# The 2016 U.S. Election and HCI: Towards a Research Agenda

Answers to the two panel questions

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- Q1: What issues need to be addressed
  - Computing-induced income inequality
- Q2: How can we have a greater impact?
  - Consider negative broader impacts
  - Build more systems
  - Eschew circular firing squads



# Income inequality emerges as key issue in 2016 presidential campaign



Acura built its NSX supercar in Ohio.

#### FiveThirtyEight

Politics Sports Science & Health Economics Culture

JAN. 23. 2017 AT 12:18 PM

#### Higher Rates Of Hate Crimes Are Tied To Income Inequality



# The Election Highlighted a Growing Rural-Urban Split

By EMILY BADGER, QUOCTRUNG BUI and ADAM PEARCE NOV. 11, 2016



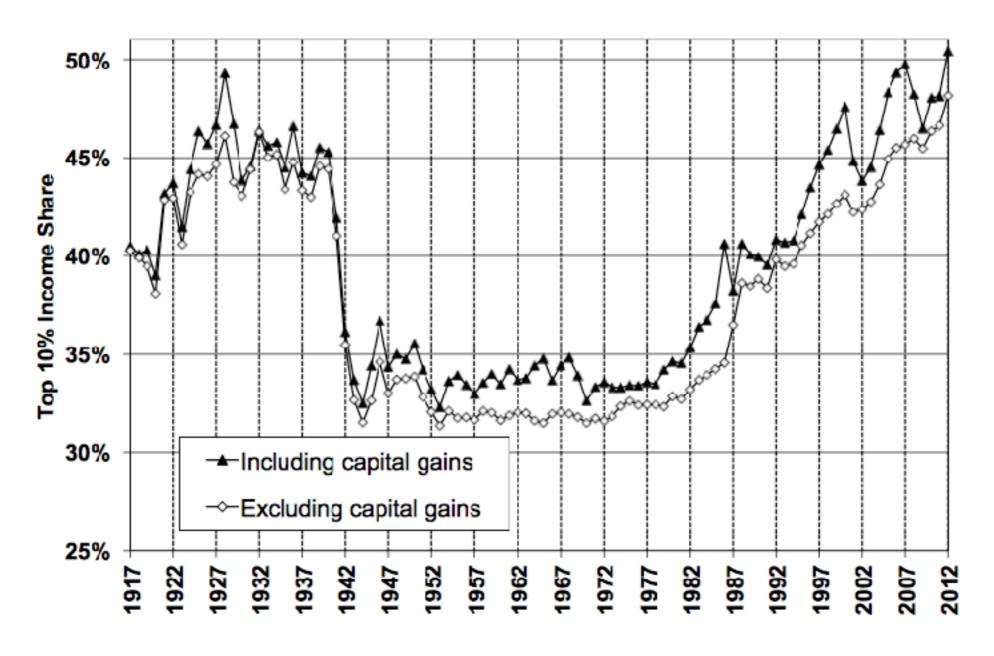






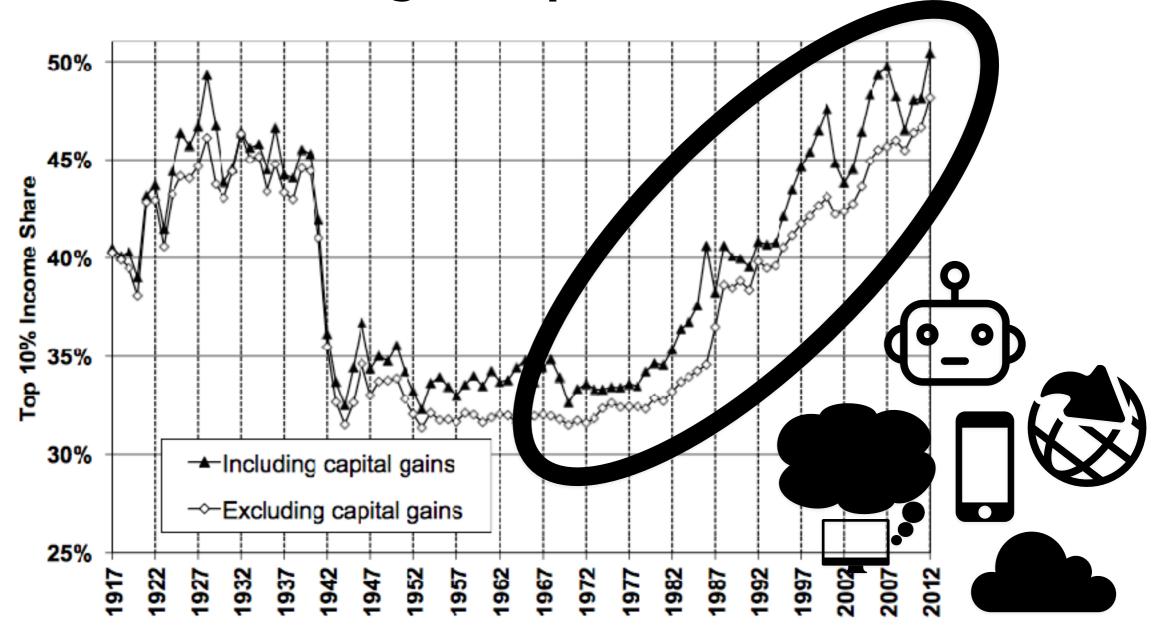


#### % of Income Going to Top Decline of Earners



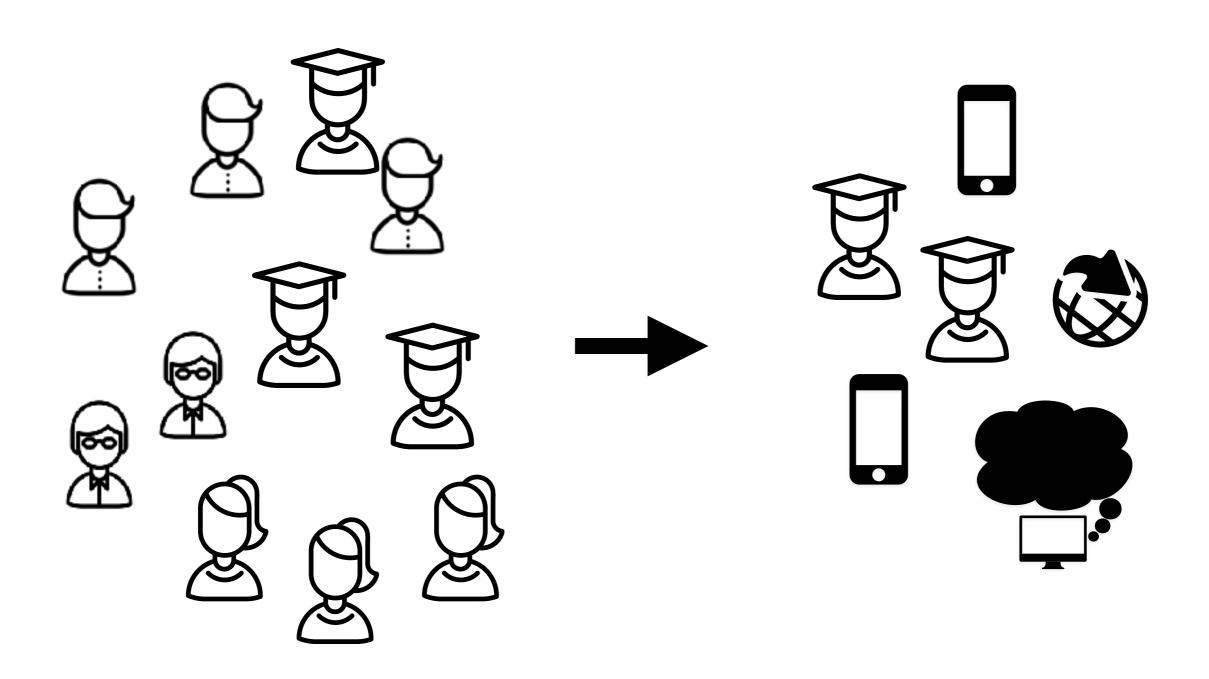
Source: Saez 2013

% of Income Going to Top Decline of Earners

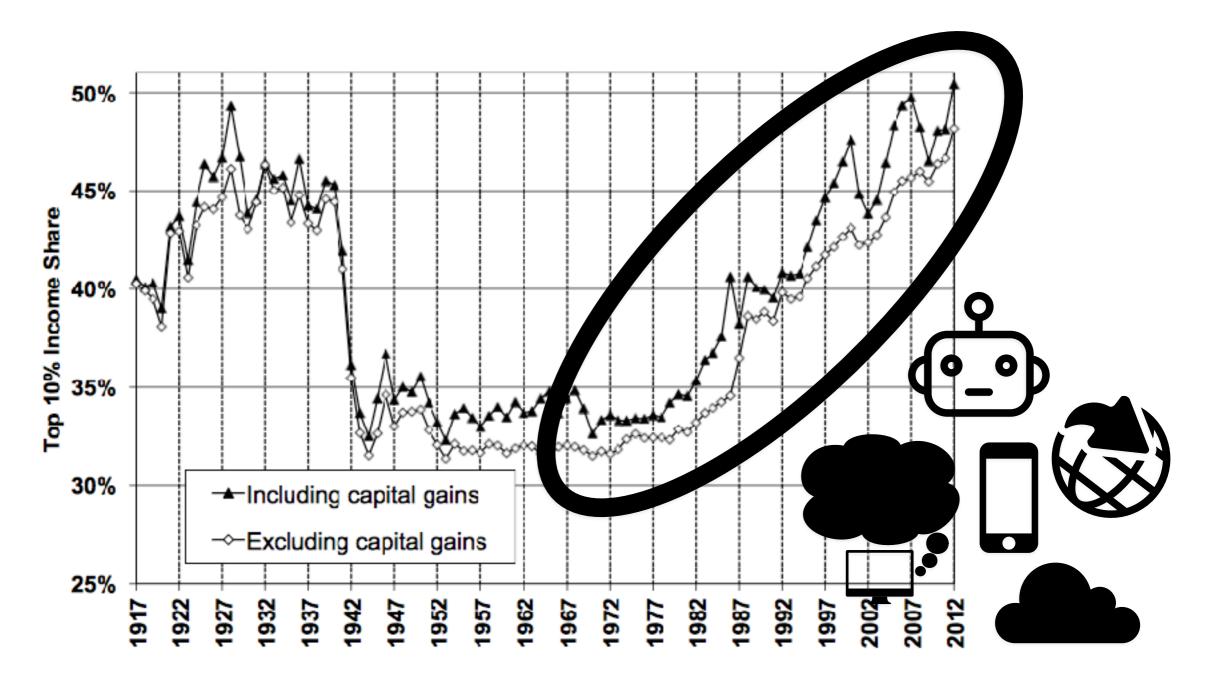


Computing technologies are (partially) at fault

Source: Saez 2013



## This is a critical HCI problem!



Computing technologies are (partially) at fault

Source: Saez 2013



Computing-induced Income Inequality



#### This will be hard:

- \* Must define new, tractable problems
- \* Must deal with highly complex social systems



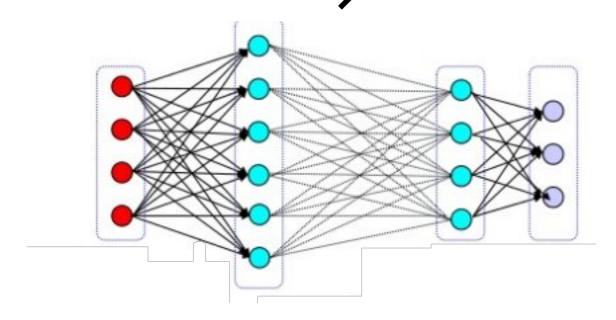
Computing-induced Income Inequality



Intelligent Technologies



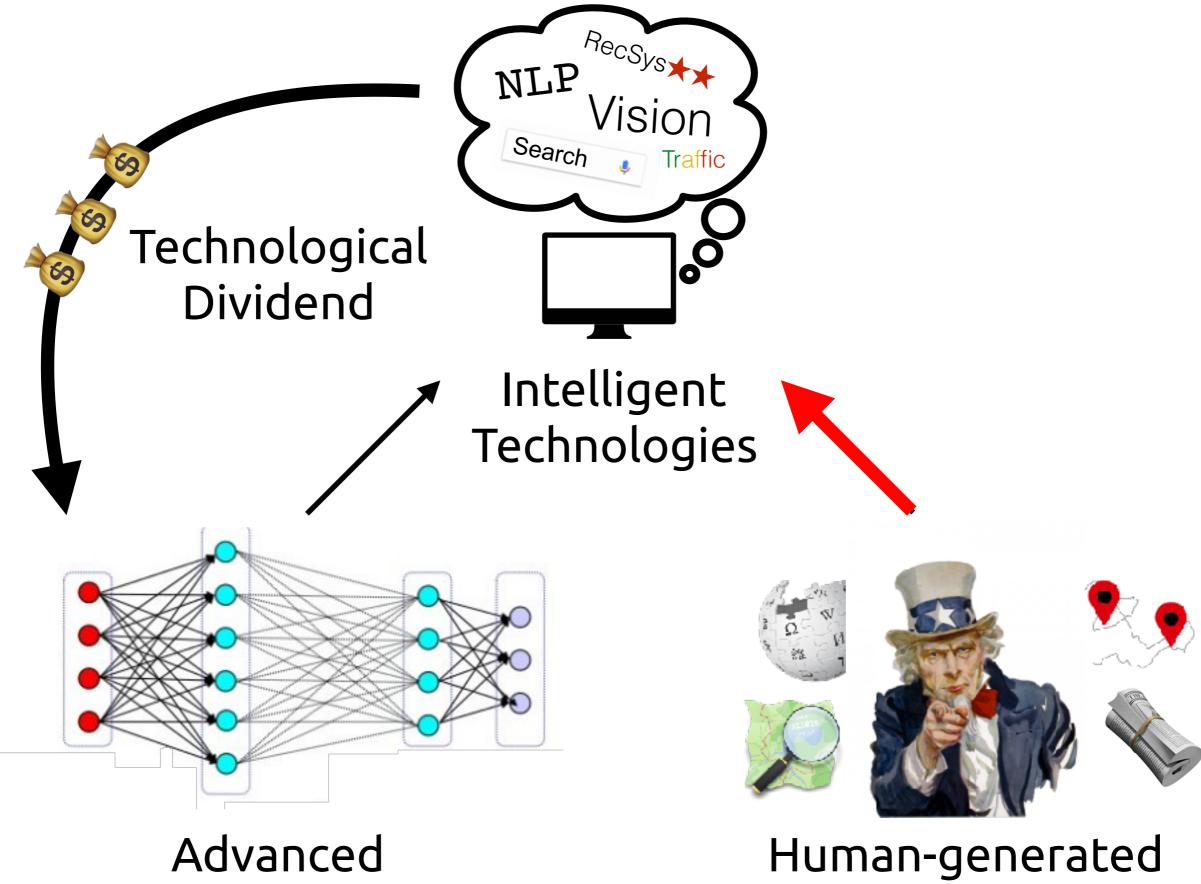
Intelligent Technologies



Advanced Algorithms

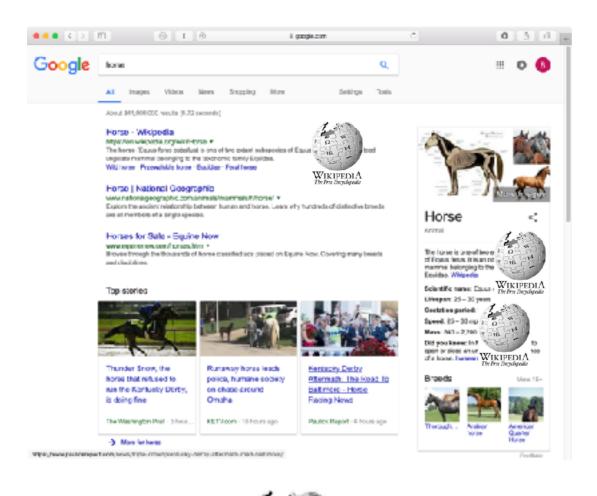


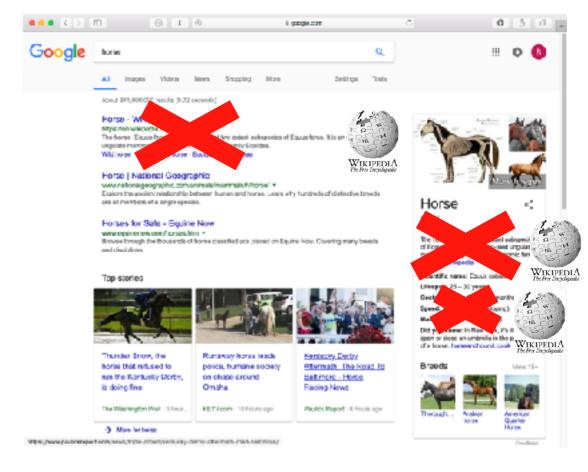
Human-generated Datasets



Algorithms

**Datasets** 











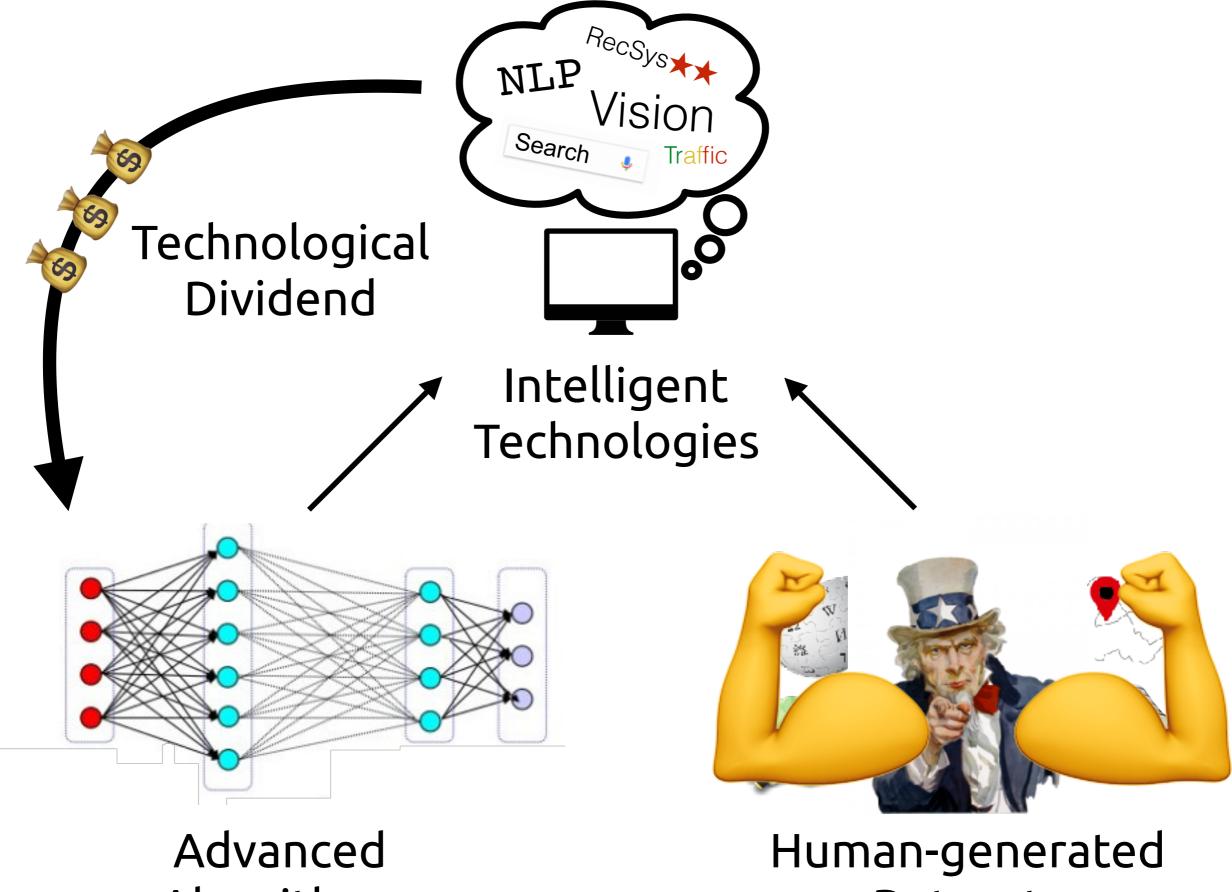




McMahon, C.¹, Johnson, I.¹, and Hecht, B. (2017) The Substantial Interdependence of Wikipedia and Google – A Case Study on the Relationship Between Peer Production Communities and Information Technologies. *Proceedings of AAAI ICWSM 2017.* ¹Co-First Authors



<sup>\*</sup> Nominated for Best Paper Award



Algorithms

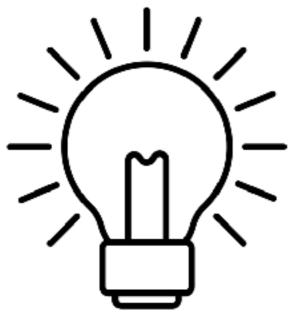
**Datasets** 

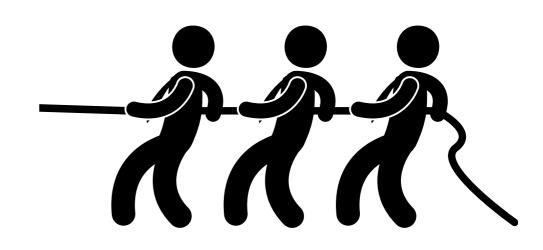
# Possible Solution #1

Problem: Computing-induced income inequality

- STEP 1 -

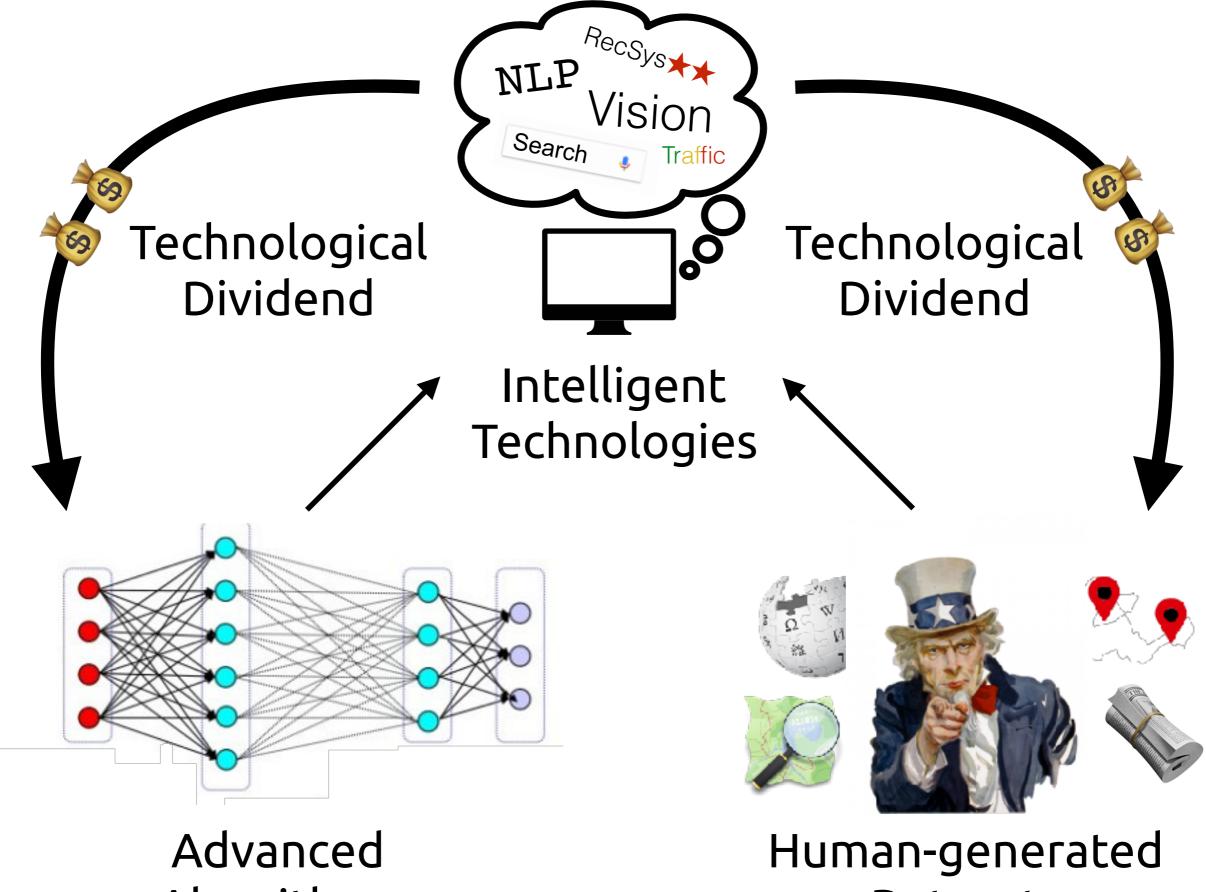
EP 1 - - STEP 2 -





Make people **aware** of the **value** they bring to intelligent technologies.

Build **tools** to enable **collection action** around that value.



Algorithms

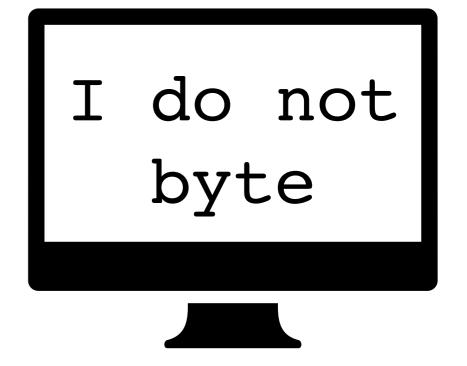
**Datasets** 

### Q1: What issues need to be addressed

- Computing-induced income inequality
- Q2: How can we have a greater positive impact?
  - Consider negative broader impacts
  - Build more systems
  - Eschew circular firing squads

# #1: Systems! Systems!

- In general, more systems → bigger impact
- Systems work can be harder...
- ...but the pain is rewarded with gain



# #2: Negative Broader Impacts

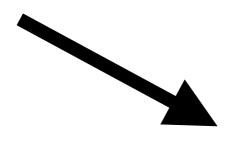
- Can no longer assume that our broader impacts are always positive.
- Need to take this seriously in our papers and grants

# #2: Negative Broader Impacts

- Can no longer assume that our broader impacts are always positive.
- Need to take this seriously in our papers and grants.
- Same deal in our role as reviewers
  - Must be fair and fact-based

# Amazing science and engineering





More and stronger international bonds

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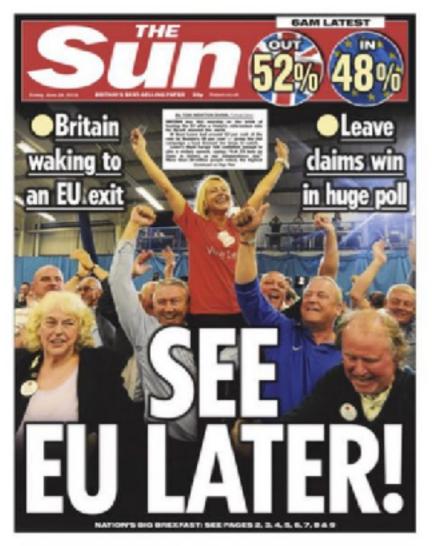














### Trump: 'We don't want them here'



Immigration ban stuns and angers the world

I love how misleading CNN is with their news headlines



# Avoid the Circular Firing Squads

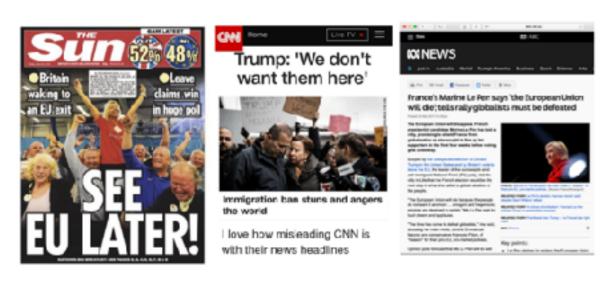
Single-blind is better than double-blind!

There should be a subcommittee on {X}!

Reviewing takes up too much time!

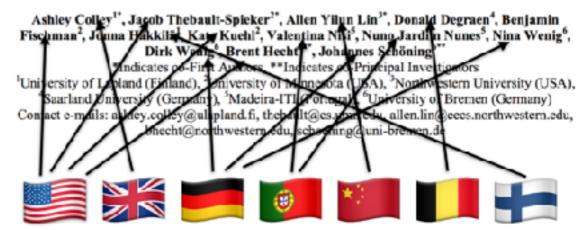
Off with R2's head!

I can't believe they forgot to cite my paper!



# The Rest of the World (seemingly, at least)

#### The Geography of Pokémon GO: Beneficial and Problematic Effects on Places and Movement



#### The HCI Community

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