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 12:10 PM

Higher Rates Of Hate Crimes Are Tied To Income Inequality

The Election Highlighted a Growing Rural-Urban Split

By EMILY BADGER, QUOC TRUNG BUI and ADAM PEARCE  NOV. 11, 2016
% of Income Going to Top Decline of Earners

Source: Saez 2013
Computing technologies are (partially) at fault.
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

NLP  RecSys  Vision

Search  Traffic

Intelligent Technologies
Advanced Algorithms

Intelligent Technologies

Human-generated Datasets
Advanced Algorithms

Human-generated Datasets

Technological Dividend

Intelligent Technologies

NLP

Vision

RecSys

Search

Traffic

* Nominated for Best Paper Award
Possible Solution #1

Problem: Computing-induced income inequality

- **STEP 1** -
  Make people **aware** of the **value** they bring to intelligent technologies.

- **STEP 2** -
  Build **tools** to enable collection action around that value.
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
The Geography of Pokémon GO: Beneficial and Problematic Effects on Places and Movement

Ashley Colley1*, Jacob Thebault-Spieker2*, Allen Yilun Lin3*, Donald Degraen4, Benjamin Fischman2, Jonna Häkkilä1, Kat Kuehl2, Valentina Nisi5, Nuno Jardim Nunes5, Nina Wenig6, Dirk Wenig6, Brent Hecht6*, Johannes Schöning5**

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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 HCI Community
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