



*Death by Algorithm*  
*Akash Surti*

# THE FUTURE IS HERE!

---

## Why self-driving cars matter



Imagine if everyone could get around easily and safely, regardless of their ability to drive.

Aging or visually impaired loved ones wouldn't have to give up their independence. Time spent commuting could be time spent doing what you want to do. Deaths from traffic accidents—over 1.2 million worldwide every year—could be reduced dramatically, especially since 94% of accidents in the U.S. involve human error.

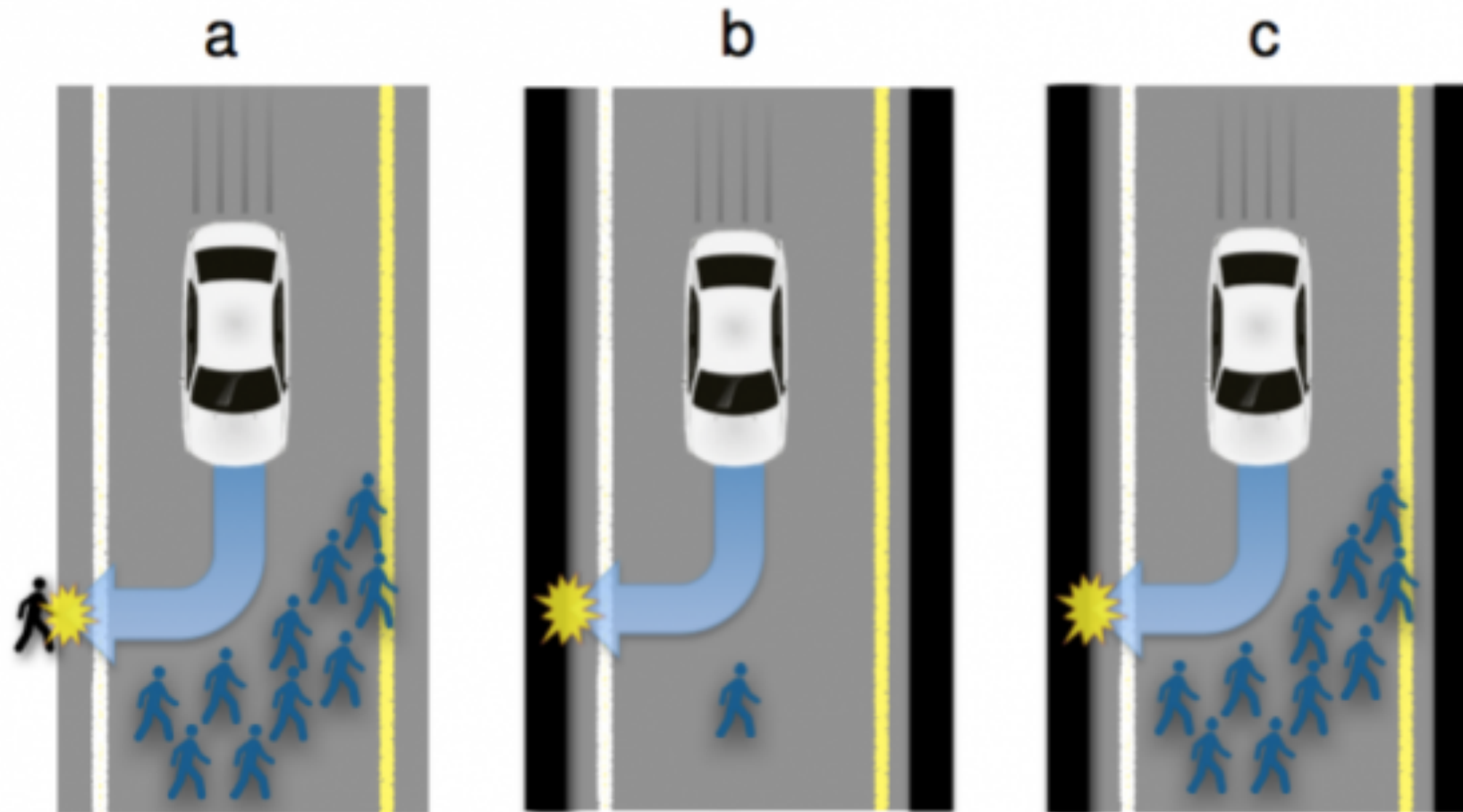


<https://www.google.com/selfdrivingcar/>



# ACCIDENTALLY ON PURPOSE

---



- Would you buy a car that puts your interests below others?
- Who decides the course of action to be taken?
  - programmer
  - driver
  - government

Source - *Why self-driving cars must be programmed to kill*



# THE PHILOSOPHY OF SELF-DRIVING CARS

---

- Chris Gerdes (Stanford University) & Patrick Lin (Cal Poly) are experimenting on the ethical questions raised by self-driving cars
- Sensors that are aware of their surroundings
- Programmed to run over wildlife
- Should they run over humans?



Every single time a google self-driving car crashed a human was to blame

Here's a thought experiment

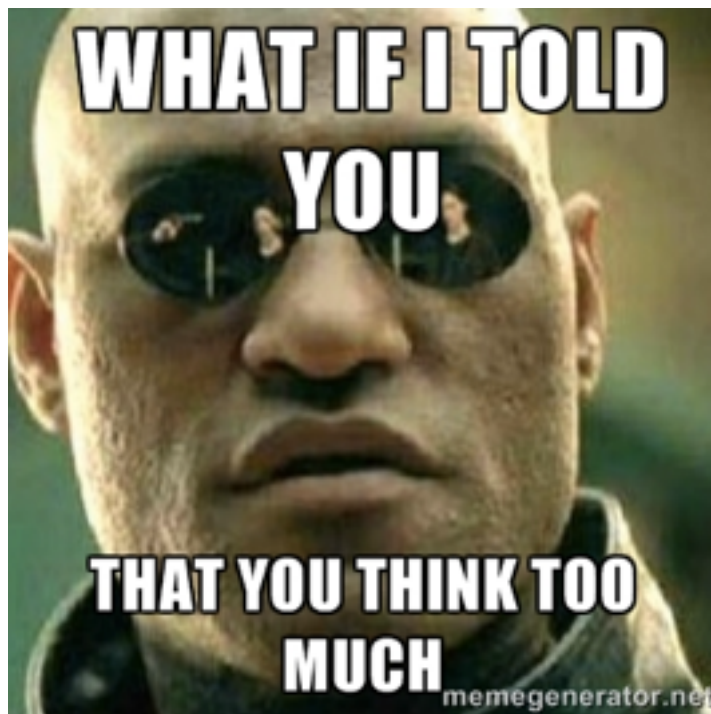
Source - How to help self-driving cars make ethical decisions

# WHAT I THINK...

---

*“Ethics, philosophy, law: all of these assumptions underpin so many decisions. If you look at airbags, for example, inherent in that technology is the assumption that you’re going to save a lot of lives, and only kill a few.”*

*- Bryant Walker-Smith, University of South Carolina*



- *We have a technology that potentially could save a lot of people, but is going to be imperfect and is going to kill.*



# SOME OTHER REFERENCES

---

- <http://www.wired.com/2014/05/the-robot-car-of-tomorrow-might-just-be-programmed-to-hit-you/>
- <http://www.technologyreview.com/news/542651/drivers-push-teslas-autopilot-beyond-its-abilities/>