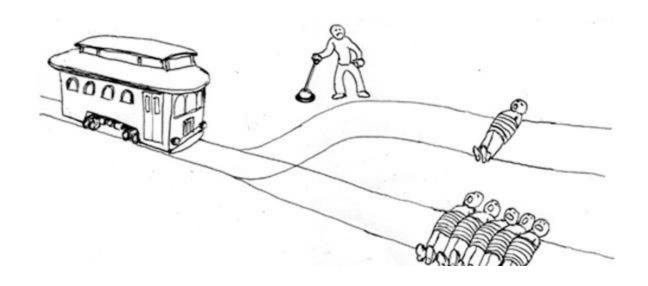
# Ethics in Artificial Intelligence

Associate Professor Tim Miller School of Computing and Information Systems University of Melbourne



# The Trolley Problem



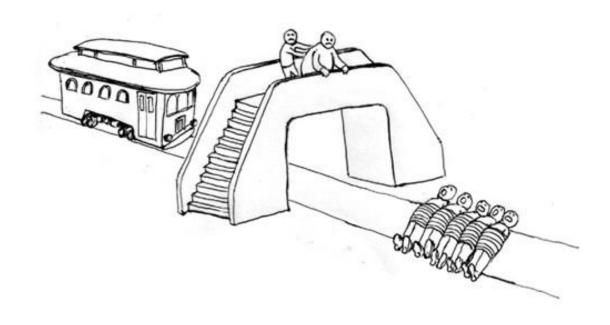
# **Ethics**

Utilitarianistic ethics: only outcomes matter, and we should always opt for the best.

Deontological ethics: actions matter too! We have a duty to help others as well as a duty not to harm others, but the latter is stronger than the former.

What should we do?

# The 'Fat Man' Trolley Problem



# Many variants of the Trolley Problem

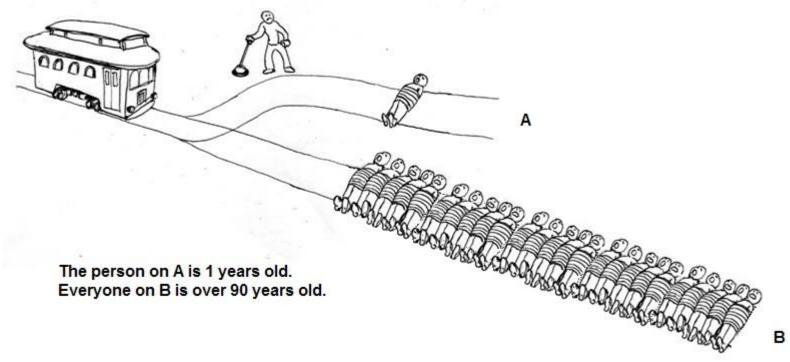
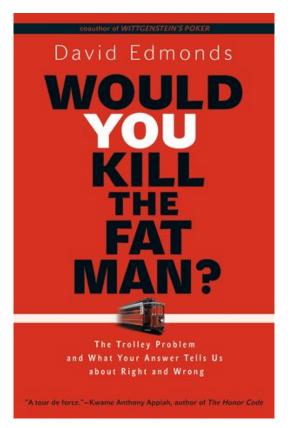


Image source: http://www.relativelyinteresting.com/the-trolley-problem-a-thought-experiment-that-tests-our-morality/

# Experimental ethics



# THE TROLLEY PROBLEM

- Or ---

Would You Throw the Fat Guy Off the Bridge?





A PHILOSOPHICAL CONUNDRUM

THOMAS CATHCART

Coauthor of the New York Times bestselling Plato and a Platypus Walk into a Bar...

# Pre-programmed ethics

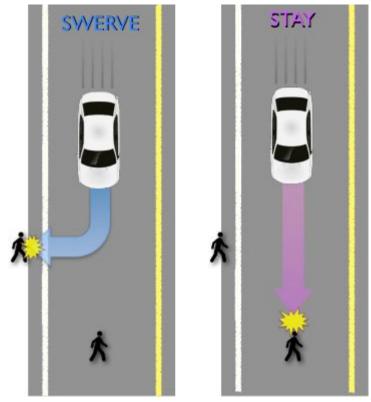
### Split-second driver decision:

- "reckless driver" → criminal liability
- otherwise → blame "fate", "bad luck", "heat of the moment", and do not blame the driver

### Autonomous vehicles:

- We must decide in advance! No split-second decisions
- What behaviour should be programmed?

# Swerve or stay?



https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COMP90054

# Pedestrian vs. Passenger

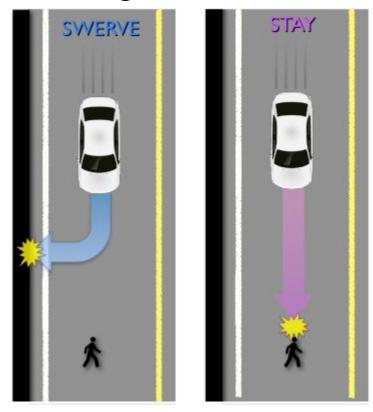


Image sources: Autonomous Vehicles Need Experimental Ethics: Are We Ready for Utilitarian Cars? JF Bonnefon, A Shariff, I Rahwan, arXiv preprint arXiv:1510.03346

# In some larger-scale experiments

Despite preferring self-sacrificing vehicles ...

people were less likely to indicate willingness to buy such cars.

Tradeoffs must be made by law-makers to solve this social dilemma

# But.....

What about slightly different scenarios:

- 20% chance of killing 10 pedestrians vs 80% chance of killing 1
- What if the cars knows there is a child on board?
- Buyer liability: If buyers can choose the "moral algorithm" are they liable for its choices?

# Who should decide the behavior of self-driving cars?

Al programmers?

Car manufacturers?

Lawmakers?

The public?

Psychologists and philosophers???

# The Moral Machine at MIT Media Lab

http://moralmachine.mit.edu/

# Wifi Access

- 1. Ensure **Wi-Fi** is enabled on your device.
- 2. Select **Visitor** from available wireless networks.
- 3. Launch a **web browser** and access any website (On some devices this is done automatically). Your web browser will redirect to the **Visitor login screen**.
- 4. Enter the **Visitor username** and **password** *very carefully:* 
  - a. Username: sciencediscoveryday
  - b. Password: Toa@Zm
- 5. Click Connect/Ok.