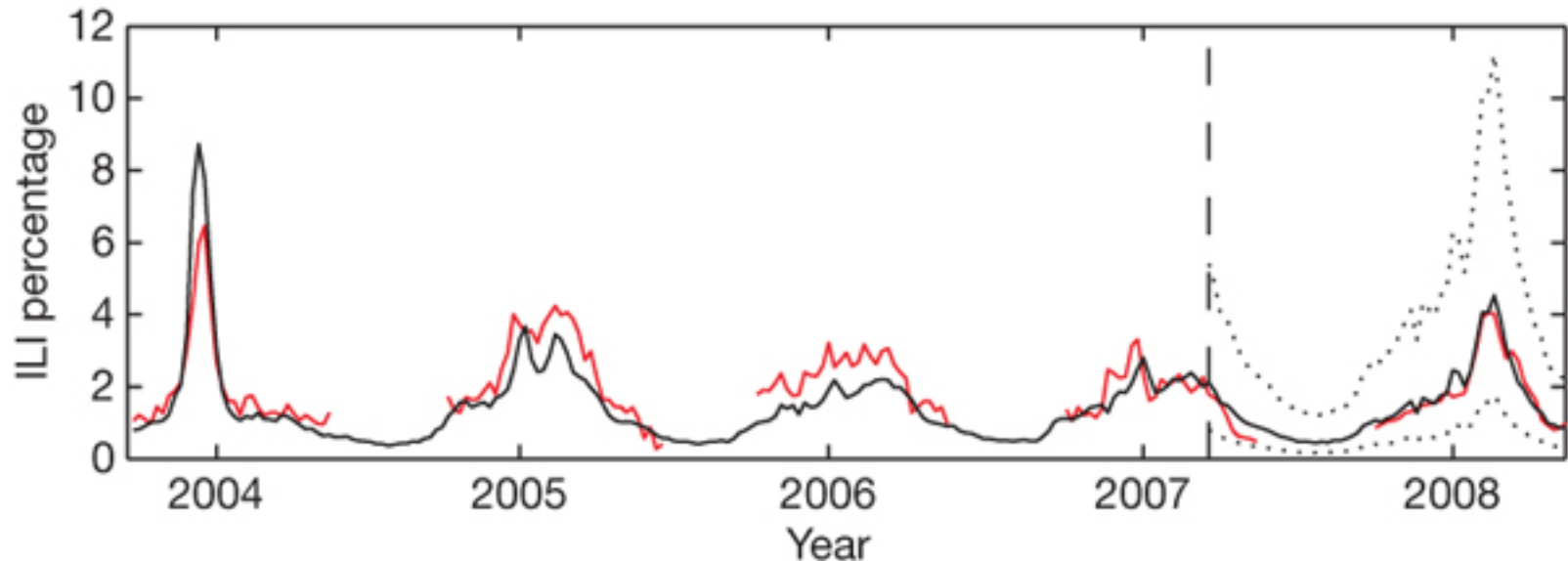
**Ad-Supported Internet Brings Over \$1 Trillion To The U.S. Economy, Representing 6 Percent Of Country's Total GDP, According To IAB Study Led By Harvard Business School Professor**

03.15.17





# Health



**Red:** official numbers from Center for Disease Control and Prevention; weekly  
**Black:** based on Google search logs; daily (potentially instantaneously)

## Detecting influenza epidemics using search engine query data

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v457/n7232/full/nature07634.html>

# IMPRECISION MEDICINE

For every person they do help (blue), the ten highest-grossing drugs in the United States fail to improve the conditions of between 3 and 24 people (red).

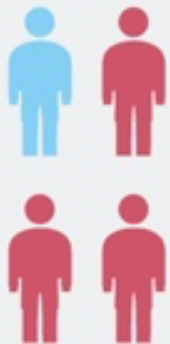
**1. ABILIFY (aripiprazole)**  
Schizophrenia



**2. NEXIUM (esomeprazole)**  
Heartburn



**3. HUMIRA (adalimumab)**  
Arthritis

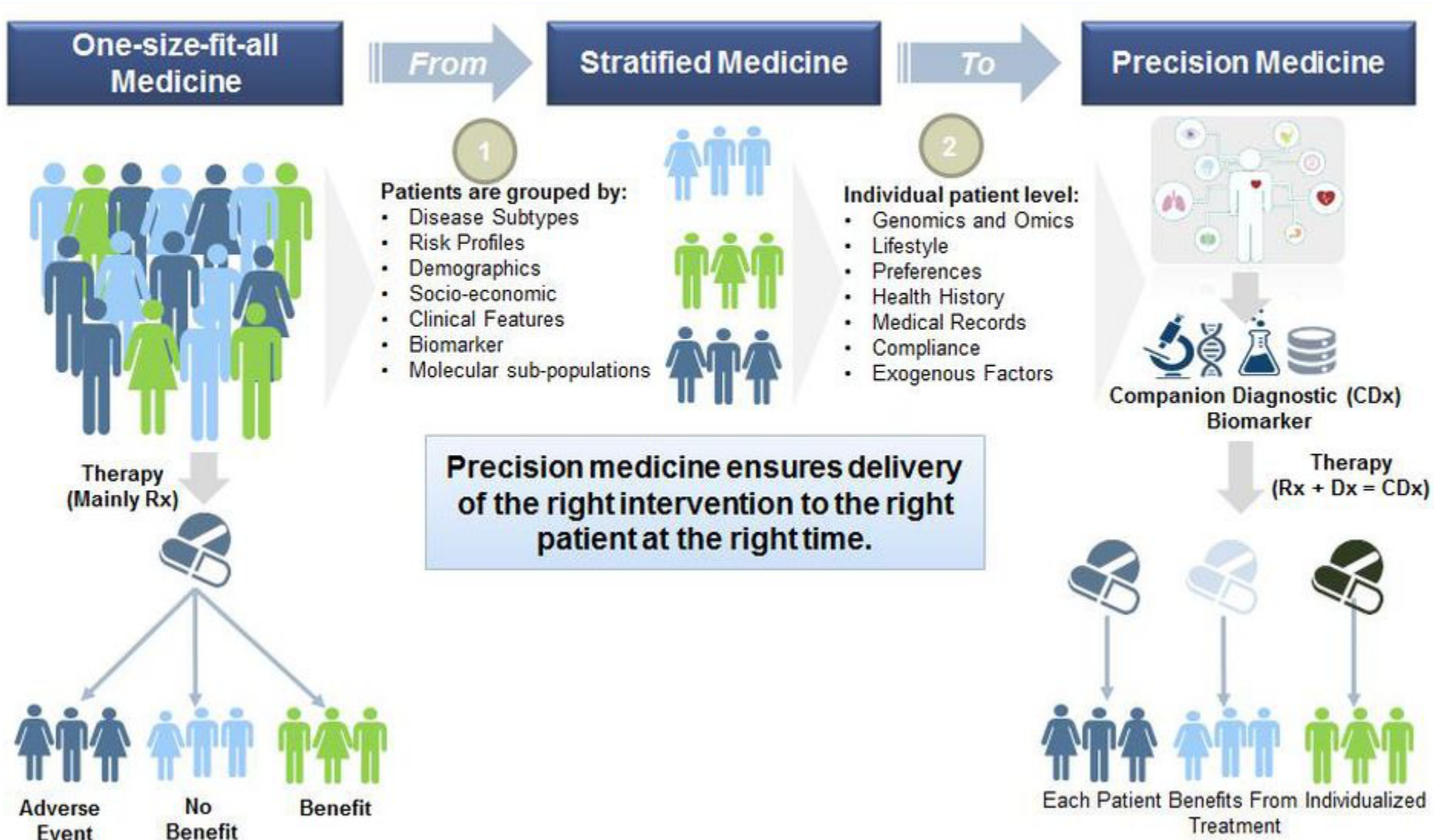


**4. CRESTOR (rosuvastatin)**  
High cholesterol





# Precision Medicine



# Predictive Policing

How can predictive policing drive proactive crime prevention?

IBM



## Manchester Police Department

Protects and serves the 110,000 citizens of Manchester, New Hampshire



Needed a smarter way to decide where its 237 officers should patrol



Worked with Ironside to harness IBM® SPSS® Modeler software to help predict where crimes were likely to occur

12%

reduction in robberies

21%

reduction in burglaries

32%

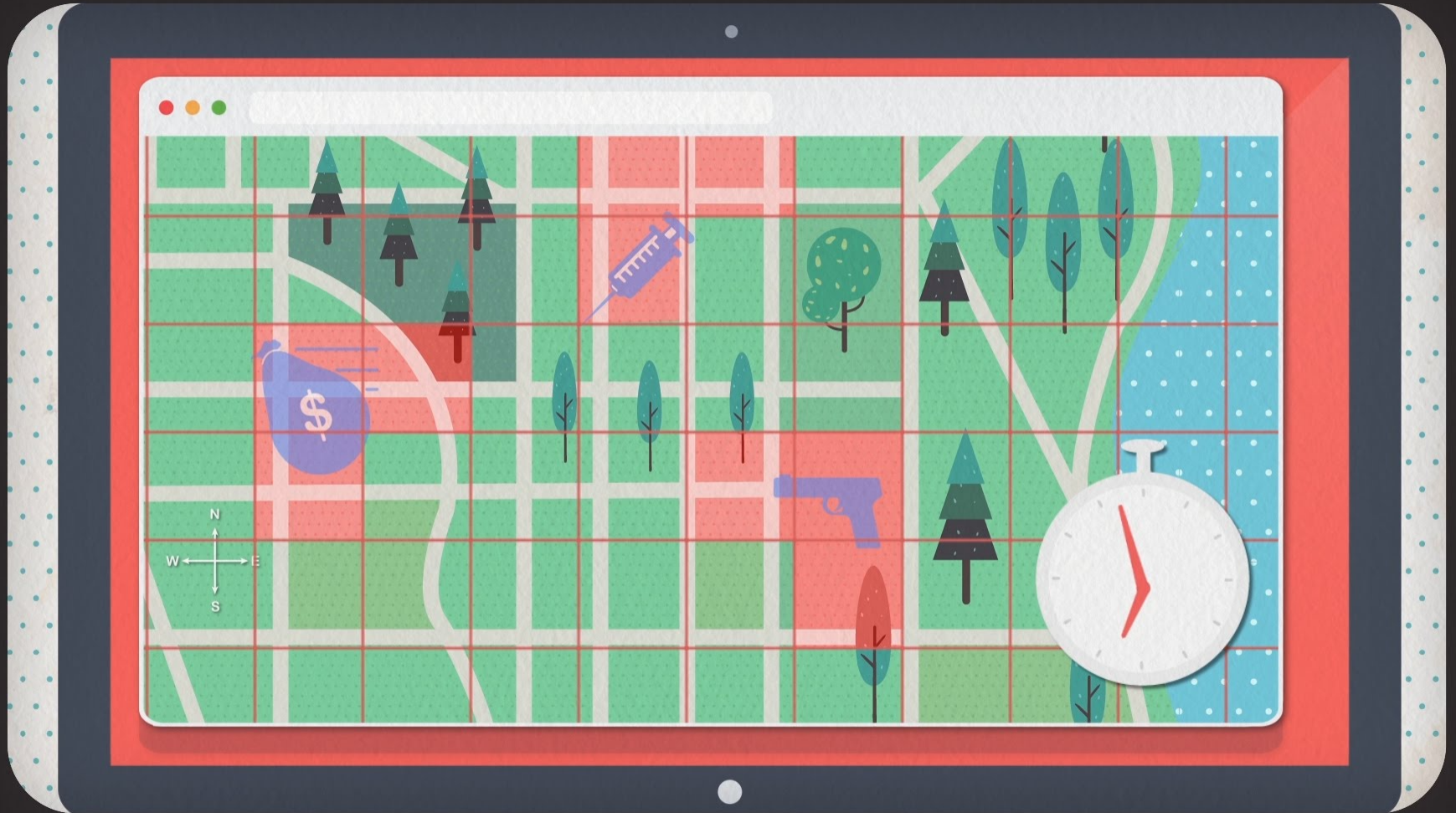
reduction in thefts from vehicles



Entire Manchester patrol force was monitored and these numbers represent a comparison of statistics from July 6, 2015 through December 6, 2015 compared to the same six month period (July – December) in 2014.

© IBM Corporation 2016 [DocNumberTBC] US-EN-00 | Source: <http://ibm.co/LWUJ28> | <http://ibm.co/Lewes1>

# Predictive Policing





# The dark side of the force...



# 39% of the experts agree...

Thanks to many changes, including the building of “the Internet of Things,” human and machine analysis of **Big Data will cause more problems than it solves** by 2020. The existence of huge data sets for analysis will **engender false confidence in our predictive powers** and will lead many to make **significant and hurtful mistakes**. Moreover, analysis of Big Data will be **misused by powerful people and institutions with selfish agendas** who manipulate findings to make the case for what they want. And the advent of Big Data has a harmful impact because it **serves the majority (at times inaccurately) while diminishing the minority** and ignoring important outliers. Overall, the rise of Big Data is a big negative for society in nearly all respects.

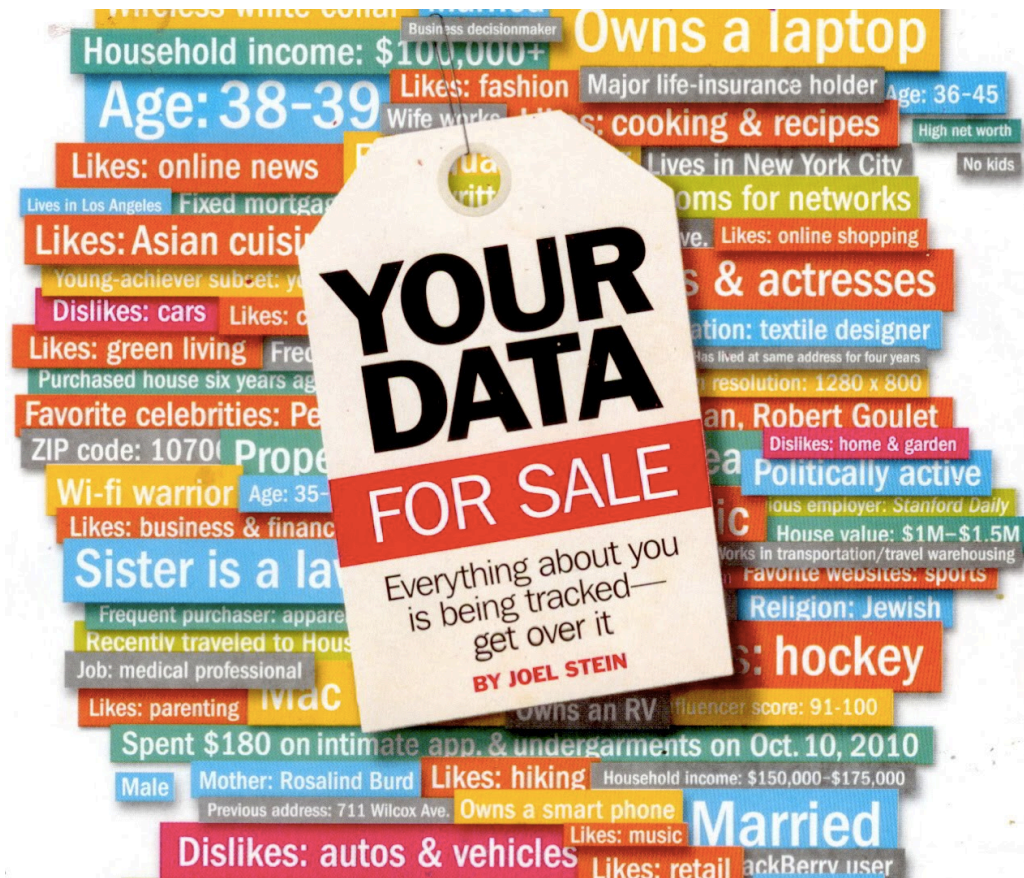
— 2012 Pew Research Center Report

<http://pewinternet.org/Reports/2012/Future-of-Big-Data/Overview.aspx>

# Harm due to personalized data analytics ...

- Privacy
- Fairness

# Where is the data coming from?

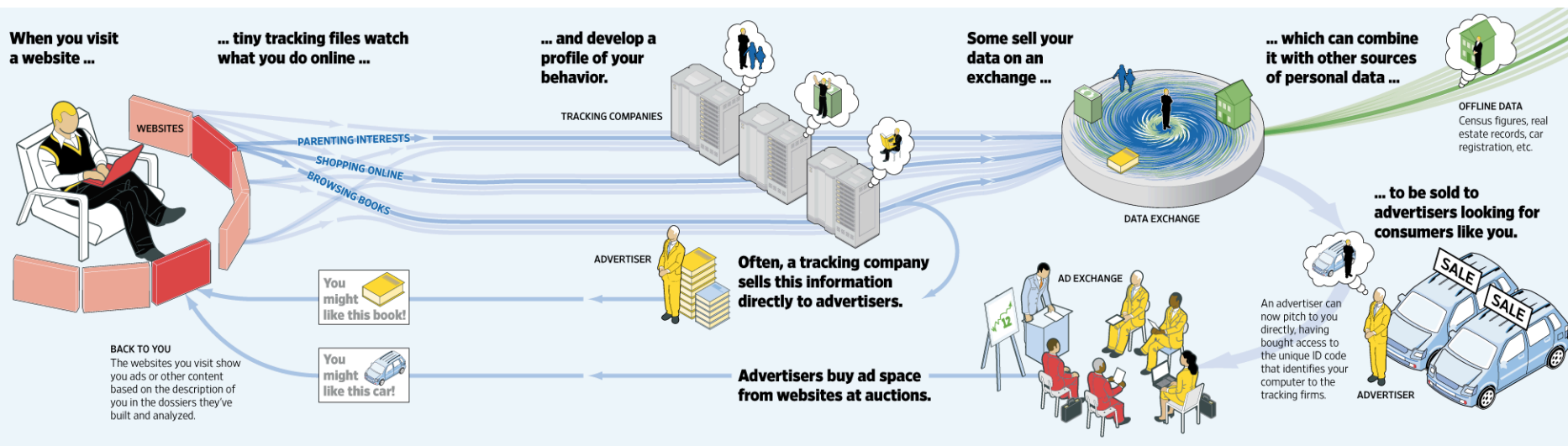


# Where is the data coming from?

- Census surveys
- IRS Records
- Photos
- Videos
- Medical records
- Insurance records
- Smart phone Sensors
- Mobility trajectories
- Search logs
- ...
- Browse logs
- Shopping histories

**Very sensitive information ...**

# How is this data collected?



<http://graphicsweb.wsj.com/documents/divSlider/media/ecosystem100730.png>

# Isn't my data anonymous ?





# Device Fingerprinting

A typical computer broadcasts hundreds of details about itself when a Web browser connects to the Internet. Companies tracking people online can use those details to 'fingerprint' browsers and follow their users.

**Timestamp** One fingerprinting technique compares the time on a person's computer to the time on a Web server down to the millisecond.

**User ID** Once a device has been fingerprinted, it is assigned a 'token,' or ID number, that can be used to track a user's online activities.

... / (h:mm:ss.ms)  
... / (+1:59:59.560)  
... / (+1:59:59.548)  
... one: 300  
... onts: Stainless  
... ic, Staini

... Settings,  
... (via Flash)  
... Screen size and color  
... 1280x1024x32  
... Browser Plugin Descriptors  
... for Firefox and  
... 632.dll

... Display Light  
... light, Chrome  
... onicle Display B  
... e Disp Cond Semi,  
... e Disp Cond, Chron  
... d Light, Chronicl  
... onicle Disp C  
... p Comp, C

Device Token: 28AB-ECDD-7A8C-3D7A-2563-AE87-C551-5D4D

... Content in Web  
... information, vis  
... REF=http://www.ap  
... e/>QuickTime</A>  
... nqtplugin.dll; (S  
... descriptor; applic  
... SDP stream descr  
... application/x-sd  
... am descriptor

... ation/itunes  
... r Agent: Mozilla/  
... Windows NT 5.1; er  
... pleWebKit/534.10 (k  
... cko) Chrome/8.0.55  
... ari/534.10

**Screen Size** Things like the size of the screen and its color settings can help websites display content correctly, but also can be used to identify machines.

**Browser Plugins** The mix of QuickTime, Flash and other 'plugins' (small pieces of optional software within a browser) can vary widely.

**User Agent** This is tech-speak for the type of Web-browsing software used. It can include specific details about the computer's operating system, too.

**Fonts** Not all machines have the same typefaces installed. The order the fonts were installed can also distinguish one computer from another.



# PANOPTICCLICK<sup>3.0</sup>

Is your browser safe against tracking?

Your browser fingerprint **appears to be unique** among the 2,050,572 tested in the past 45 days.

Currently, we estimate that your browser has a fingerprint that conveys at least **20.97 bits** of identifying information.

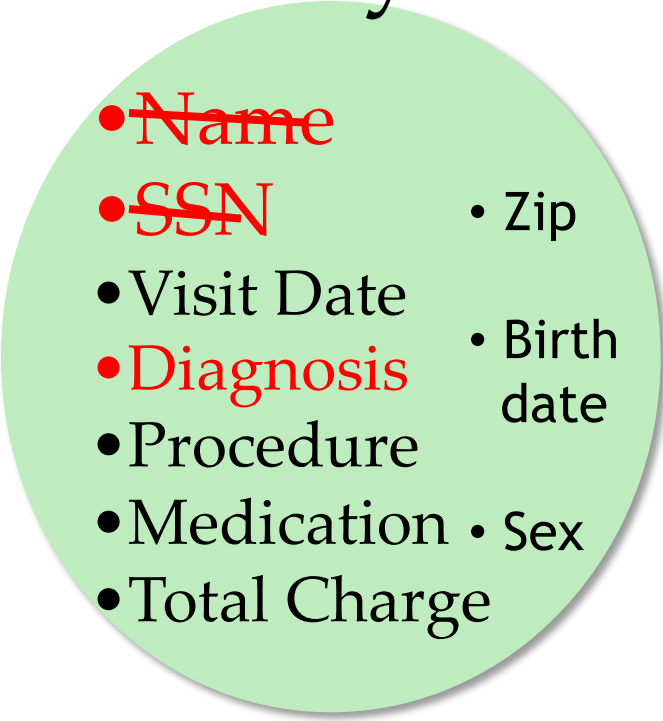
<https://panopticklick.eff.org/>

Let's get rid of unique identifiers ...



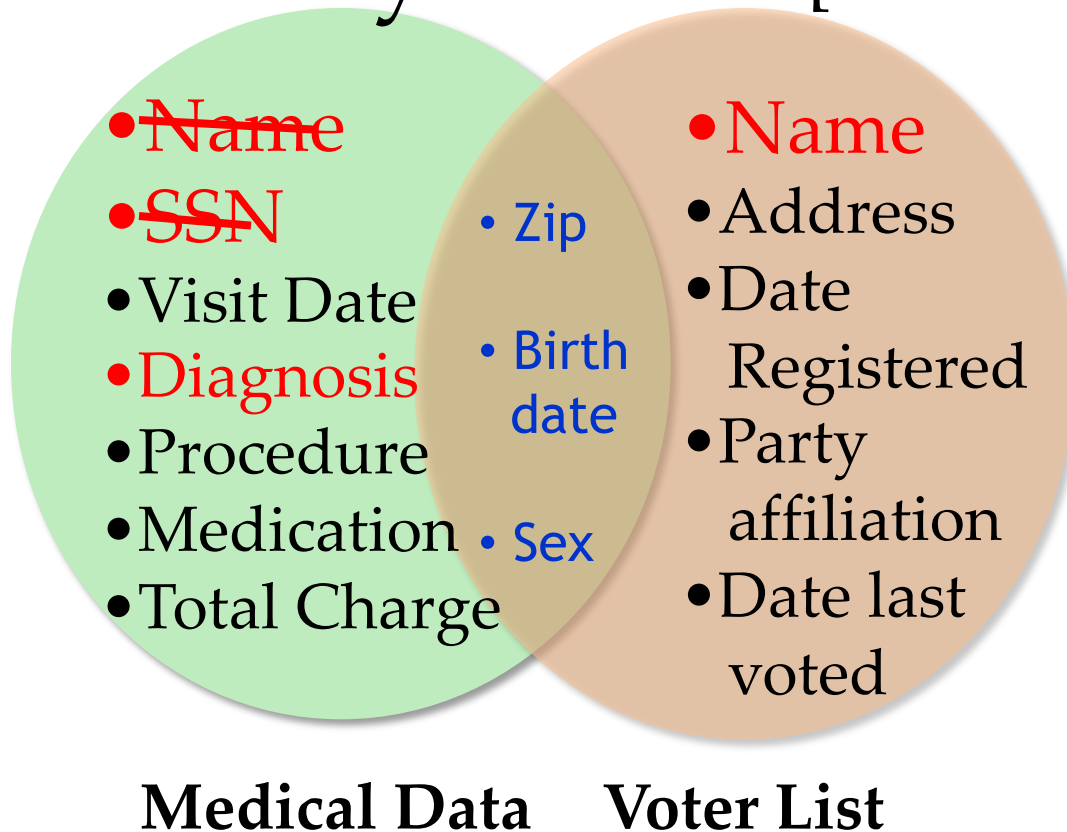
**HIPAA**  
COMPLIANT

# The Massachusetts Governor Privacy Breach [Sweeney IJUFKS 2002]

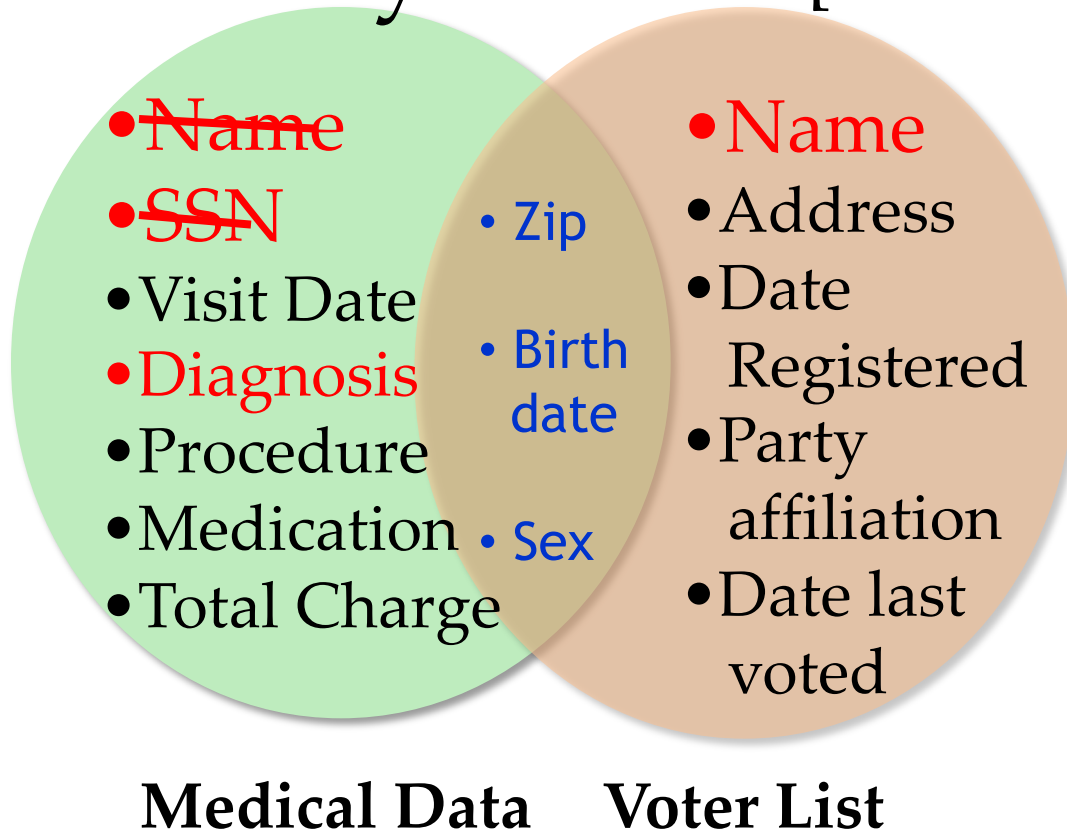
- 
- ~~Name~~
  - ~~SSN~~
  - Visit Date
  - ~~Diagnosis~~
  - Procedure
  - Medication
  - Total Charge
  - Zip
  - Birth date
  - Sex

**Medical Data**

# The Massachusetts Governor Privacy Breach [Sweeney IJUFKS 2002]



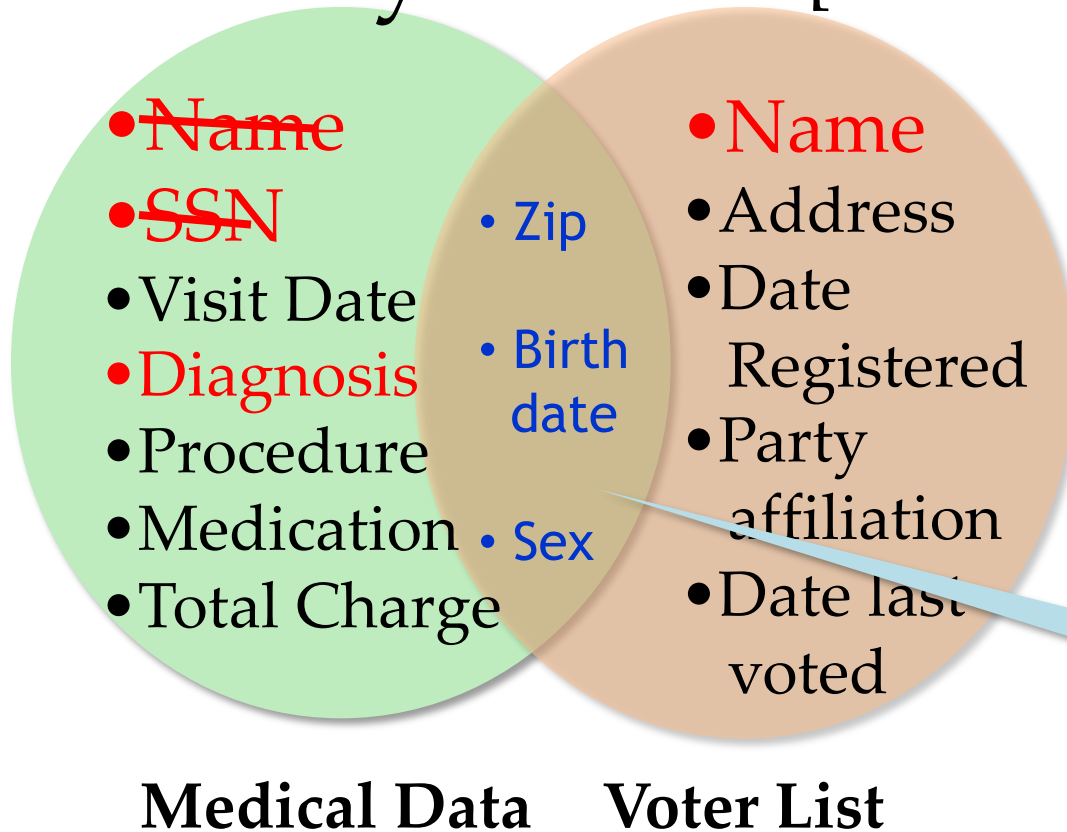
# The Massachusetts Governor Privacy Breach [Sweeney IJUFKS 2002]



- **Governor of MA uniquely identified using ZipCode, Birth Date, and Sex.**

**Name linked to Diagnosis**

# The Massachusetts Governor Privacy Breach [Sweeney IJUFKS 2002]



- 87 % of US population **uniquely identified** using ZipCode, Birth Date, and Sex.

**Quasi Identifier**

# AOL data publishing fiasco



— IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE MANY AOL USERS WHOSE OFTEN EMBARRASSING WEB SEARCHES WERE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC, I OFFER A SAMPLE OF MY OWN SEARCH HISTORY:

The multi-colored Google logo, with the letters G, O, O, G, L, E in blue, red, yellow, blue, green, and red respectively.

[Web](#) [Images](#) [Video](#) <sup>New!</sup> [News](#) [Maps](#) [more »](#)

[Advanced Search](#)  
[Preferences](#)  
[Language Tools](#)

velociraptors  
site:imdb.com "jurassic park"  
raptors  
dromaeosaurids  
utahraptor  
"home depot" deadbolts  
security home improvement  
surviving a raptor attack  
robert bakker paleontologist  
robert bakker "possible raptor sympathizer"  
site:en.wikipedia.org surviving a raptor attack  
learning from mistakes in jurassic park  
big-game rifles  
tire irons  
treating raptor wounds  
do raptors fear fire  
how to make a molotov cocktail  
do raptors fear death  
can raptors pick locks  
how to tell if my neighbors are raptors

# AOL data publishing fiasco ...

Xi222	Uefa cup
Xi222	Uefa champions league
Xi222	Champions league final
Xi222	Champions league final 2013
Abel156	exchangeability
Abel156	Proof of deFinetti's theorem
Jane12345	Zombie games
Jane12345	Warcraft
Jane12345	Beatles anthology
Jane12345	Ubuntu breeze
Bob222	Python in thought
Bob222	Entthought Canopy



# User IDs replaced with random numbers

865712345

Uefa cup

865712345

Uefa champions league

865712345

Champions league final

865712345

Champions league final 2013

236712909

exchangeability

236712909

Proof of deFinetti's theorem

112765410

Zombie games

112765410

Warcraft

112765410

Beatles anthology

112765410

Ubuntu breeze

865712345

Python in thought

865712345


Entthought Canopy

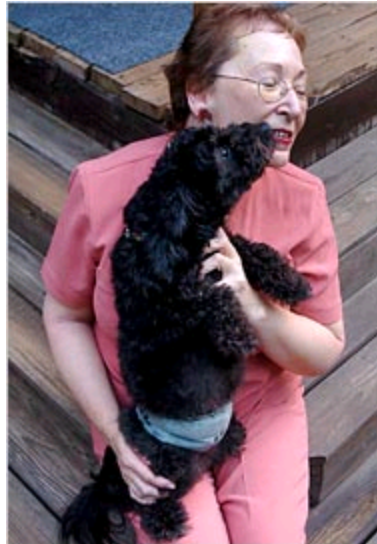
# Privacy Breach

[NYTimes 2006]

## A Face Is Exposed for AOL Searcher No. 4417749

By MICHAEL BARBARO and TOM ZELLER Jr.  
Published: August 9, 2006

 SIGN IN TO E-  
THIS



# Machine learning models can reveal sensitive information

## Facebook Profile

## Number of Impressions

25

+ Who are interested in  
**Men**

0

+ Who are interested in  
**Women**



- who live in the **United States**
- who live within 50 miles of **Staten Island, NY**
- between the ages of **23 and 27** inclusive
- who are **female**
- who are connected to **DogAnd PonyShow**
- in one of the categories: **Pop Culture, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Alternative, Rock, Classic Rock or iPhone**



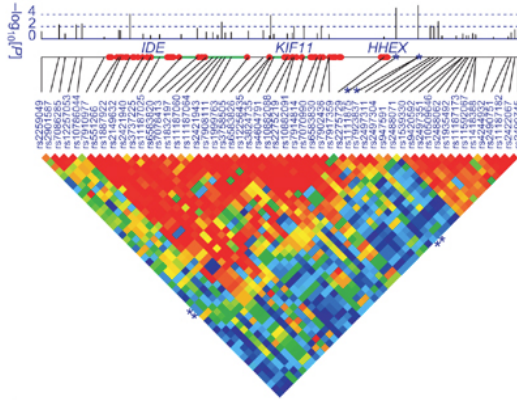
+  
Online Data

Facebook's learning algorithm uses private information to predict match to ad

# Genome wide association studies

[Homer et al PLOS Genetics 08]

Results of a GWAS study



High density SNP profile of Bob



Did Bob participate in the study

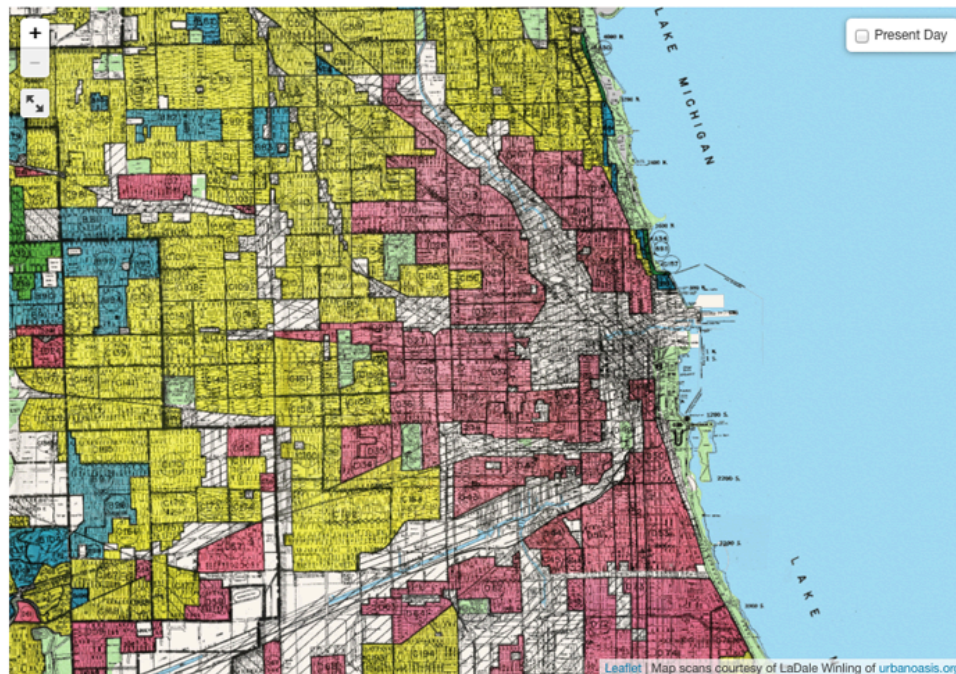
# Harm due to personalized data analytics ...

- Privacy
- Fairness

# The **red** side of learning

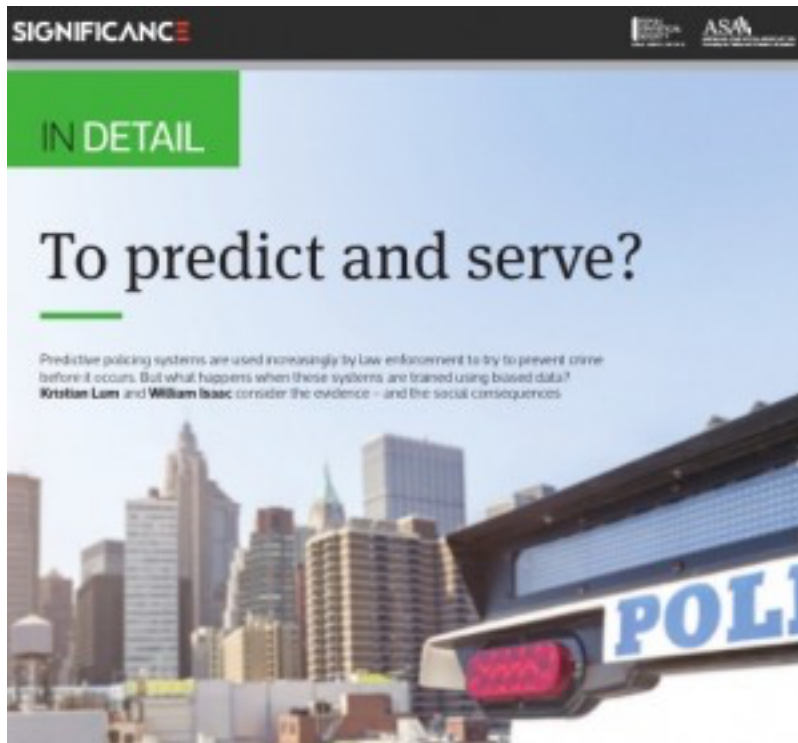
- **Redlining**: the practice of denying, or charging more for, services such as banking, insurance, access to health care, or even supermarkets, or denying jobs to residents in particular, often racially determined, areas.

## Explore Redlining in Chicago



A 1939 Home Owners' Loan Corporation "Residential Security Map" of Chicago shows discrimination against low-income and minority neighborhoods. The residents of the areas marked in red (representing "hazardous" real-estate markets) were denied FHA-backed mortgages. (Map development by Frankie Dintino)

# Predictive Policing



- Predictive policing systems use machine learning algorithms to predict crime.
- But ... the algorithms learn ... patterns not about crime, per se, but about how police record crime.
- This can amplify existing biases



HIDDEN BIAS

## When Algorithms Discriminate

By Claire Cain Miller

July 9, 2015



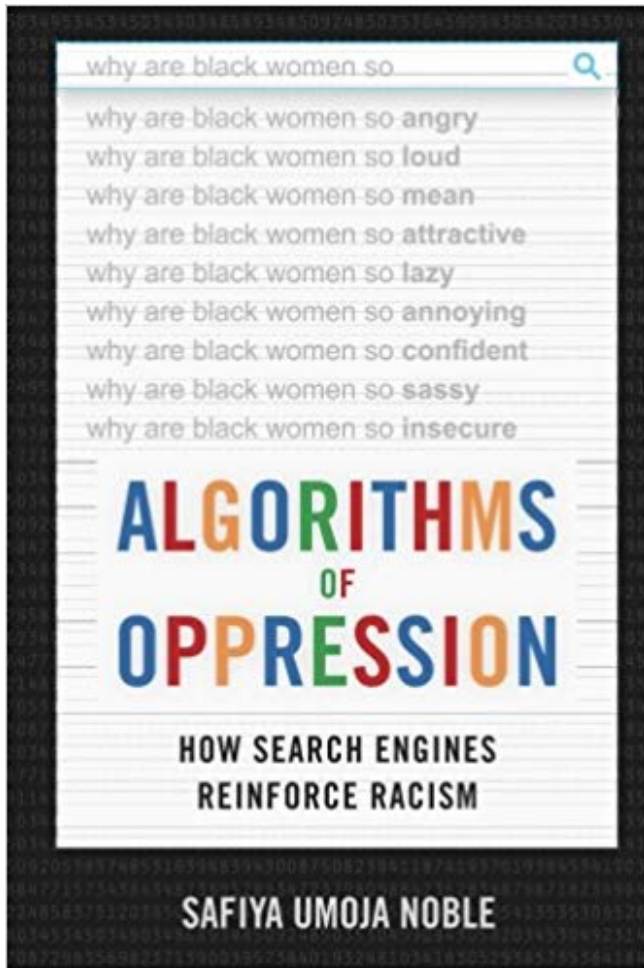
The online world is shaped by forces beyond our control, determining the stories we read on Facebook, the people we meet on OkCupid and the search results we see on Google. Big data is used to make decisions about health care, employment, housing, education and policing.

But can computer programs be discriminatory?

There is a widespread belief that software and algorithms that rely on data [are objective](#). But software is not free of human influence. Algorithms are written and maintained by people, and machine learning algorithms adjust what they do based on people's behavior. As a result, say researchers in computer science, ethics and law, algorithms can [reinforce human prejudices](#).

Google's online advertising system, for instance, showed an ad for high-income jobs to men much more often than it showed the ad to women, [a new study](#) by Carnegie Mellon University researchers found.

[Research from Harvard University](#) found that ads for arrest records were significantly more likely to show up on searches for distinctively black names or a historically black fraternity. The [Federal Trade Commission said](#) advertisers are able to target people who live in low-income neighborhoods with high-interest loans.





**BRACE YOURSELF**

**DEEP LEARNING IS COMING**

memegenerator.net

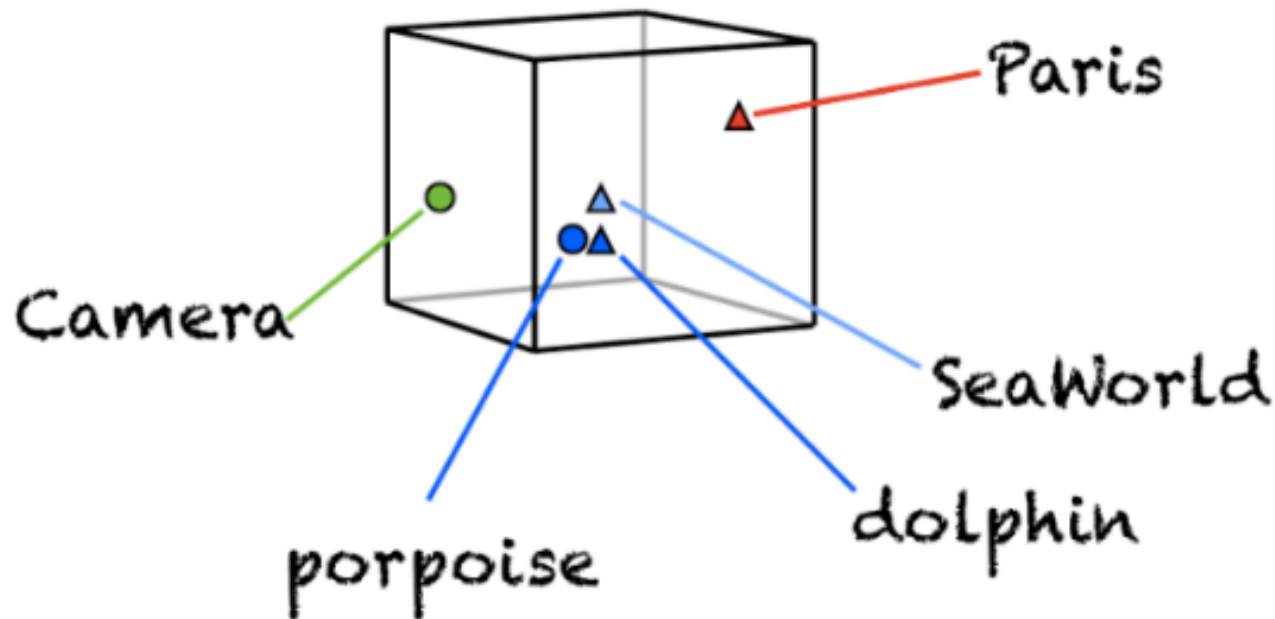


# Deep Learning

Incredibly powerful tool for ...

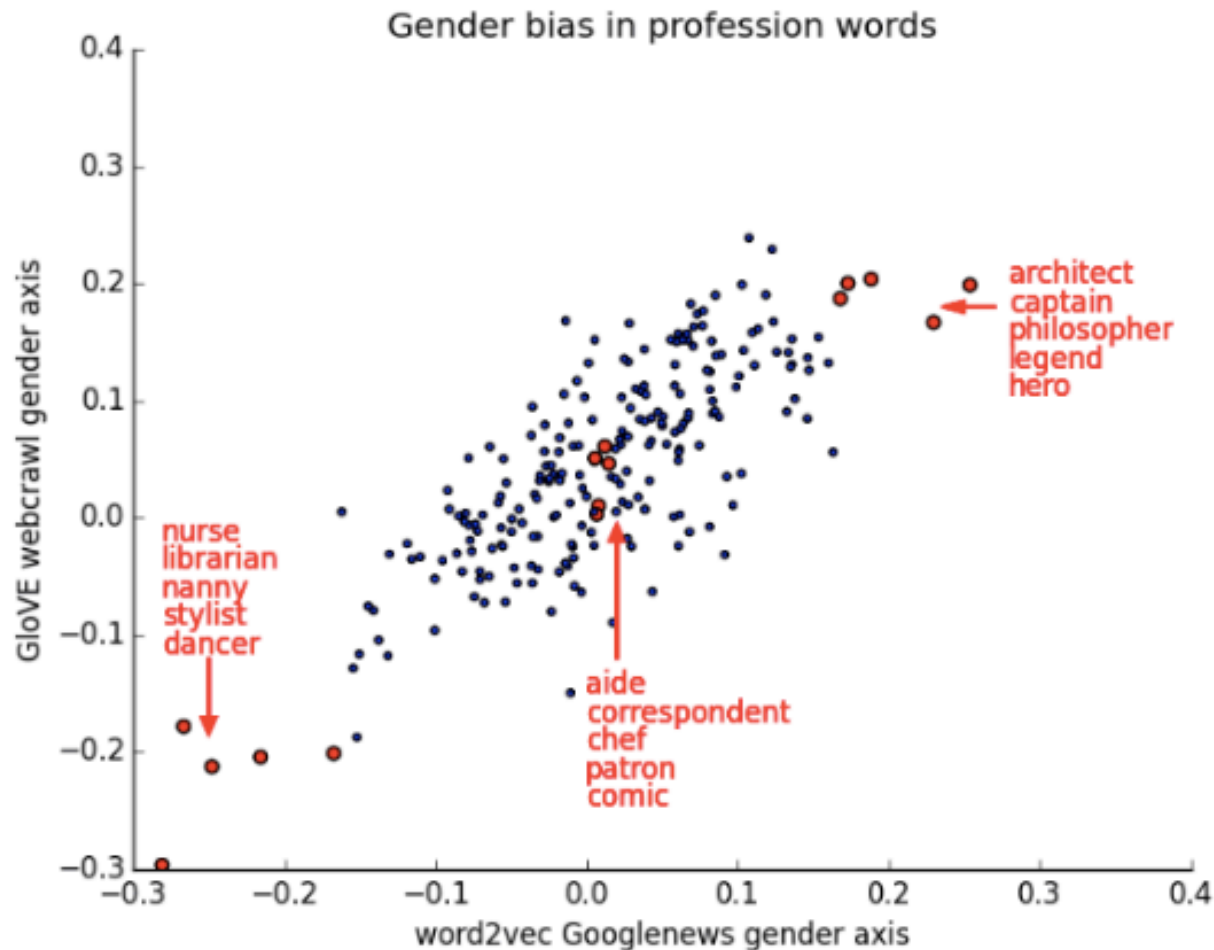
- Extracting regularities from data according to a given data
- Amplifying bias!

# Word embeddings



Can convert words to vectors of numbers - at the hearth of most NLP applications with deep learning

# Embeddings are *highly* sexist!



Bolukbasi, T., Chang, K.W., Zou, J., Saligrama, V. and Kalai, A., 2016. **Quantifying and reducing stereotypes in word embeddings.** *arXiv preprint arXiv:1606.06121.*

<http://slides.com/simonescardapane/the-dark-side-of-deep-learning>

# Deep Learning

Incredibly powerful tool for ...

- Extracting regularities from data according to a given data
- Amplifying privacy concerns!

Given access to a black-box classifier, can we infer whether a specific example was part of the training dataset?

We can with **shadow training**:

Shokri, R., Stronati, M., Song, C. and Shmatikov, V., 2017, May. **Membership inference attacks against machine learning models**. In *2017 IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy (SP)*, (pp. 3-18). IEEE.

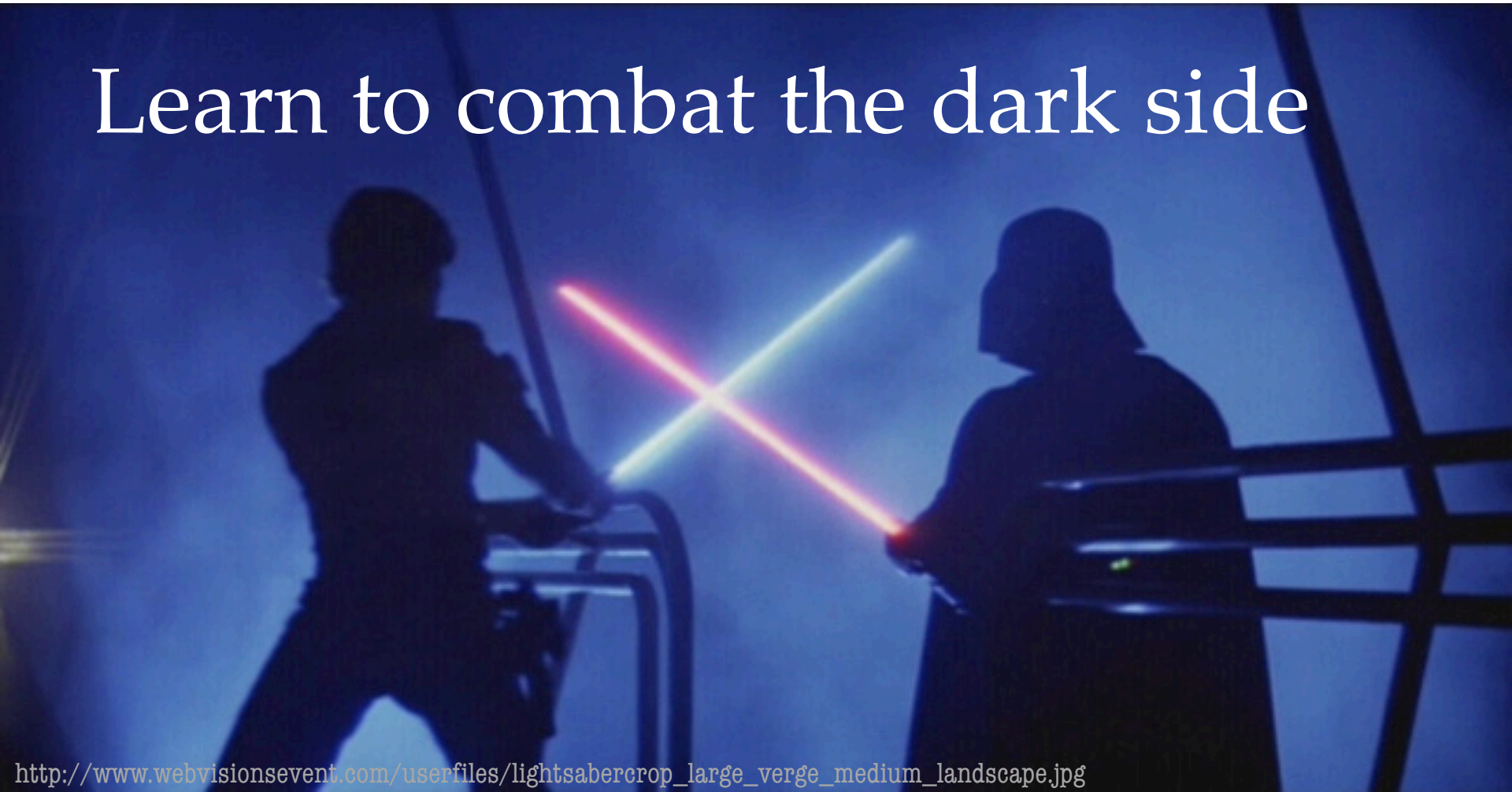
<i>Dataset</i>	<i>Training Accuracy</i>	<i>Testing Accuracy</i>	<i>Attack Precision</i>
Adult	0.848	0.842	0.503
MNIST	0.984	0.928	0.517
Location	1.000	0.673	0.678
Purchase (2)	0.999	0.984	0.505
Purchase (10)	0.999	0.866	0.550
Purchase (20)	1.000	0.781	0.590
Purchase (50)	1.000	0.693	0.860
Purchase (100)	0.999	0.659	0.935
TX hospital stays	0.668	0.517	0.657

TABLE II: Accuracy of the Google-trained models and the corresponding attack precision.



# This course:

## Learn to combat the dark side



# You will ...

- mathematically formulate privacy.
- mathematically formulate fairness.

# Differential Privacy

For every pair of inputs that differ in one row

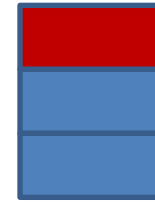


$D_1$



$D_2$

For every output ...



$O$

Adversary should not be able to distinguish between any  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  based on any  $O$

$$\log \left( \frac{\Pr[A(D_1) = O]}{\Pr[A(D_2) = O]} \right) < \epsilon \quad (\epsilon > 0)$$

# You will ...

- mathematically formulate privacy.
- mathematically formulate fairness.
  
- design algorithms to ensure privacy
- design algorithms to ensure fairness

# Differential Privacy in practice



United States  
**Census**  
Bureau

*OnTheMap [ICDE 2008]*



chrome

*[CCS 2014]*



*[Apple WWDC 2016]*

# You will ...

- mathematically formulate privacy.
- mathematically formulate fairness.
  
- design algorithms to ensure privacy
- design algorithms to ensure fairness
  
- do research into the interplay between privacy and fairness.



# Course Format

- Module 1: Intro to Privacy
  - Module 2: Intro to Fairness
  - Module 3:  
Paper Reading by Topics
    - privacy v.s. fairness
    - private machine learning
    - deployments of DP
    - sources of bias
    - fairness mechanisms
- In-class Exercise*  
*In-class Mini-project*  
*Lectures*
- Read papers*  
*Mini-critiques*  
*Research Project*

$$\forall i \in [n], d \in \mathcal{S}, \left| \ln \frac{\Pr[T_i \in T | d_i = d]}{\Pr[T_i \in T | d_i = \text{NULL}]} \right|$$

$$\left| \frac{\Pr[\text{client}(d) = t]}{\Pr[\text{client}(\text{null}) = t]} \right| \leq \ln \left( \frac{e^\epsilon}{1 + e^\epsilon} \cdot \frac{1 + e^\epsilon}{1} \right) = \epsilon$$

$$\alpha = \frac{3k + 2c_\epsilon \sqrt{\ln(6mk/\beta)}}{\sqrt{n}} = O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log(p/\beta)}}{\epsilon \sqrt{n}}\right)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{3k + c_\epsilon \sqrt{\ln(4mk/\beta)}}{\sqrt{n}} = O\left(\frac{\sqrt{\log(p/\beta)}}{\epsilon \sqrt{n}}\right)$$

$$\left\{ \left( \frac{v[j] \cdot b[j] + 1}{2} \right), \forall j \in [m] \right\}$$

# What we expect you to know ...

- Strong background in
  - Probability
  - Proof techniques
  
- Some knowledge of
  - Programming with Python
  - Machine learning
  - Statistics
  - Algorithms

# Misc. course info

- **Website:** <https://cs.uwaterloo.ca/~xihe/cs848>
  - Schedule (with links to lecture slides, readings, projects, etc.)
- **Grading**
  - In class mini-projects: 10% x 2
  - Mini-critiques: 10%
  - Class participation and presentation: 20%
    - Attending class!
  - Project: 50%
- **LEARN** for submission and grades:
  - <https://learn.uwaterloo.ca/d2l/home/492027>

# Academic Integrity

- See course website
- Mini-project reports and paper critiques are individual work and submission.
- Group discussion okay (and encouraged), but
  - Acknowledge help you receive from others
  - Make sure you “own” your solution
- All suspected cases of violation will be aggressively pursued

# Reference

- Course materials are adapted from:  
<https://sites.duke.edu/cs590f18privacyfairness/>