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Digital USD

Digital Initiatives Symposium

Apr 30th, 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

Centering Humanity in Digital Scholarship (Featured Speaker)

Yasmeen Shorish

James Madison University

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Centering Humanity in Digital Scholarship (Featured Speaker)

Presenter 1 Title

Associate Professor and Data Services Coordinator

Session Type

60-minute panel session

Abstract

Advances in technology have brought computational power to our collections and expanded the ways that scholarship is researched and made available. Yet while library and information professionals continue to grapple with standards, storage, accessibility, and workflows to keep pace with existing digital scholarship demands, new innovations are waiting in the wings. Promises of linked data, machine learning, and AI have some of us eager for the new adventure and others concerned about capacity and expertise.

Entangled in all this technology are people. The people who do the foundational work, the people who produce the collections in an archive, the people who produce the data, and the people who produce the scholarship. Moreover, these groups of people are not mutually exclusive to one another. How do we center humanity in the work of digital scholarship while advancing new methods and technologies? How do we exhibit care for privacy, community values, and research while engaging fully in the scholarly communication landscape?

This talk will pose these questions and offer some possible courses of action, as we work to be stewards of cultural heritage in a just and ethical manner.

Location

KIPJ Room EF

Comments

Yasmeen Shorish is an Associate Professor and the Data Services Coordinator at James Madison University. She seeks to enhance the knowledge and awareness of data information literacy on campus, which includes the discovery, management, and ethical use of data. Research interests are in data management education, changes in scholarly communication, data ethics, and issues related to representation and social justice in librarianship. She serves on the Digital Library Federation Advisory Committee and is the Chair of the Association for College and Research Libraries' Research and Scholarly Environment Committee. Please see <http://www.lib.jmu.edu/yasmeen> for additional details.

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Centering Humanity in Digital Scholarship

Yasmeen Shorish

@yasmeen_azadi

Associate Professor & Data Services Coordinator

James Madison University

2019 Digital Initiatives Symposium



Topics of Discussion

- Technology
- People
- Scholarship
- Values
- The Future



Technology

- Digitized collections help reveal a computationally-ready corpus
- AI > Machine Learning
- Linked Data

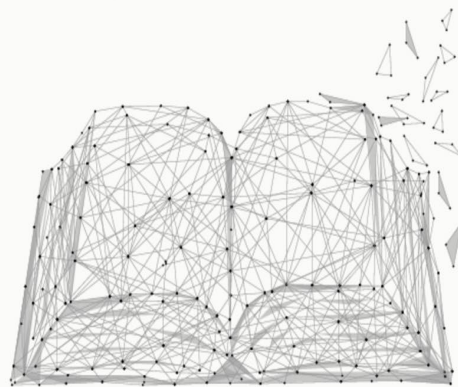


An AI Lab in a Library

Why artificial intelligence matters

By [George M. Eberhart](#) | June 26, 2018

Library AI Initiative



The Library AI initiative at Stanford, which began in fall quarter 2017, is a program to identify and enact applications of artificial intelligence—machine perception, machine learning, machine reasoning, and language recognition—that will help us make our rich collections of maps, photographs, manuscripts, data sets and other assets more easily discoverable, accessible, and analyzable for scholars.

Exploring AI

How libraries are starting to apply artificial intelligence in their work

By [Loida Garcia-Febo](#) | March 1, 2019

why are black women so

why are black women so

why are black women so

why are black women so

why are black women so

why are black women so

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why are black women so

why are black women so

why are black women so

AINOW

A research institute examining the social implications of artificial intelligence

ALGORITHMS OF OPPRESSION

HOW SEARCH ENGINES
REINFORCE RACISM

SAFIYA UMOJA NOBLE

WEAPONS OF MATH DESTRUCTION



HOW BIG DATA INCREASES INEQUALITY
AND THREATENS DEMOCRACY

CATHY O'NEIL



I am not really confident, but I think it's a man in a suit and tie talking on a cell phone and he seems 😬.

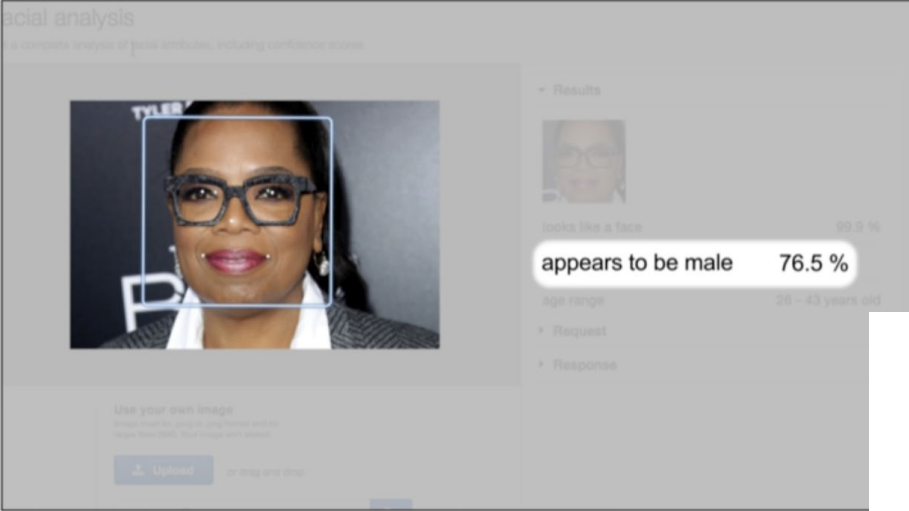
Microsoft
CaptionBot



Oprah Winfrey

facial analysis

A complete analysis of facial attributes, including confidence scores



Results

looks like a face 99.9%

appears to be male 76.5%

age range 26 - 43 years old

Request

Response

Use your own image

Upload or drag and drop

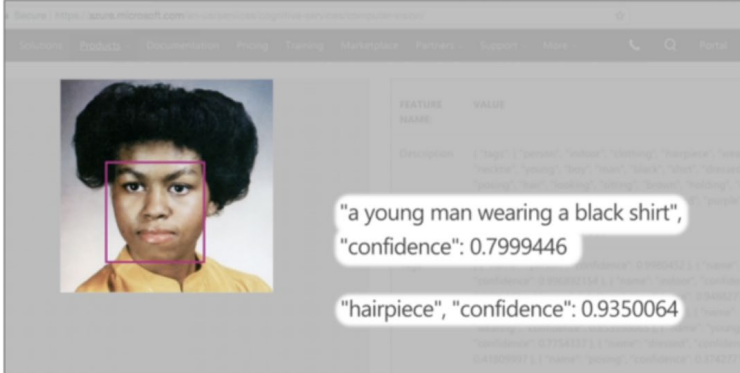


Joy Buolamwini, Algorithmic Justice League

Michelle Obama

Source: <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/resources/cognitive-services/face-api/>

Analysis: Probab... Documentation Pricing Training Marketplace Features Support More



FEATURE NAME VALUE

Detection ["age", "gender", "inset", "smiling", "response", "pose", "neutral", "young", "boy", "man", "black", "skin", "detection", "young", "hair", "beard", "smiling", "neutral", "neutral"]

"a young man wearing a black shirt", "confidence": 0.7999446

"hairpiece", "confidence": 0.9350064



Joy Buolamwini, Algorithmic Justice League



Collections as Data

- IMLS-funded Collections as Data project “Santa Barbara Statement” includes 10 principles to guide working with collections-as-data.
- “Ethical concerns are integral to collections as data. Collections as data should make a commitment to openness. At the same time, care must be taken to comply with legal requirements, cultural norms, and the values of vulnerable groups.”



People

- ...who are the subject or generator of the artifact/collection
- ...who manage the collections in an archive/library/museum
- ...who produce the data/digital object
- ...who produce the scholarship

These are not necessarily exclusive populations!



People

- Community-based initiatives
 - [Documenting the Now](#)
 - Open call for [Mellon funding](#)
 - [Culture Lab Cooperative](#)



People

- Labor issues
 - DLF Working Group on Labor in Digital Libraries:
 - [Research Agenda](#)
 - IMLS grant “[Collective Responsibility: National Forum on Labor Practices for Grant-Funded Digital Positions](#)”



Scholarship

- Rife with complexities
 - What counts
 - Who counts
- What questions are asked, by whom, and why?
- Can it be strengthened through “generous thinking?”

The Digital Humanities Wars



Alex Gil @elotroalex · Apr 1

This is a vital move to make—again in what Scott suggests via Ayers. Except we've been telling you this for years. You want institutional fields to be strong? Be ready to redefine your epistemology and citational practices. Reading or misreading stats ain't it. Stats not dying yo...

months, a new front has opened in the often
y disputes over the role of quantitative
humanities. The University of Chicago Press



Annie Swafford @annieswafford · Apr 1



Dr. Dorothy Kim @dorothyk98 · Apr 1

Replying to @heatherfro @RichardJeanSo

The responses never asked for one BIPOC to respond. So.....



1



2



20



cynicism in your heart, and also contemplate the possibility that a writer might sometimes define a list of opponents narrowly ... because they're actively seeking favorable optics.

6:21 PM - 1 Apr 2019

Humanities Bust by T
Humanities Can
by Emma Upric
Done Digitally b

rup. was keenly aware of this as the almost certain outcome.



1



7



Katherine D. Harris @triproftri · Apr 1

I was watching closely for this to expand its gender diversity — but alas, finishing with Fish and ignoring all the good work by women in this field is disappointing to say the least.



1



7





Scholarship

- [Ethical Framework for Library Publishing](#)
- ACRL's forthcoming research agenda "Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future"
- Architecting Sustainable Futures [Recommendations](#)



Values

- Privacy
- Agency
- Access

Care



Values

- [The Maintainers](#)
- *Debates in the Digital Humanities 2019*, Matthew K. Gold and Lauren F. Klein (eds)
- Carol Gilligan
- Bethany Nowviskie



The Future

- The environments in which we work (and live) are governed by systems
- The agency that we have in those systems varies
- To produce sustainable and productive change, intervention points within the system *must be* identified



A *few* people that I have learned from...

- Andromeda Yelton
- Angela Galvan
- April Hathcock
- Bergis Jules
- Bethany Nowviskie
- Carolyn Schubert
- Charlotte Roh
- Chris Bourg
- Dorothea Salo
- Emily Drabinski
- Kathleen Fitzpatrick
- Paige Morgan
- Patricia Hswe
- Safiya Noble
- Stacie Williams
- Steven Van Tuyl
- Thomas Padilla
- Zeynep Tufekci
- Family

Referenced & Interesting Work

- Santa Barbara Statement <https://collectionsasdata.github.io/statement/>
- *American Libraries* <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/ai-lab-library/>
- *American Libraries* <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2019/03/01/exploring-ai/>
- DLF WG on Labor in Digital Libraries: <https://wiki.diglib.org/Labor>
- ACRL Research Agenda “Open and Equitable Scholarly Communications: Creating a More Inclusive Future,” *Forthcoming!* <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/blogs/the-scoop/acrl2019-acrls-new-research-agenda/>
- Community Cultivation – A Field Guide: <https://educopia.org/cultivation/>

Referenced & Interesting Work

- Architecting Sustainable Futures:
<https://www.architectingsustainablefutures.net/>
- *Generous Thinking*, Kathleen Fitzpatrick:
<https://generousthinking.hcommons.org/>
- “From the Grass Roots” Bethany Nowviskie: <http://nowviskie.org/2019/from-the-grass-roots/>
- “Women Also Snowboard: Overcoming bias in captioning models”
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1807.00517.pdf>
- Collaborators Bill of Rights: <http://mcpres.s.media-commons.org/offthetracks/part-one-models-for-collaboration-career-paths-acquiring-institutional-support-and-transformation-in-the-field/a-collaboration/collaborators%E2%80%99-bill-of-rights/>

Thank you!

Questions *and* Comments welcome!