

A visual approach to explainable machine learning. A design *framework*.

Thematic Scholarship Information design, data visualisation and social media

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POLITECNICO
MILANO 1863



**DOTTORATO
DI RICERCA
IN DESIGN**

**D E N -
S I T Y
G N +**

* Topic Tomographies

— *Collaboration between ISI and DensityDesign*

#machine learning

#algorithms

#computerscience

#topicmodeling

#visual analytics

#datavisualisation

#infovisualisation

#metaphors

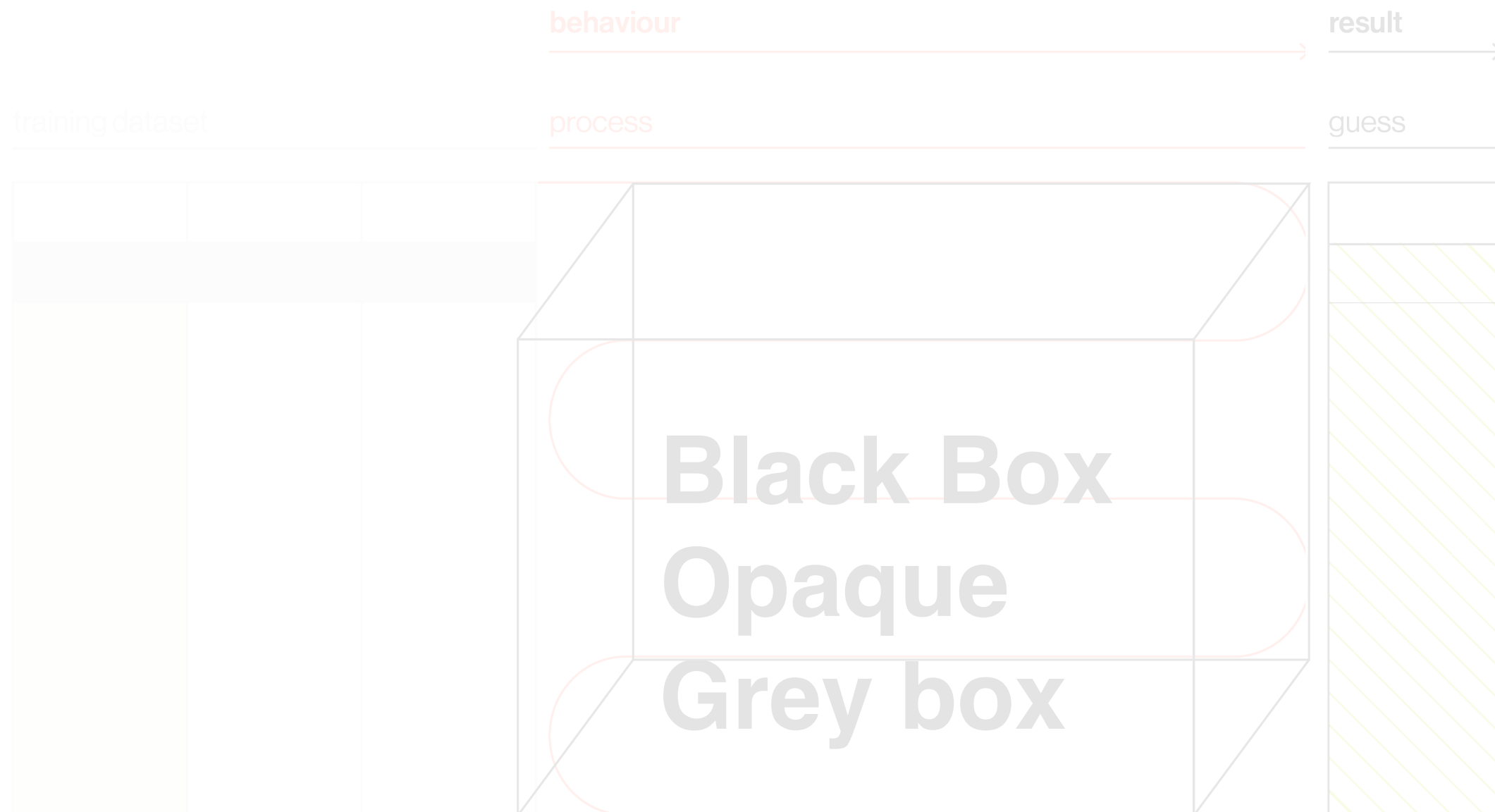
#interaction

#information design

Machine Learning*

Pipeline example

Visualise it
↓



machine learning task

classification, prediction, regression...

Feature Prediction Instance Model

Molnar C., (2018) *Interpretable Machine Learning. A Guide for Making Black Box Models Explainables.*

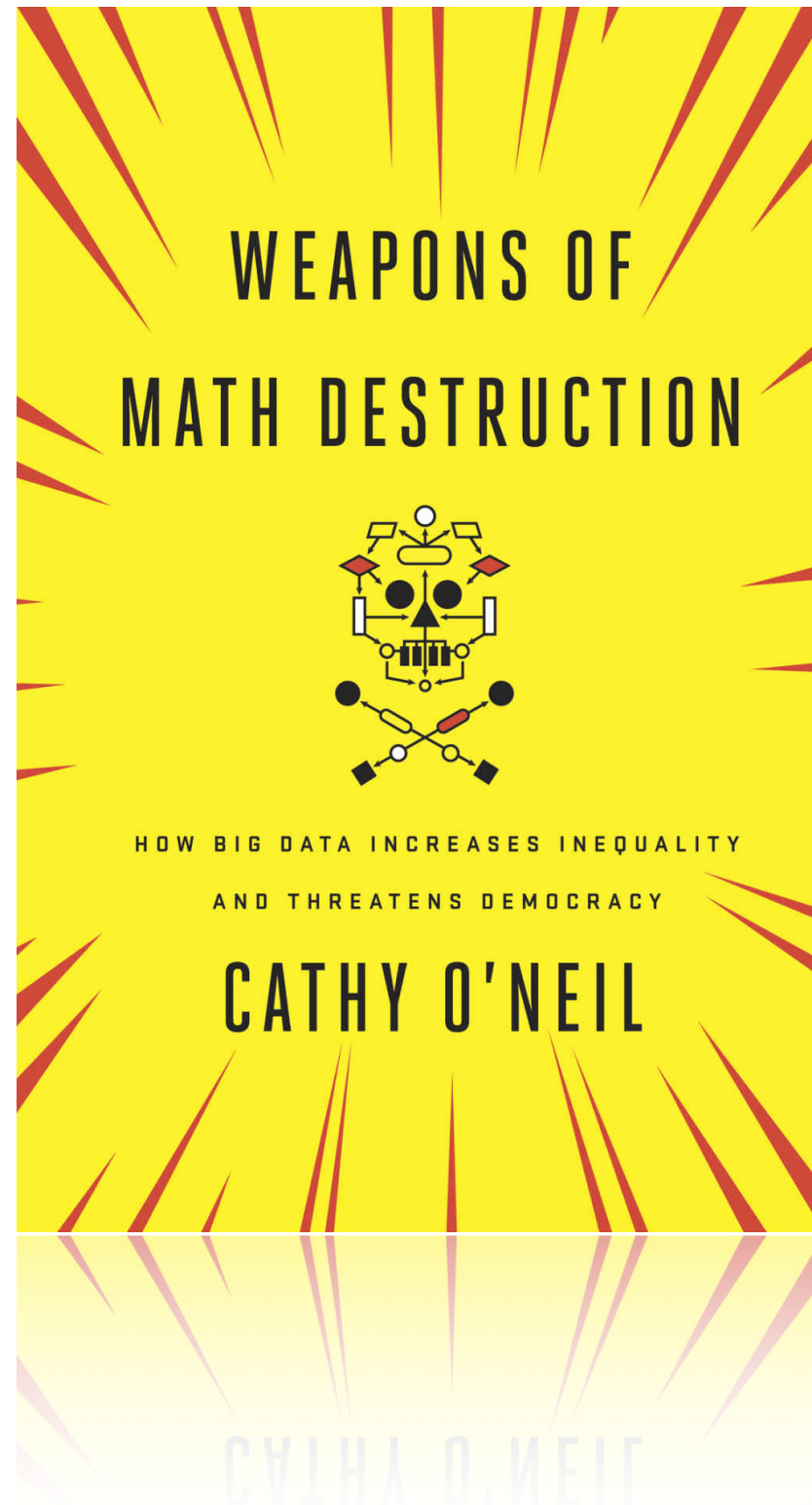
* definition by Arthur Samuel, 1959

Buzzword or an actual turning point?

It explores how some *big data algorithms** are increasingly used in ways that **reinforce preexisting inequality**.

** especially machine learning algorithms*

*Is a turning point because deals with training data generated by humans that carry on **biases, prejudices and inequalities**.*



What is Explainable Machine Learning

In the context of machine learning we define interpretability as the ability to explain or to present in understandable terms to a human.

— Doshi-Velez and Been Kim

sender

ability to explain

message

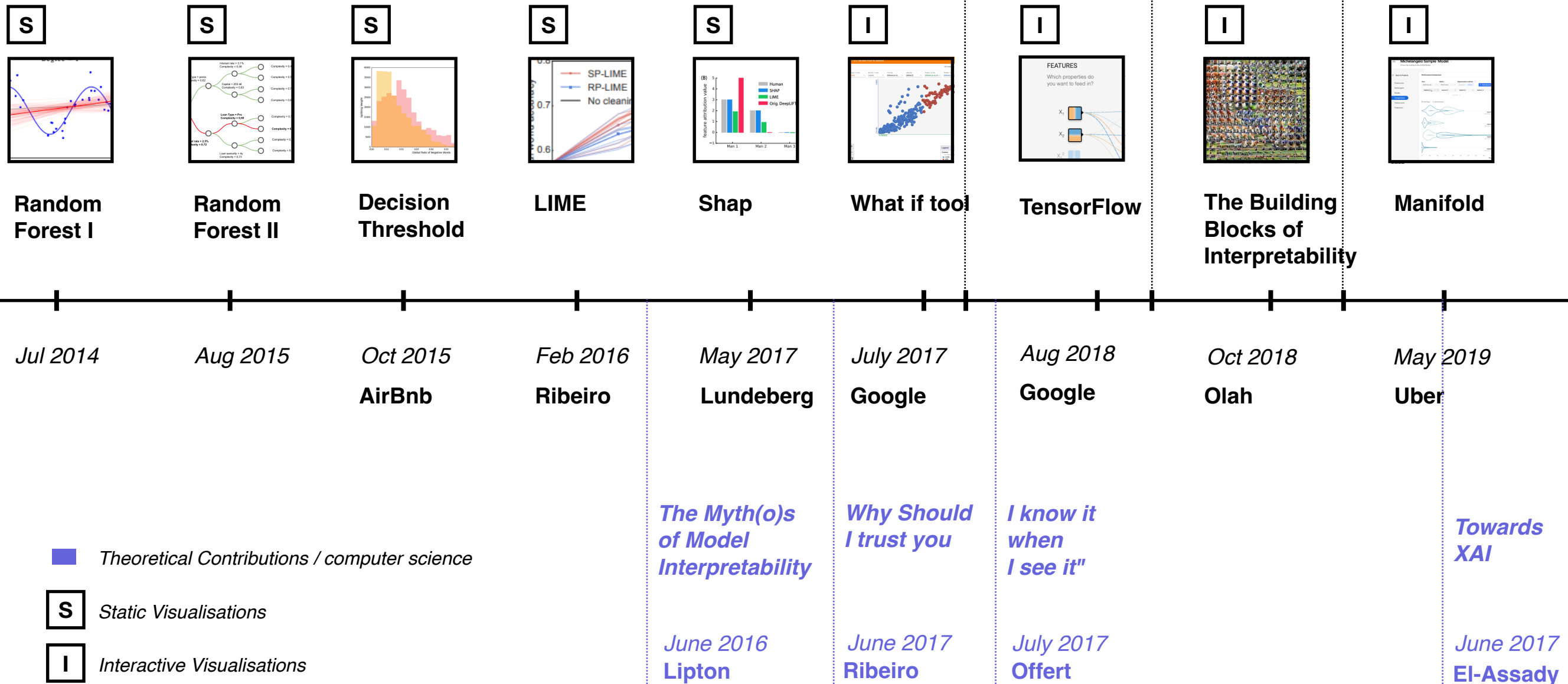
the *interpretable* explanation

receiver

ability to interpret

Visual language of Explainable Machine Learning

Milestones: **theory** and practice



Why explaining processes?

[...] accelerating the maturation of AI and ensuring its effectiveness has to rely on the study of relevant research domains that established well-studied processes to communicate information and knowledge.

— Mennatallah El Assady, 2019

A visual approach to
explainable machine learning.
A design *framework*.

computer science

data science

semiotics

visual analytics

social sciences

ethics

sociology

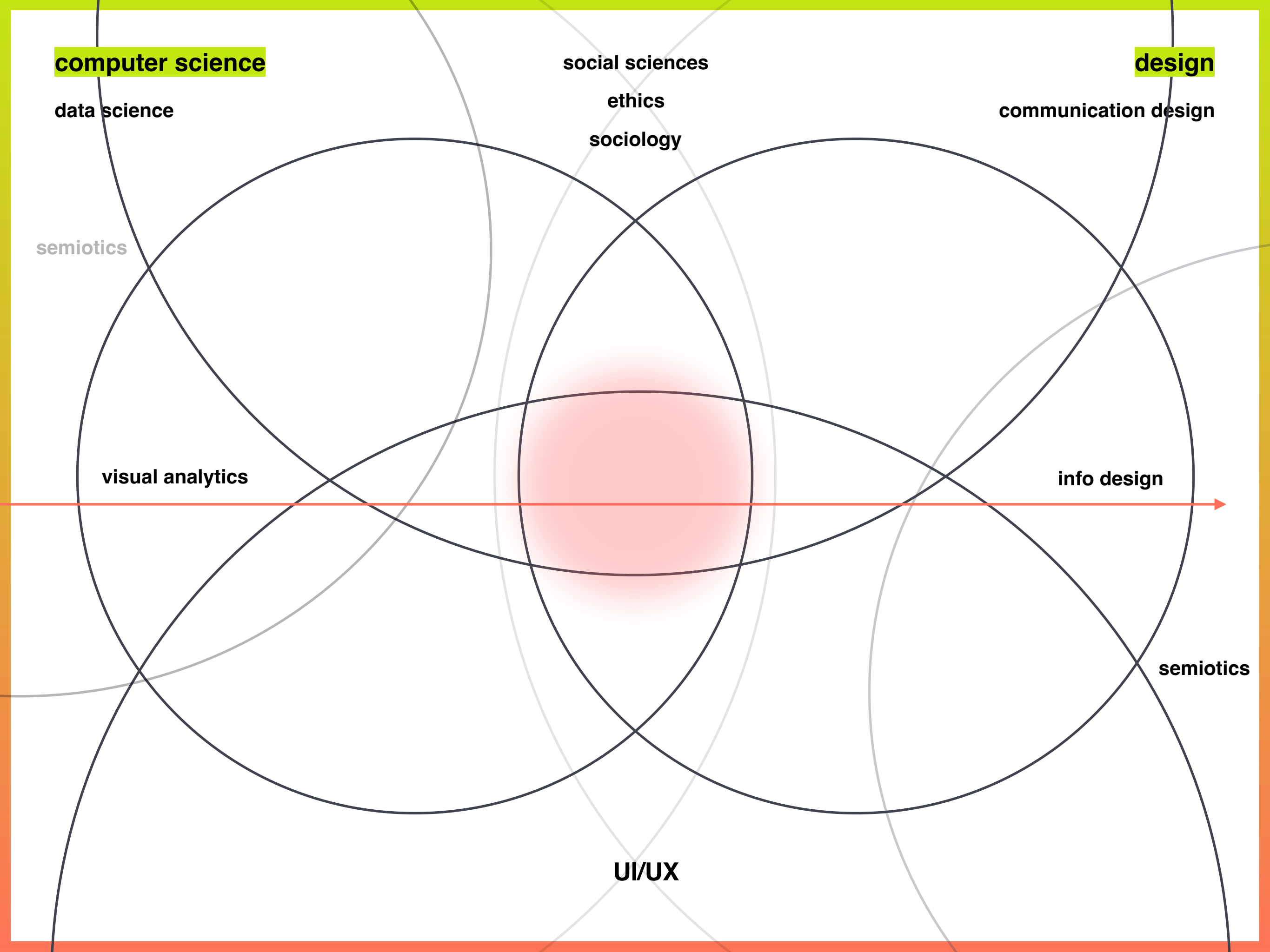
UI/UX

design

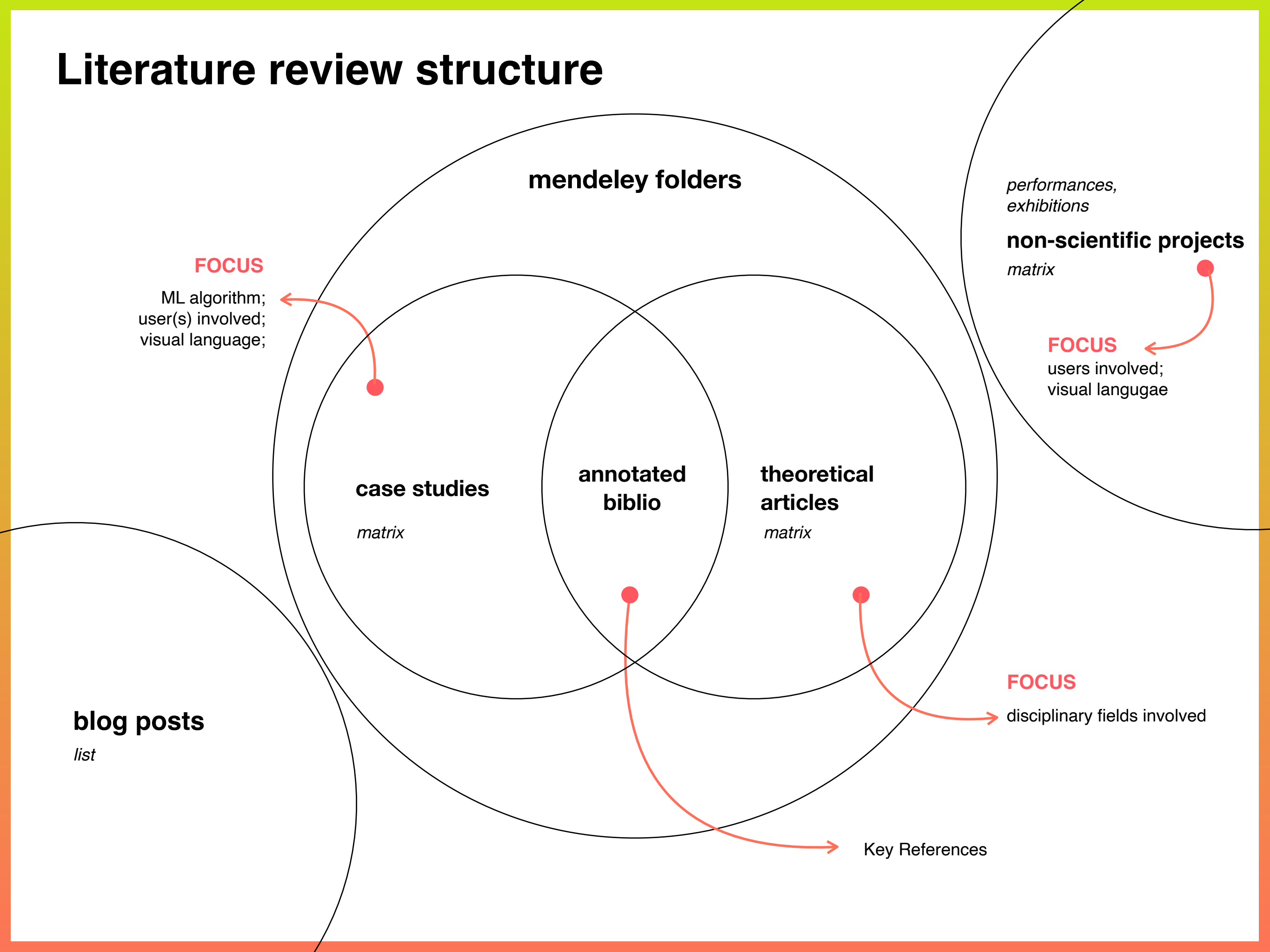
communication design

info design

semiotics



Literature review structure



computer science

communication design

visual analytics

information visualisation and design

explain behaviour

classification, prediction, regression algorithms

present results

explain to
interpret and explain

explain to
compare

explain to
tune

explain to
teach

present to
rise awareness

Interpretable machine learning and explainable machine learning could be used both for the sake of interpretability and model developers' explanation or for comparing, teaching and visual analytics.

Wang, 2019
Manifold - UBER
Abadi, 2017
Tensorflow
model builders
Zhang, 2018
Manifold

Alsakallah, 2016
Classification
Abadi, 2017
Tensorflow
model users
Olah, 2018
CNN

Case, 2016
explorables
Watterberg, 2017
t-sne
non-experts
Yosinki, 2017
DeepViz Toolbox

Bouwlawmini, 2017
Algorithmic JL
ShareLab, 2018
Echo Anatomy
translation
Chicau, 2018
Information visualisation
Anatomies of intelligence

model developers
Abadi, 2016

Use of sub modular problems, trusting the prediction and the model

Khang, 2018
model users
GAN Lab
Offert, 2017

If intuitive Interpretability is needed, representation of internal model states should be avoided

non-experts
El Assady, 2018

Towards XAI: Structuring the Processes of Explanation.
Building blocks of explanations.

El Assady, 2019
Sheep, and Fruits: Metaphorical Narratives to Explain Artificial Intelligence and Build Trust.

HOW

Heer, 2018
Storytelling



Identification of the entry point

An increasing number of ‘popular’ visualisations have been developed, specifically designed to allow non-expert users to reach open-ended, **reflective** insights about data with personal relevance.

— Andrew Vande Moere and Helen Purchase

Identification of the entry point

[...] algorithmic miscalculations can disclose the hopes and fears, the expectations and the projections that users, institutions and companies have towards computational technologies.

— Public Data Lab - Not Equal Tech

Which is the role of information design in the field of explainable machine learning? Is Information design a good means for communicating machine learning' processes to a lay public, borrowing visual affordances from visual analytics?

Are algorithms' miscalculations the right entry point for raising awareness?

Which level of visual and conceptual complexity is needed?

Which is the visual language of machine learning explainability for lay users?

design

communication design

ethics

sociology

semiotics

visual analytics

info design

semiotics

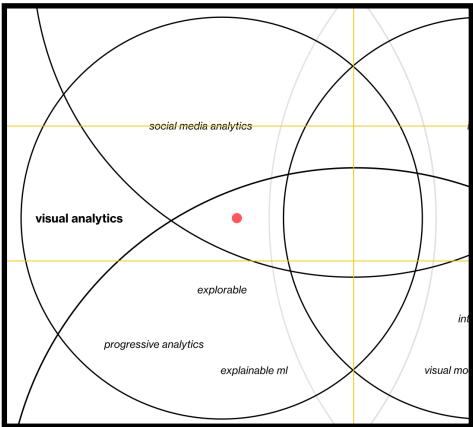
UI/UX

Crossroads

Two distinct paths

HOW

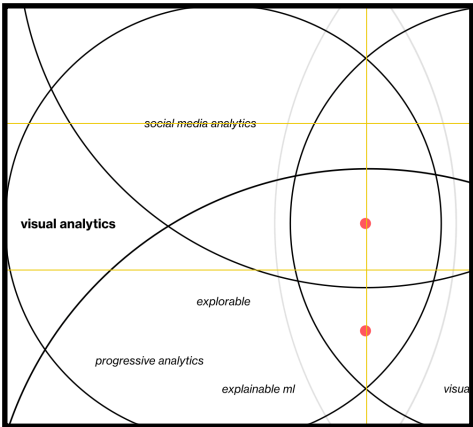
techniques



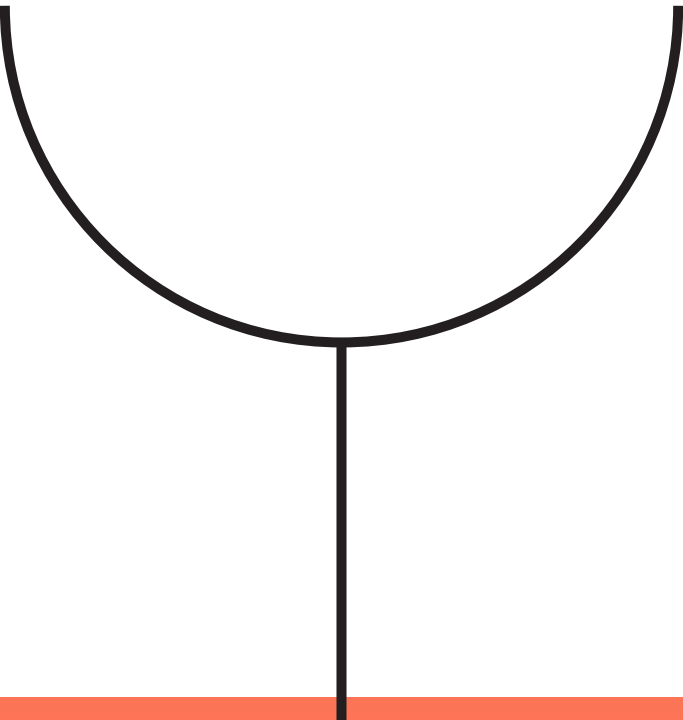
visual analytics

HOW, WHO

aim, objective,
definition of the user



sociology, ethics



Visual Network Analysis of Visual Models

HOW

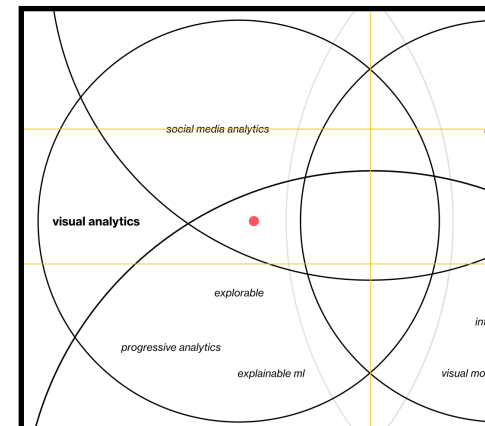
ures
n nature

matrices

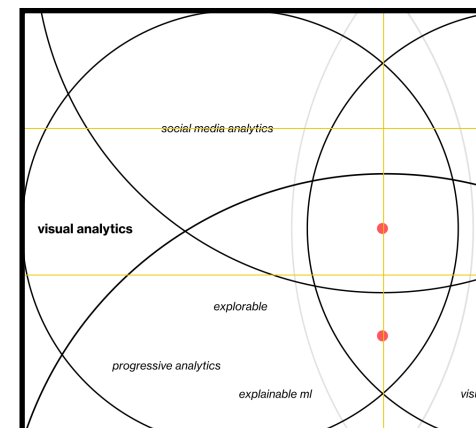
diagrams, line charts

t-sne

Identification of different visual languages
and visual affordance.



The interface of the new AI



* involved researchers

Philosopher, Sociologist, Artist, Computer Scientist, Designer

Identification of emerging topics, entry points

Methodology

July 2019

Parallel, experimental and hybrid approach

Information design

Which is the role of information design in the field of explainable machine learning? Is Information design a good means for communicating algorithms' processes to a lay public, borrowing visual affordances from visual analytics?

Visual surveys

Visual Network Analysis

In the field of interpretable machine learning **which is the visual language adapted?**

visual analytics

Surveys

Applied Research

Research Through Design

Is machine learning explainability a good means for **raising awareness of machine learning miscalculations** among the **lay public?**


sociology, ethics

Work in Progress

	A	B	C	D	E
1	epistemology	definition	founder	Paper	Topic
2	constructive design	or "research through design" refers to design research in which construction—be it product pr system; space; or media—takes center place		[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
3	critical design	(1) An attitude that rejects how things are now, provides a critique of the prevailing situation through design that embodies alternative solutions;	(1) Anthony Dunne, Fiona Raby; (2)	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
4	reification	From German "making into a thing". To Adorno; it refers to the way that things are produced by society; including the way that it is organized;	(1) Adorno	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
5	affirmative design	(1) reinforces how things are now, conforming society' expectations. In contrast with the concept of critical design	(1) Bardzell and S. Bardzell	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
6	critical theory	(1) Refers to the family of skeptical sociocul- tural critique with origins in the philosophy of Marx of Nietzsche.	(1) Bardzell and Bardzell	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
7	metacriticism	(1) The criticism of criticism	(1) Bardzell and Bardzell	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	critical design
8	hermeneutics of suspicion	(1)The skepticism just summarized; cast specifically as an interpretative (as opposed to; e.g.; empirical) problem [10]	Carroll	[1] J. Bardzell and S. Bardzell, "What is 'critical' about critical	
9	cognitive metabolism	(1) assimilation of knowledge;	(1) Bonsiepe;	[2] G. Bonsiepe, "Design as Tool for Cognitive Metabolism : From	
10	information design	(1) Design of external representations to amplify cognition; (2) having expertise in reducing cognitive complexity and	(1) Stuart Card, Jock D. Mackinlay and Ben	[2] G. Bonsiepe, "Design as Tool for Cognitive Metabolism : From	infovis
11	interaction	(1) Interaction refers to a manner of presenting information to a community of users in a non-linear way, i.e. as hypertext or information in form of	(1) Bonsiepe;	[2] G. Bonsiepe, "Design as Tool for Cognitive Metabolism : From	infovis
12	mapping	(1) the map is perhaps the most sophisticated form yet devised for recording, generating and transmitting knowledge; (1) Maps don't depict a	(1) Denis Cosgrove		infovis
13	model explainability	(1) explain or present in understandable terms. In the context of ML systems is the aboly to explain or to present in understandable terms to a	(1) Doshi-Velez	(1) Doshi-Velez, F., & Kim, B. (2017). Towards A Rigorous	algorithms
14	data visualization	it refers to the practice of using graphical representation – "information which has been abstracted in some schematic form" (1) – to provide visual	(1) Friendly	1. Masud, L., Valsecchi, F., Ciucciarelli, P., Ricci, D. &	infovis
15	information visualization	The use of computer-supported, interactive, visual representations of abstract data to amplify cognition" (1).	(1) S. K. Card, J. D Mackinlay and B.	1. Masud, L., Valsecchi, F., Ciucciarelli, P., Ricci, D. &	infovis
16	scientific visualization	Scientific visualization deals with physically-based data. This kind of data is defined in reference to space coordinates, which makes it relatively easy to		1. Masud, L., Valsecchi, F., Ciucciarelli, P., Ricci, D. &	infovis
17	information aesthetics	Information aesthetics forms a cross-disciplinary link between information visualization and visualization art.		1. Masud, L., Valsecchi, F., Ciucciarelli, P., Ricci, D. &	infovis
18	infographics	Newspaper infographics story is almost as old as newspapers themselves		1. Masud, L., Valsecchi, F.,	

Google doc

WIKI



- Main page
- Get MediaWiki
- Get extensions
- Tech blog
- Contribute

Support

User help

FAQ

Technical manual

Support desk

Communication

Development

Bug tracker


Code repository

Code docs

Statistics

Wikimedia technical

Wikimedia audio



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Page

Discussion

Critical design

Definition

[edit]

- Anthony Dunne

An attitude that rejects how things are now; provides a critique of the prevailing situation through design that embodies alternative sensibility. Critical Design is not art!

- Barthes

Page

Discussion

Model explainability

Definition

[edit]

^[1]Explain or present in understandable terms. In the context of machine learning systems is the ability to understand the model's reasoning.

References

[edit]

[1] Doshi-Velez, F., & Kim, B. (2017). **Towards A Rigorous Science of Interpretable Machine Learning**. <http://arxiv.org/abs/1702.08608>

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Project opportunities

Real or desired

AlgoCount — progetto Cariplo - UniMi - Social Sciences

Making the **process** of information filtering and access **more accountable** to public scrutiny by using interpretable machine learning.

CO DESIGN WORKSHOPS

*Applied research
Research Through Design
Survey, Involving Users*

**A field guide to Algorithms — Public Data Lab*

A recipe book for lay users concerned with algorithms miscalculations.

CO DESIGN WORKSHOPS

*** Visual experimentation on interpretable machine learning.**

*Study visual analytics affordances in a **computer science environment***

Visiting

September '20

semiotics

social sciences

ethics

sociology

Public Data Lab

visual analytics

information vis

info design

MICROSOFT

Konstanz University

GOOGLE

IBM

UBER

**Georgia Tech
Media Studies**

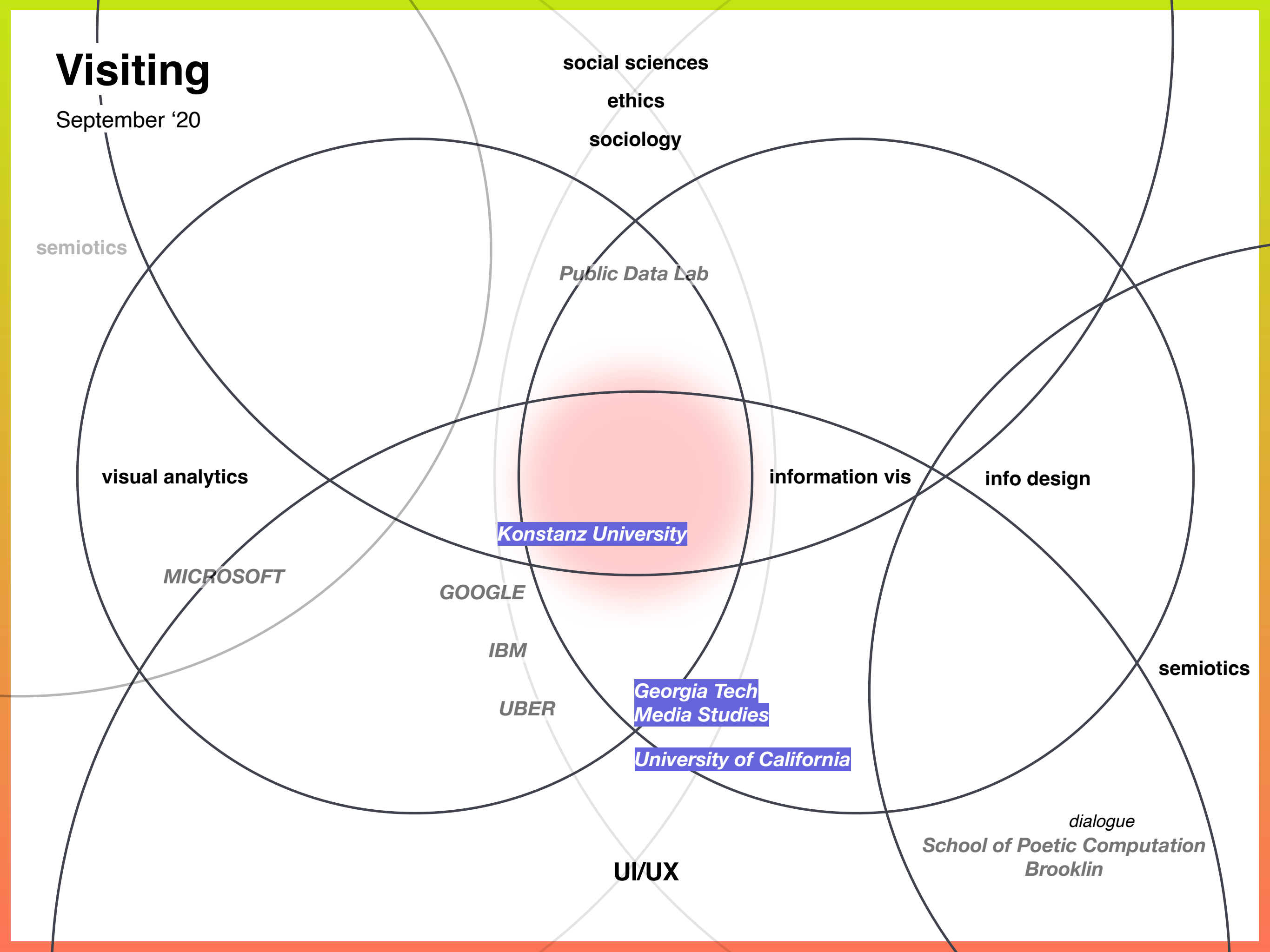
University of California

semiotics

dialogue

*School of Poetic Computation
Brooklin*

UI/UX



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- [3] Moere, A. Vande, & Purchase, H. (2011). **On the role of design in information visualization**. *Information Visualization* 10(4) 356–371
- [4] Hohman, F. M., Kahng, M., Pienta, R., & Chau, D. H. (2018). **Visual Analytics in Deep Learning: An Interrogative Survey for the Next Frontiers**. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 1–20.
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Publications

- [1] Gobbo B., Balsamo D., Mauri M., Bajardi P., Panisson A., Ciuccarelli P. (2019). **TopicTomographies: a visual approach to distil information from media streams.** Eurovis Conference, 2019
- [2] Bortoletti F., Gobbo B., Gerbino G., Elli T., Ciuccarelli P. (2018). **Venezia, la 'festa mobile': per un atlante in fieri Luoghi, figure e forme della favola antica nel primo Rinascimento.** Engramma, November 2018

Thank you

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**DOTTORATO
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IN DESIGN**

**D E N -
S I T Y
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First Midterm Assessment / XXXIV Cycle