# Towards responsible data science

### Julia Stoyanovich Drexel University & Princeton CITP

@stoyanoj



### WHAT PRICE WOULD YOU SEE?



# Online price discrimination

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

WHAT THEY KNOW

### Websites Vary Prices, Deals Based on Users' Information

By JENNIFER VALENTINO-DEVRIES, JEREMY SINGER-VINE and ASHKAN SOLTANI December 24, 2012

It was the same Swingline stapler, on the same Staples.com website. But for Kim Wamble, the price was \$15.79, while the price on Trude Frizzell's screen, just a few miles away, was \$14.29.

A key difference: where Staples seemed to think they were located.

### lower prices offered to buyers who live in more affluent neighborhoods

https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424127887323777204578189391813881534



# Online job ads

# theguardian

Samuel Gibbs

Wednesday 8 July 2015 11.29 BST

# Women less likely to be shown ads for high-paid jobs on Google, study shows

Automated testing and analysis of company's advertising system reveals male job seekers are shown far more adverts for high-paying executive jobs



One experiment showed that Google displayed adverts for a career coaching service for executive jobs 1,852 times to the male group and only 318 times to the female group. Photograph: Alamy

The AdFisher tool simulated job seekers that did not differ in browsing behavior, preferences or demographic characteristics, except in gender.

One experiment showed that Google displayed ads for a career coaching service for "\$200k+" executive jobs **1,852 times to the male group and only 318 times to the female group**. Another experiment, in July 2014, showed a similar trend but was not statistically significant.

https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/jul/08/women-less-likely-ads-high-paid-jobs-google-study



# Job-screening personality tests

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

### By LAUREN WEBER and ELIZABETH DWOSKIN

Sept. 29, 2014 10:30 p.m. ET

### Are Workplace Personality Tests Fair?

Growing Use of Tests Sparks Scrutiny Amid Questions of Effectiveness and Workplace Discrimination



Kyle Behm accused Kroger and six other companies of discrimination against the mentally ill through their use of personality tests. *TROY STAINS FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL* 

The Equal Employment Opportunity commission is **investigating whether personality tests discriminate against people with disabilities**.

As part of the investigation, officials are trying to determine if the tests **shut out people suffering from mental illnesses** such as depression or bipolar disorder, even if they have the right skills for the job.

### http://www.wsj.com/articles/are-workplace-personality-tests-fair-1412044257



# Racial bias in criminal sentencing

# **Machine Bias**

There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks.

by Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica May 23, 2016 A commercial tool COMPAS automatically predicts some categories of future crime to assist in bail and sentencing decisions. It is used in courts in the US.



The tool correctly predicts recidivism 61% of the time.

### Blacks are almost twice as likely as whites to be labeled a higher risk but not actually re-offend.

The tool makes **the opposite mistake among whites**: They are much more likely than blacks to be labeled lower risk but go on to commit other crimes.

https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminal-sentencing



# Racial bias in criminal sentencing

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by Julia Angwin, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner, ProPublica May 23, 2016

### Prediction Fails Differently for Black Defendants

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

Overall, Northpointe's assessment tool correctly predicts recidivism 61 percent of the time. But blacks are almost twice as likely as whites to be labeled a higher risk but not actually re-offend. It makes the opposite mistake among whites: They are much more likely than blacks to be labeled lower risk but go on to commit other crimes. (Source: ProPublica analysis of data from Broward County, Fla.)

https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminal-sentencing



# Is algorithmic decision-making impartial?

Claim: Data-driven algorithms cannot be biased! And yet...

- Algorithms **discriminate** just like humans do, but at a larger scale
- Processes are **opaque**, and defy public scrutiny
- It is our responsibility to understand the issues and offer technological solutions that address them
- Technology must be informed by ethical and legal considerations



http://www.allenovery.com/publications/ en-gb/Pages/Protected-characteristicsand-the-perception-reality-gap.aspx



# The evils of discrimination

**Disparate treatment** is the illegal practice of treating an entity differently based on a **protected characteristic** such as race, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, or national origin.

**Disparate impact** is the result of systematic disparate treatment, where disproportionate **adverse impact** is observed on members of a **protected class**.



http://www.allenovery.com/publications/engb/Pages/Protected-characteristics-and-theperception-reality-gap.aspx



# NYC Algorithmic Transparency Law

1/11/2018

Int. No. 1696-A: A Local Law in relation to automated decision systems used by agencies

	E NEW YORK CITY C y Johnson, Speaker	OUNCIL	<u>Sign Ir</u> Legislative Research Center		
Council Home Legislation Calendar City Council Committees					
File #:	Int 1696-2017 Version: A ᅌ	Name:	Automated decision systems used by agencies.		
Type:	Introduction	Status:	Enacted		
		Committee:	Committee on Technology		
On agenda:	8/24/2017				
Enactment date:	1/11/2018	Law number:	2018/049		
Title:	A Local Law in relation to automated deci	sion systems used by	agencies		
Sponsors:	Sponsors: James Vacca, Helen K. Rosenthal, Corey D. Johnson, Rafael Salamanca, Jr., Vincent J. Gentile, Robert E. Cornegy, Jr., Jumaane D. Williams, Ben Kallos, Carlos Menchaca				
Council Member 9 Sponsors: 9					
Summary: This bill would require the creation of a task force that provides recommendations on how information on agency automated decision systems may be shared with the public and how agencies may address instances where people are harmed by agency automated decision systems.					
Indexes:	Oversight				
Attachments: 1. Summary of Int. No. 1696-A, 2. Summary of Int. No. 1696, 3. Int. No. 1696, 4. August 24, 2017 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 5. Committee Report 10/16/17, 6. Hearing Testimony 10/16/17, 7. Hearing Transcript 10/16/17, 8. Proposed Int. No. 1696-A - 12/12/17, 9. Committee Report 12/7/17, 10. Hearing Transcript 12/7/17, 11. December 11, 2017 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 12. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 12-11-17, 13. Int. No. 1696-A (FINAL), 14. Fiscal Impact Statement, 15. Legislative Documents - Letter to the Mayor, 16. Local Law 49, 17. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - December 11, 2017					



# NYC Algorithmic Transparency Law

### 10/16/2017

### NEW YORKER

By Julia Powles December 20, 2017

**ELEMENTS** 

### NEW YORK CITY'S BOLD, FLAWED ATTEMPT TO MAKE ALGORITHMS ACCOUNTABLE



Automated systems guide the allocation of everything from firehouses to food stamps. So why don't we know more about them?

Photograph by Mario Tama / Getty





# The original draft

Int. No. 1696

### 8/16/2017

### By Council Member Vacca

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to automated processing of data for the purposes of targeting services, penalties, or policing to persons

### Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

- 1 Section 1. Section 23-502 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended
- 2 to add a new subdivision g to read as follows:
- 3 g. Each agency that uses, for the purposes of targeting services to persons, imposing
- 4 penalties upon persons or policing, an algorithm or any other method of automated processing
- 5 system of data shall:
- 6 1. Publish on such agency's website, the source code of such system; and
- 7 2. Permit a user to (i) submit data into such system for self-testing and (ii) receive the
- 8 results of having such data processed by such system.
- 9 § 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law.

MAJ LS# 10948 8/16/17 2:13 PM

### this is NOT what was adopted



# Summary of Int. No. 1696-A

Form an automated decision systems (**ADS**) **task force** that **surveys** current use of algorithms and data in City agencies and develops **procedures** for:

- requesting and receiving an explanation of an algorithmic decision affecting an individual (3(b))
- interrogating ADS for bias and discrimination against members of legally-protected groups (3(c) and 3(d))
- allowing the public to assess how ADS function and are used (3(e)), and archiving ADS together with the data they use (3(f))



### The ADS Task Force

Visit alpha.nyc.gov to help us test out new ideas for NYC's website.

The Offic	ial Website of the City of	New York	N	70		简	体中文▶Tr	ranslate 🔻 Text Size
Ħ	NYC Resources	NYC311	Office of the May	yor	Events	Connect	Jobs	Search Q
	Mayor	Fi	rst Lady		New	/S		Officials

# Mayor de Blasio Announces First In-Nation Task Force To Examine Automated Decision Systems Used By The City

May 16, 2018

technology"

 $\times$ 

Email

🖶 Print

**NEW YORK**— Today, Mayor de Blasio announced the creation of the Automated Decision Systems Task Force which will explore how New York City uses algorithms. The task force, the first of its kind in the U.S., will work to develop a process for reviewing "automated decision systems," commonly known as algorithms, through the lens of equity, fairness and accountability. "As data and technology become more central to the work of city government, the algorithms we use to aid decision making must be aligned with our goals and values," said **Mayor de Blasio**. "The establishment of the Automated Decision Systems Task Force is an important first step towards greater transparency and equity in our use of



### General Data Protection Regulation GDPR

Chapter 1 (Art. 1 – 4) General provisions	~	Chapter 6 (Art. 51 – 59) Independent supervisory	~
Chapter 2 (Art. 5 – 11) <b>Principles</b>	~	Chapter 7 (Art. 60 – 76)	~
Chapter 3 (Art. 12 – 23) Rights of the data subject	~	Chapter 8 (Art. 77 – 84) Remedies, liability and penalties	~
Chapter 4 (Art. 24 – 43) Controller and processor	~	Chapter 9 (Art. 85 – 91) <b>Provisions relating to specific</b>	~
Chapter 5 (Art. 44 – 50)	~	processing situations	
Transfers of personal data to third countries or international organisations		Chapter 10 (Art. 92 – 93) Delegated acts and implementing acts	~



# ADS example: urban homelessness



- Allocate interventions: services and support mechanisms
- **Recommend** pathways through the system
- **Evaluate** effectiveness of interventions, pathways, over-all system



### Mayor de Blasio Scrambles to Curb Homelessness After Years of Not Keeping Pace

By J. DAVID GOODMAN and NIKITA STEWART JAN. 13, 2017



# The New York Times

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/01/13/ nyregion/mayor-de-blasio-scrambles-tocurb-homelessness-after-years-of-notkeeping-pace.html

Volunteers during the homeless census in February 2015. In a decision made by Mayor Bill de Blasio, New York City stopped opening shelters for much of that year. Stephanie Keith for The New York Times

Ms. Glen emphasized that the construction of new housing takes several years, a long-term solution whose effect on homelessness could not yet be evaluated.



### Homeless Young People of New York, Overlooked and Underserved

By NIKITA STEWART FEB. 5, 2016



Abdul, 23, at Safe Horizon in Harlem, has been homeless since 2010. Jake Naughto

# The New York Times

https://www.nytimes.com/ 2016/02/06/nyregion/youngand-homeless-in-new-yorkoverlooked-andunderserved.html

Last year, the total number of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people in the city was 75,323, which included 1,706 people between ages 18 and 24. The actual number of young people is significantly higher, according to the service providers, who said the census mostly captured young people who received social services. The census takers were not allowed to enter private businesses, including many of the late-night spots where young people often create an ad hoc shelter by pretending to be customers.



- Be transparent and accountable
- Achieve equitable resource distribution
- Be cognizant of the **rights** and **preferences** of individuals





- Be transparent and accountable
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### BRIEF HISTORY OF FAIRNESS IN ML

- Be transparent and accountable
- Achieve equitable resource distribution
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done?



- Be transparent and accountable
- Achieve equitable resource distribution
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### but where does the data come from?



### The data science lifecycle





# Revisiting the analytics step



finding: women are underrepresented in fix the model! some outcome groups (group fairness)

of course, but maybe... the input was generated with:

select \* from R
where status = 'unsheltered'
and length > 2 month

10% female 40% female



# Revisiting the analytics step



finding: young people are recommended fix the model! pathways of lower effectiveness (high error rate)

of course, but maybe...

mental health info was missing for this population

go back to the data acquisition step, look for additional datasets



# Revisiting the analytics step



finding: minors are underrepresented in the input, compared to their actual proportion in the population (insufficient data)

### unlikely to help!

### fix the model??

### minors data was not shared

go back to the data sharing step, help data providers share their data while adhering to laws and upholding the trust of the participants



# Fides: responsibility by design

Fides	Sharing and Curation	Annotation Anonymization	Systems support for responsible data science
	Integration	Triage Alignment Transformation	<b>Responsibility by design</b> , managed at all stages of the
	Processing	Querying Ranking Analytics	lifecycle of data-intensive applications
	Verification and compliance	Provenance Explanations	Applications: data science for social good

# responsible data science requires a holistic view of the data lifecycle



dataresponsibly

**Re-arrest** probabilities derived from COMPAS risk scores.

In the window around 40%, about 40% of the defendants are re-arrested



[Fig. from Corbett-Davies et al., "Algorithmic Decision Making and the Cost of Fairness"]

**ProPublica**: "things look very different when analyzed from the perspective of the defendants, particularly those **wrongly classified as future criminals**."





[Fig. from Corbett-Davies et al., "Algorithmic Decision Making and the Cost of Fairness"]

(**Predictive value**) Decision maker: of those I labeled high-risk, how many will re-offend?

(False positive rate) Defendant: how likely am I to be incorrectly classified high-risk?





Decision Making and the Cost of Fairness"]

If an instrument satisfies **predictive parity** ... but the **prevalence differs between groups**, the instrument **cannot achieve equal false positive rates and equal false negative** rates across those groups. [Chouldechova. "Fair Prediction with Disparate Impact", 2018]





Metric	Equalized under
Selection probability	Demographic parity
Pos. predictive value	Predictive parity *
Neg. predictive value	
False positive rate	Error rate balance *
False negative rate	Error rate balance *
Accuracy	Accuracy equity

[Chouldechova, 2018]

### **Different metrics matter to different stakeholders**

Different definitions are "right" in different contexts

Often impossible to achieve simultaneously, impose trade-offs



# Individual vs. group fairness

**Group fairness**: Do outcomes systematically differ between demographic groups?

**Individual fairness**: Are similar\*\* individuals being treated similarly?



### Another take

[S. Friedler, C. Scheidegger and S. Venkatasubramanian, arXiv:1609.07236v1 (2016)]

Construct Space	<b>Observed Space</b>	<b>Decision Space</b>
intelligence	SAT score	performance in
grit	high-school GPA	college
propensity to commit crime	family history	rooidiviom
risk-averseness	age	recidivisin

### fairness through mappings

# Individual fairness

[S. Friedler, C. Scheidegger and S. Venkatasubramanian, arXiv:1609.07236v1 (2016)]



What you see is what you get (**WYSIWYG**): there exists a mapping from **CS** to **OS** that has low distortion. That is, we might believe that OS faithfully represents CS. **This is the individual fairness world view.** 



# Group fairness

[S. Friedler, C. Scheidegger and S. Venkatasubramanian, arXiv:1609.07236v1 (2016)]



We are all equal (WAE): the mapping from CS to OS introduces **structural bias** - there is a distortion that aligns with the group structure of CS. This is the group fairness world view.

**Structural bias examples**: SAT verbal questions function differently in the African-American and in the Caucasian subgroups in the US.



### Two notions of fairness

# individual fairness group fairness

equality

equity

### two intrinsically different world views



# Diversity

### The New York Times



### Artificial Intelligence's White Guy Problem

By KATE CRAWFORD JUNE 25, 2016

Like all technologies before it, artificial intelligence will reflect the values of its creators. So **inclusivity matters** — from who designs it to who sits on the company boards and which ethical perspectives are included.

Otherwise, we risk constructing machine intelligence that mirrors a narrow and privileged vision of society, with its old, familiar biases and stereotypes.

### REVIEW

### Diversity in Big Data: A Review

Marina Drosou<sup>1</sup>, H.V. Jagadish<sup>2</sup>, Evaggelia Pitoura<sup>1</sup>, and Julia Stoyanovich<sup>3,\*</sup>

Big Data Volume 5 Number 2, 2017 © Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. DOI: 10.1089/big.2016.0054

### Abstract

Big data technology offers unprecedented opportunities to society as a whole and also to its individual members. At the same time, this technology poses significant risks to those it overlooks. In this article, we give an overview of recent technical work on diversity, particularly in selection tasks, discuss connections between diversity and fairness, and identify promising directions for future work that will position diversity as an important component of a data-responsible society. We argue that diversity should come to the forefront of our discourse, for reasons that are both ethical—to mitigate the risks of exclusion—and utilitarian, to enable more powerful, accurate, and engaging data analysis and use.

Keywords: data; diversity; empirical studies; models and algorithms; responsibly

+ Fairness in ranked outputs, joint with Yang [Drexel] [FATML 2016] [SSDBM 2017]





### SCHLOSS DAGSTUHL Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik

Report from Dagstuhl Seminar 16291

Data, Responsibly

Edited by

Serge Abiteboul<sup>1</sup>, Gerome Miklau<sup>2</sup>, Julia Stoyanovich<sup>3</sup>, and Gerhard Weikum<sup>4</sup>

- $1 \quad ENS-Cachan, FR, {\tt serge.abiteboul@inria.fr}$
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- 4 MPI für Informatik Saarbrücken, DE, weikum@mpi-inf.mpg.de



The goals of the seminar were to assess the state of data analysis in terms of fairness, transparency and diversity, identify new research challenges, and derive an agenda for computer science research and education efforts in responsible data analysis and use.

An important goal of the seminar was to **identify opportunities for highimpact contributions to this important emergent area specifically from the data management community**.

http://drops.dagstuhl.de/opus/volltexte/2016/6764/pdf/dagrep\_v006\_i007\_p042\_s16291.pdf



### Research Directions for Principles of Data Management (Dagstuhl Perspectives Workshop 16151)

### Edited by

Serge Abiteboul, Marcelo Arenas, Pablo Barceló, Meghyn Bienvenu, Diego Calvanese, Claire David, Richard Hull, Eyke Hüllermeier, Benny Kimelfeld, Leonid Libkin, Wim Martens, Tova Milo, Filip Murlak, Frank Neven, Magdalena Ortiz, Thomas Schwentick, Julia Stoyanovich, Jianwen Su, Dan Suciu, Victor Vianu, and Ke Yi

### 1 Introduction

In April 2016, a community of researchers working in the area of Principles of Data Management (PDM) joined in a workshop at the Dagstuhl Castle in Germany. The workshop was organized jointly by the Executive Committee of the ACM Symposium on Principles of Database Systems (PODS) and the Council of the International Conference on Database Theory (ICDT). The mission of this workshop was to identify and explore some of the most important research directions that have high relevance to society and to Computer Science today, and where the PDM community has the potential to make significant contributions. This report describes the family of research directions that the workshop focused on from three perspectives: potential practical relevance, results already obtained, and research questions that appear surmountable in the short and medium term. This report organizes the identified research challenges for PDM around seven core themes, namely *Managing Data at Scale, Multi-model Data, Uncertain Information, Knowledge-enriched Data, Data Management and Machine Learning, Process and Data,* and *Ethics and Data Management.* Since new challenges in PDM arise all the time, we note that this list of themes is not intended to be exclusive.

Dagstuhl Manifestos 7(1): 1-29 (2018)



▲ INTERNATIONAL POLITIQUE SOCIÉTÉ ÉCO CULTURE IDÉES PLANÈTE SPORT SCIENCES

### **M** Sciences

SCIENCES

Vidéos Archéologie

Affaire de logique Astronomie

Biologie Cerveau Géophysic

Plaidoyer pour une analyse « responsable » des données

> Face aux risques d'atteinte à la vie privée, les chercheurs en informatique Serge Abiteboul et Julia Stoyanovich plaident pour une collecte et une analyse des données impartiales, transparentes et accessibles à tous.

LE MONDE SCIENCE ET TECHNO | 12.10.2015 à 20h47 • Mis à jour le 19.10.2015 à 16h16



Association Fo

Computing Machine

### DATA, RESPONSIBLY

📕 Big Data

ACM SIGMOD Blog

Serge Abiteboul and Julia Stoyanovich

NOVEMBER 20, 2015

(This blog post is an extended version of an October 12, 2015 Le Monde op-ed article (in French))

Our society is increasingly relying on algorithms in all aspects of its operation. We trust algorithms not only *to help carry out routine tasks*, such as accounting and automatic manufacturing, but also *to make decisions on our behalf*. The sorts of decisions with which we now casually entrust algorithms range from unsettling (killer drones), to tedious (automatic trading), or deeply personal (online dating). Computer technology has tremendous power, and with that power comes immense responsibility. Nowhere is the need to control the power and to judiciously use technology more apparent than in massive data analysis, known as big data.



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- Achieve equitable resource distribution
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dataresponsibly.com

FAT is the new ACID





Thank you!





