

A line of robots, possibly from the movie 'I, Robot', is shown in a dark, industrial setting. The robots are metallic and have a complex, mechanical appearance. The robot in the foreground is in sharp focus, while the others in the background are blurred. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows.

# AI Politics

A 'For Sceptics' Presentation

Tim Kindberg

KUBAN: 3HI  
ROBOTI 6



## AI raises many ethical issues, including:

Bias & social justice

Workplace welfare and jobs

Surveillance & privacy

Environment

Democracy & public affairs

Threats to life



# Let's start with the future

Which, in the collective imagination, is already here



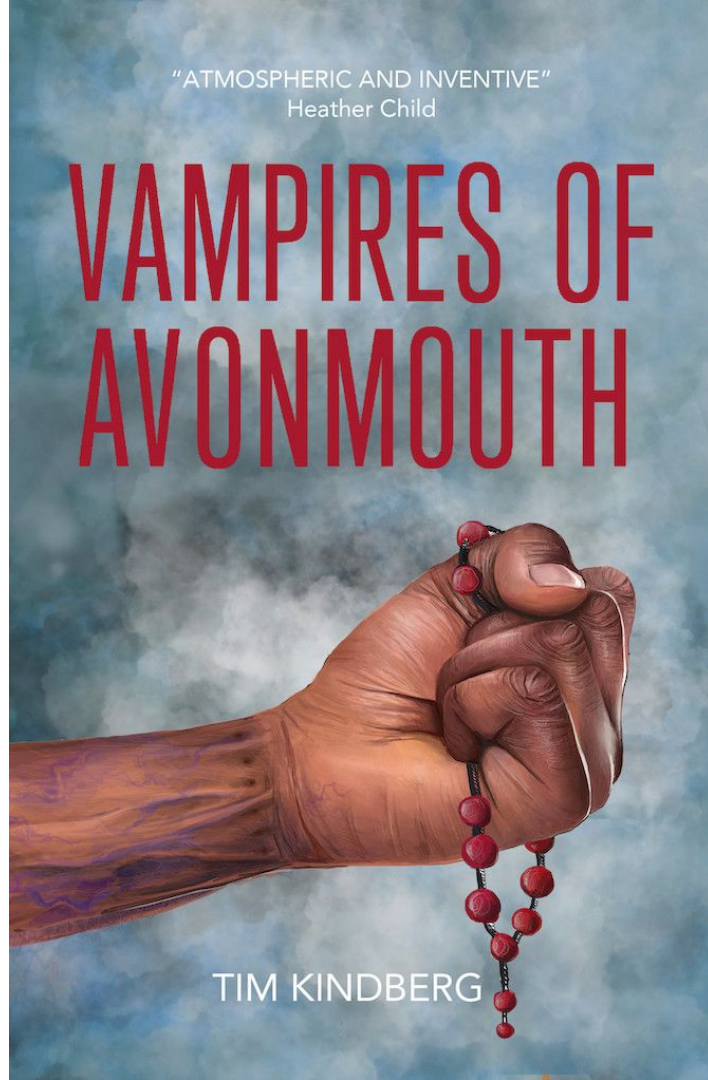
2087, West Africa & West Country

AI and brain-internet connections

Vampiric nature of technology platforms

Struggle for humanity against mental enslavement  
— by systems of oppression & parts of our selves

Cover: Jazz Thompson



A module swooped from above, sleek and highly manoeuvrable ... The chief climbed out. A chief. For this one was not flesh but a **bodai**. An artificial I assigned to a bod, the bod to a module, the module dispatched to David and consequently to this node. Anyway, there he – it – was.

“I need your report ASAP.”

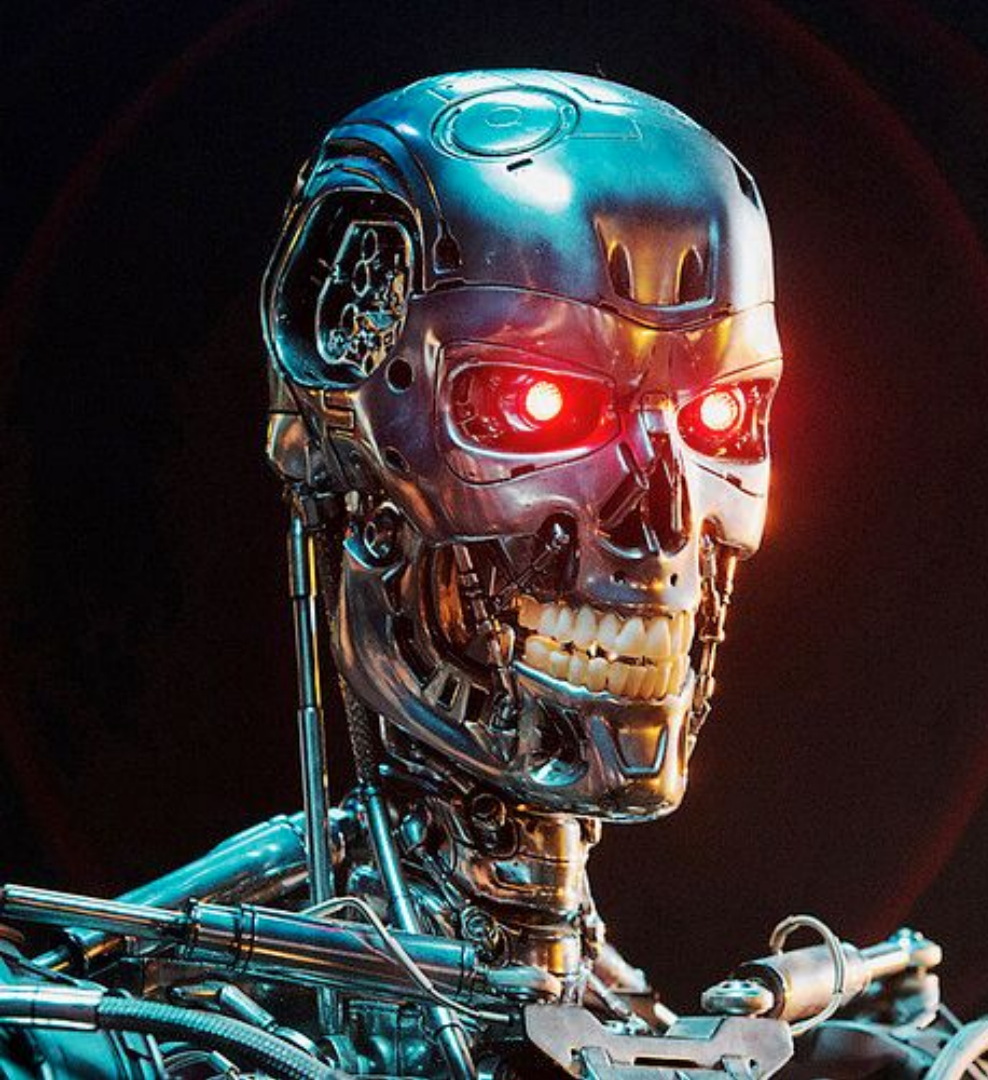
“You’ll have it today.” David deliberately looked as though he didn’t mean it, a casual and common expression of fleshly dissent that had stayed with him from his youth.

the pause was just a timing routine, a ruse to slow them down so they could talk to flesh, and not freak flesh out with sheer speed. David sensed this one might be a little iffy on the network-to-fleshwork interface.

“Give me headlines,” it said.







# KLARA AND THE SUN

A NOVEL



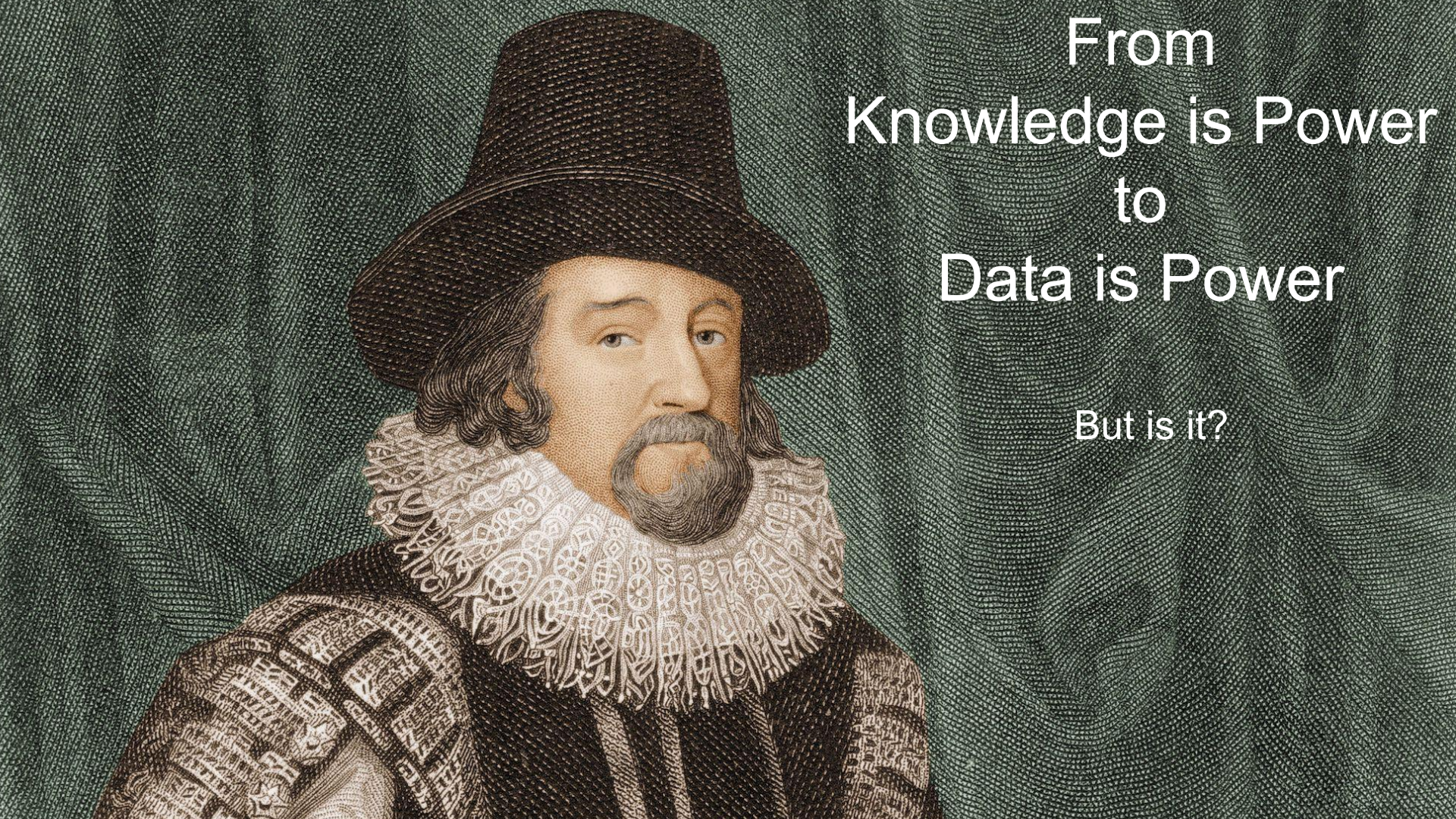
KAZUO  
ISHIGURO

# Back to the Present

Who is behind current AI technologies?

What power can they wield with them?





From  
Knowledge is Power  
to  
Data is Power

But is it?



machine learning is an epistemological black hole



## Machine learning

statistical  
model

data  
0010110111

sampling



## Us



senses

light,  
sound, ...



## Science

hypothesis,  
theory

data  
0010110111

measure-  
ment



Three epistemological cases



This is not a measurement



These are measurements without a theory



This is not a theory or a concept — or anything explicable



statistical model

(code and data)

... at least, as things stand.  
also has unknowable error modes



## Thought experiment

Human civilisation has disappeared

Except for hard drives in data centres

Aliens send robots

Which try to reconstruct us and our civilisation







# Robotic Fallacy\*

To mistake an *instance* of seemingly intelligent behaviour for the existence of an underlying *faculty* of intelligence

\*For other fallacies connected with AI research see  
“Why AI is Harder Than We Think”,  
Melanie Mitchell

# GPT-3

Amazing! What dog could do that?!



**Mario Klingemann**  @quasimondo · Jul 18, 2020 ...

Another attempt at a longer piece. An imaginary Jerome K. Jerome writes about Twitter. All I seeded was the title, the author's name and the first "It", the rest is done by [#gpt3](#)

Here is the full-length version as a PDF:

[drive.google.com/file/d/1qtPa1c...](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qtPa1c...)

## The importance of being on twitter

by Jerome K. Jerome  
London, Summer 1897

It is a curious fact that the last remaining form of social life in which the people of London are still interested is Twitter. I was struck with this curious fact when I went on one of my periodical holidays to the sea-side, and found the whole place twittering like a starling-cage. I called it an anomaly, and it is.

I spoke to the sexton, whose cottage, like all sexton's cottages, is full of antiquities and interesting relics of former centuries. I said to him, "My dear sexton, what does all this twittering mean?" And he replied, "Why, sir, of course it means Twitter." "Ah!" I said, "I know about that. But what is Twitter?"



40



564



1.2K



## GPT-3 has no understanding (from Gary Marcus)

You are having a small dinner party. You want to serve dinner in the living room. The dining room table is wider than the doorway, so to get it into the living room, you will have to **remove the door. You have a table saw, so you cut the door in half and remove the top half.**

# Statistical text weaving

Like Microsoft's infamous "Tay Tweets" chatbot, GPT-3 will propagate any biased content within large corpus of human text fed to it

Removing undesirable text from such a large corpus would require either enormous amounts of labour or *an AI that works* (c.f. Facebook moderation).

Cats are understood by vets, biologists, pet-owners, ... (and dogs)

That knowledge is human labour. Which some capitalists would rather not pay for.





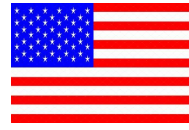
# Too “busy” for domain knowledge

telecoms

supermarkets

track-and-trace





Google



amazon.com<sup>®</sup>



In respect of covert use of automatic facial recognition Avon and Somerset Constabulary can neither confirm nor deny that information is or is not held by virtue of Section 24(2) National Security and Section 31(3) Law Enforcement.



insurance  
companies

recruitment  
agencies

# Machine learning

statistical  
model

data  
0010110111

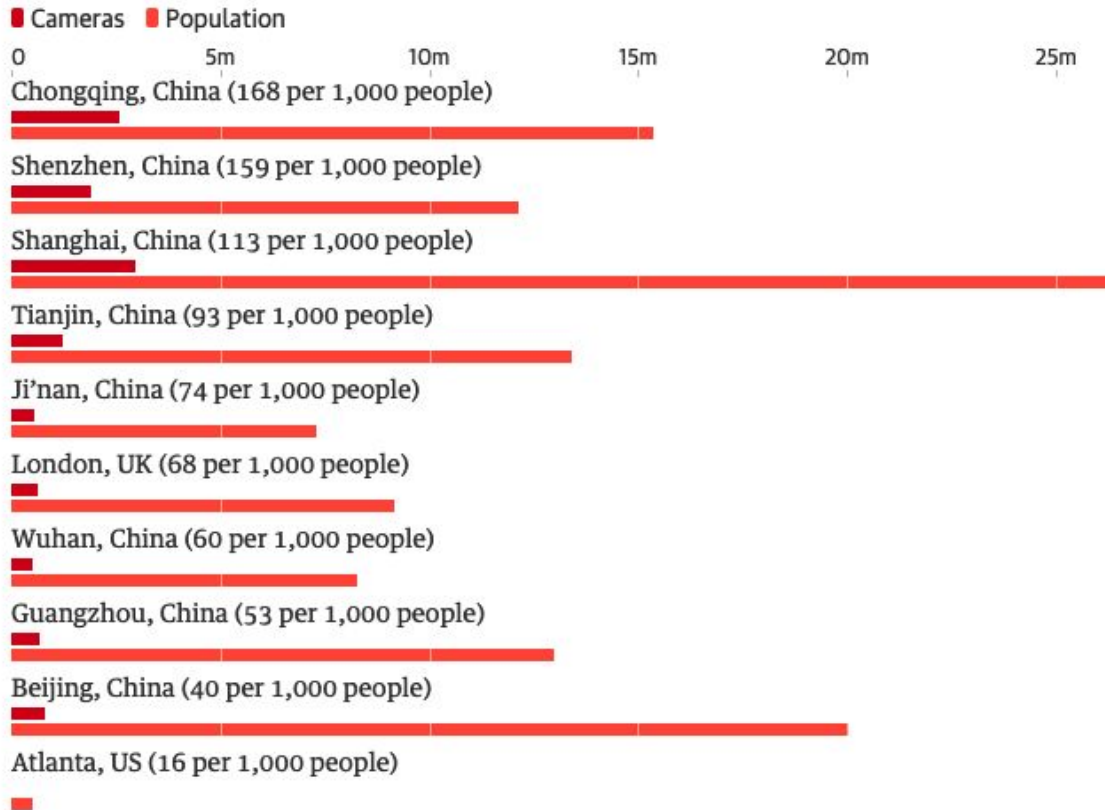
surveillance

control, exploitation



Surveillance

## 10 cities with most surveillance cameras per person



Guardian graphic | Source: Comparitech

Battery

95%



Fraunhofer

IIS



Age

25 [+/-9]

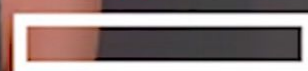
Gender

Female

Uptime

64.11

Angry



Happy



Sad



Surprised



FrameRate

0.915973186

ImageCount

155

ImageHeight

720

ImageWidth

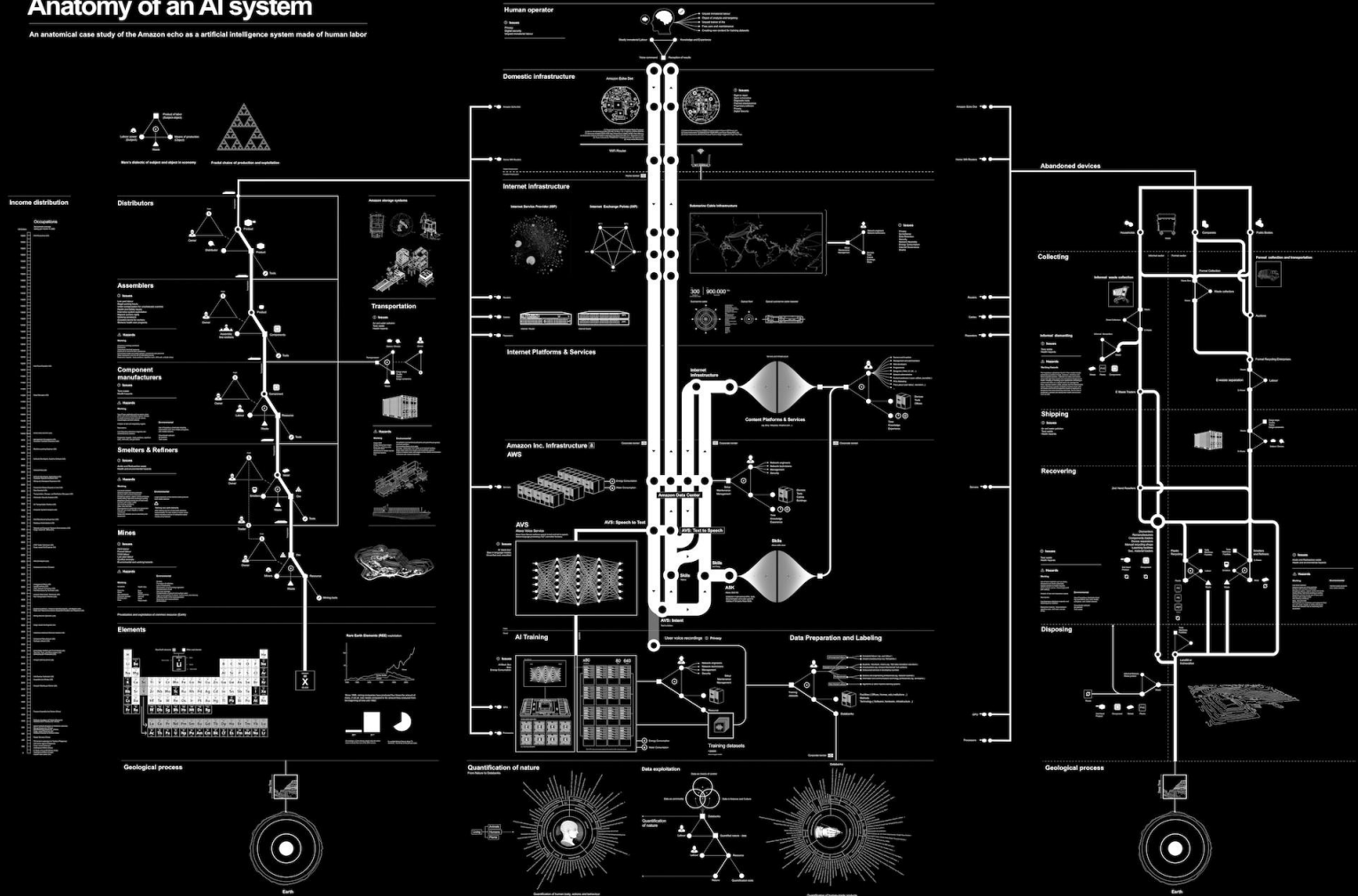
1280

**Materiality**



# Anatomy of an AI system

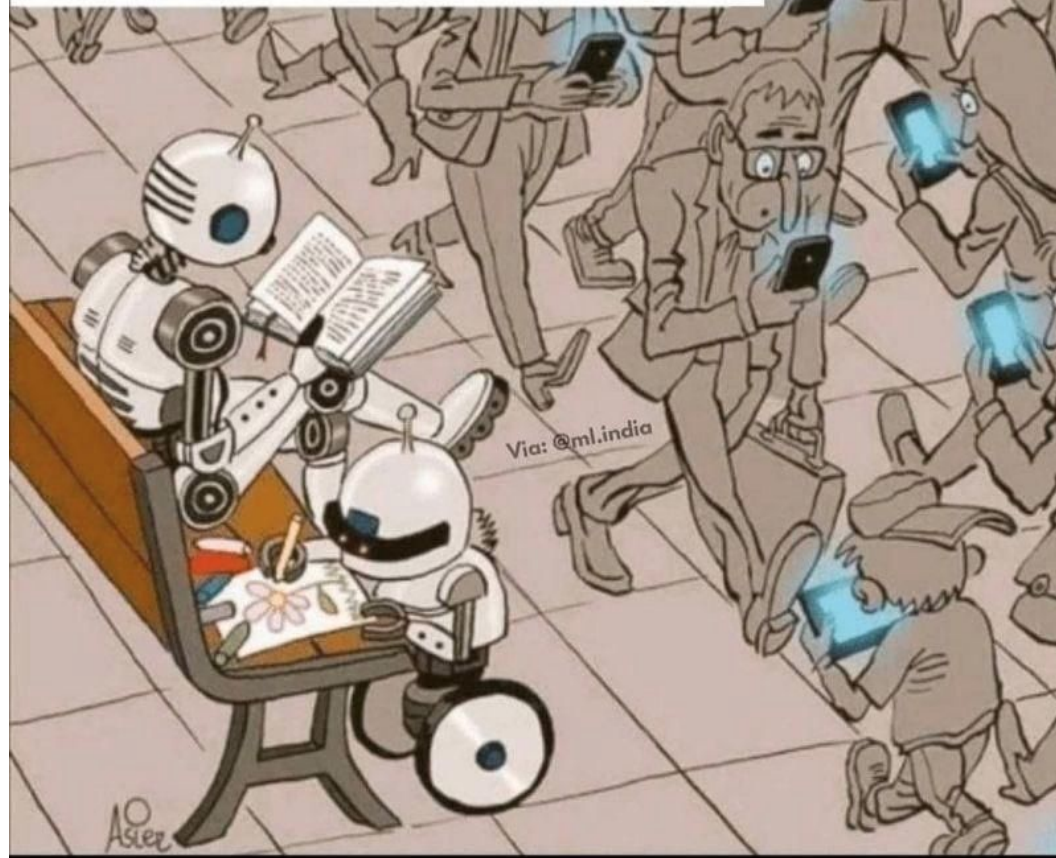
An anatomical case study of the Amazon echo as an artificial intelligence system made of human labor

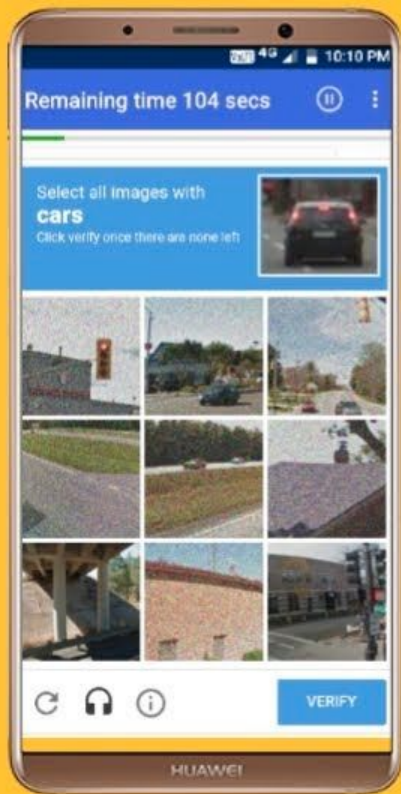


Labour

**Humans are hooked.**

**Machines are learning.**





Rate reCAPTCHA  
\$1.4

Rate image  
\$0.3

Today's earnings  
\$0.0084

V3 score  
N/A



**100% Trusted**

**Solved Captcha Earn Money**

Data Is Power?







**Kate Devitt**  
@skdevitt



More

"Machine learning... is facing a credibility crisis.... Papers rely on limited or low-quality data, fail to specify their training approach and statistical methods, and don't test whether they will work for people of different races, genders, ages & geographies".



**Gary Marcus** @GaryMarcus · 16h

"Hundreds of studies flooded onto preprint servers & into medical journals claiming to demonstrate AI's ability... Many months later a research team from the University of Cambridge...reached...different conclusion: Every single one was fatally flawed. " [statnews.com/2021/06/02/mac...](https://statnews.com/2021/06/02/mac...)

7:43 AM · Jun 9, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone





# Thanks - questions?

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[vampiresofavonmouth.com](http://vampiresofavonmouth.com)

Get it at:

Arnolfini

Bloom & Curl

Cafe Kino

Love It Bristol

Max Minervas

Smashwords

(or Amazon)

