

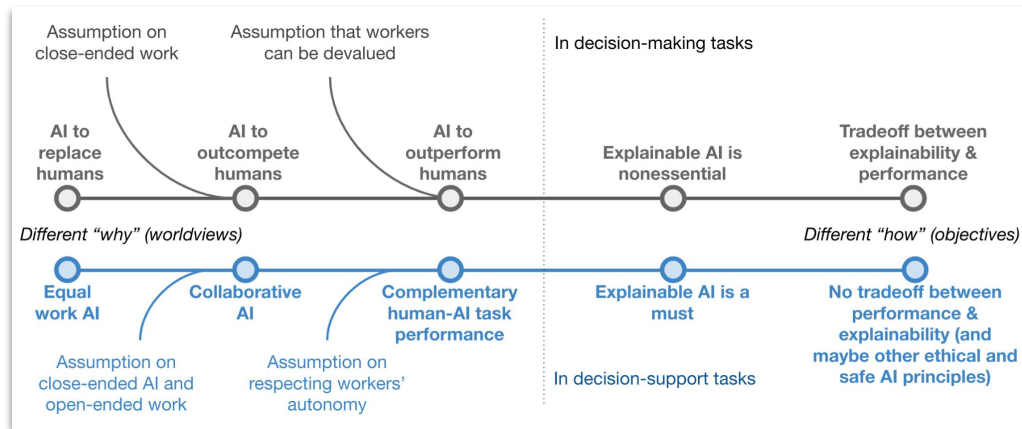
# Constructing a Different Imagination Beyond “AI Outperforming Humans”

Weina Jin

Medical Image Analysis Lab

## Advisors

Ghassan Hamarneh, Xiaoxiao Li



**Why do we develop AI?**

To free human labor by  
**outperforming and replacing  
humans**

To conquer difficult problems in society,  
such as cancer, climate change

To invent good tools that can  
extend human capability

To improve human science

AI is on trend and I do it for my career & money

# Why do we develop AI?

To make profit for  
those who are in  
charge of AI tech

To prove human mind is a machine

That's the only thing I can do

To upgrade human being to silicon-based life

To improve social welfare by  
raising **productivity** and  
**efficiency**

To understand human being and  
intelligence by reverse engineering it

To accelerate human extinction

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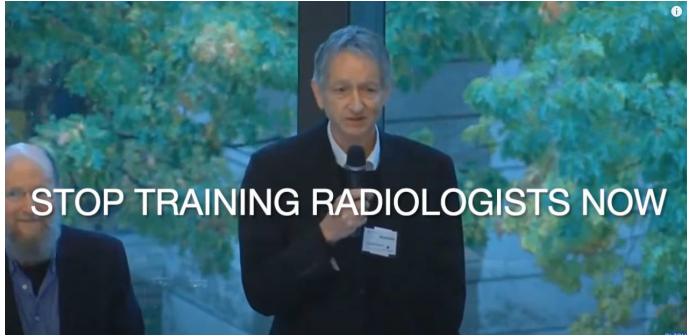
To free human labor by  
**outperforming and replacing**  
humans

## Why do we develop AI?

The mainstream imagination of AI:  
**AI is to outperform and replace humans**

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**efficiency**

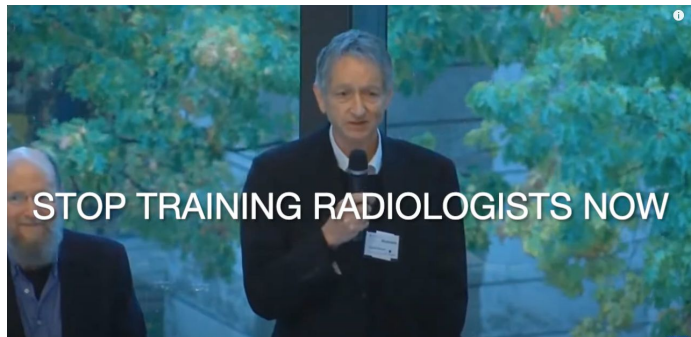
## The mainstream imagination of AI: to outperform and replace humans



Geoffrey Hinton, 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxGyV2548xs>

# The mainstream imagination of AI: to outperform and replace humans



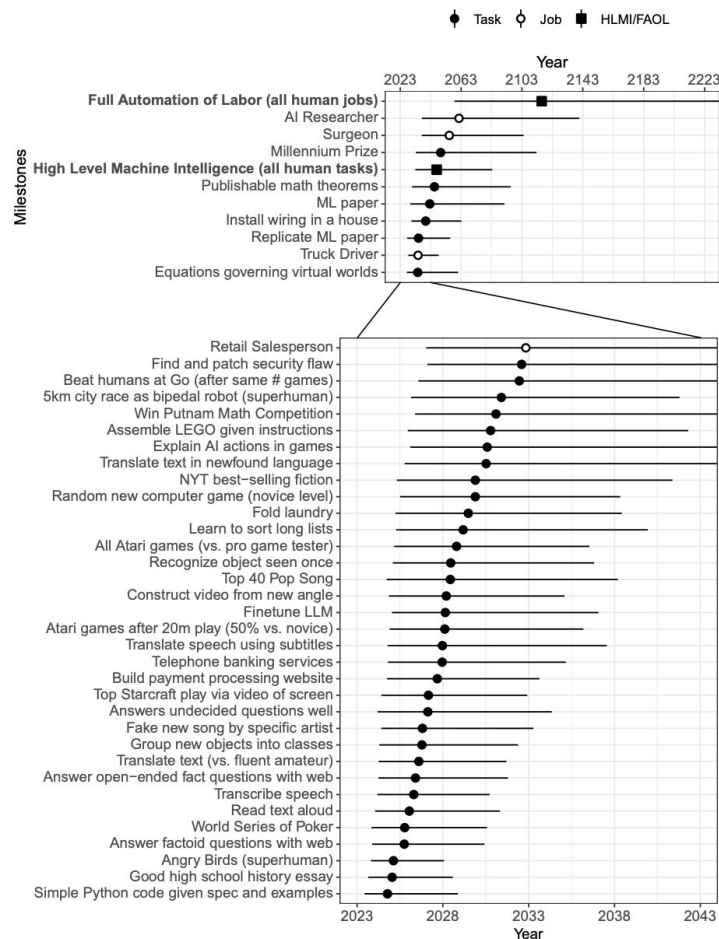
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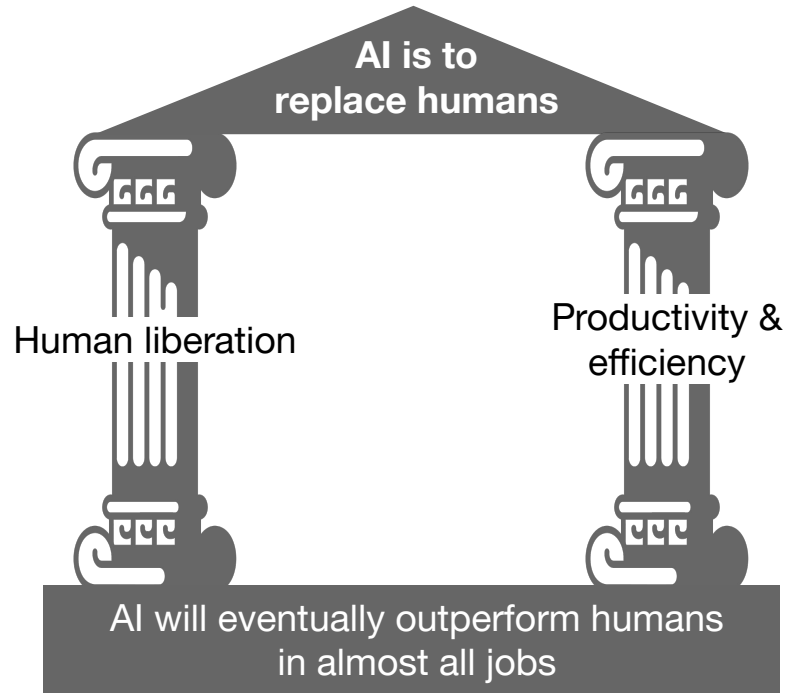
“High-level machine intelligence (HLMI) is achieved when **unaided machines can accomplish every task better and more cheaply than human workers.**

Most milestones are predicted to have better than even odds of happening **within the next ten years**, though with a wide range of plausible dates.”

Thousands of AI Authors on the Future of AI.  
2024. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2401.02843.pdf>

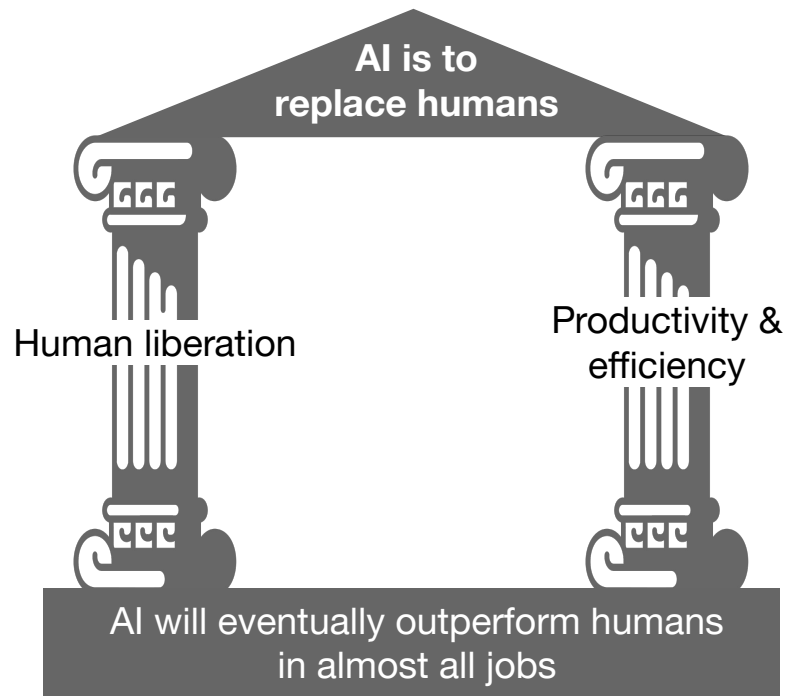


## The mainstream imagination of AI

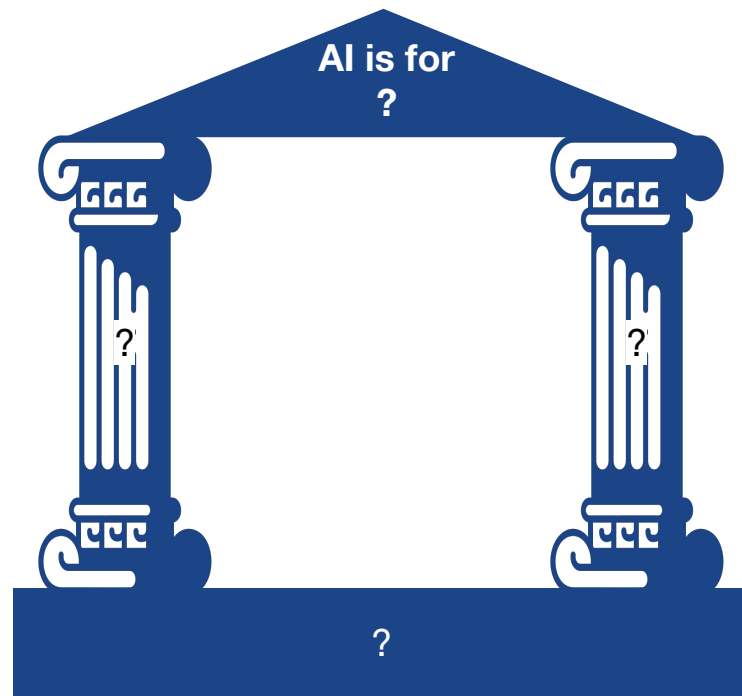




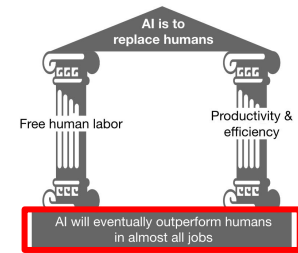
## The mainstream imagination of AI



## Imagination of AI for my thesis



# Argument against “AI will eventually surpass human-level performance in almost all jobs<sup>[1]”</sup>



[2]



[3]



<https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/autonomous-driving/no-you-cannot-buy-a-self-driving-car-today-a4355089516/>



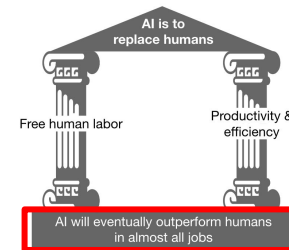
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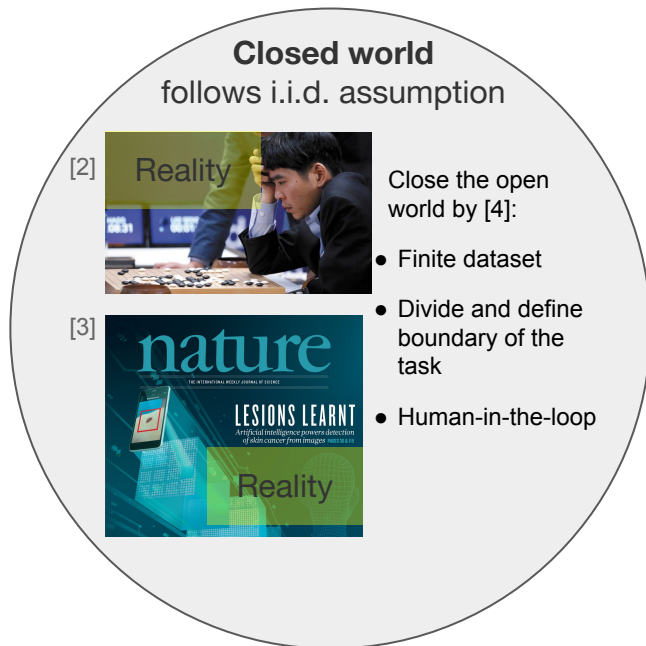
[4] Birhane, Abeba and David J. T. Sumpter. “The games we play: critical complexity improves machine learning.” HHA1 (2022).

# Argument against “AI will eventually surpass human-level performance in almost all jobs<sup>[1]”</sup>



## Open world

complex adaptive systems, e.g.: human minds,  
human behavior, financial market, cell, society



## Critical complexity theory [4] and complexity science

- No boundary of the system
- Irreducible, incompressible
- Non-linear, dynamic, stochastic interactions give rise to emergent behaviour
- Historical, contextual, value-laden
- Impossible to model



<https://www.consumerreports.org/cars/autonomous-driving/no-you-cannot-buy-a-self-driving-car-today-a4355089516/>



**“All models are wrong, some are useful.”**

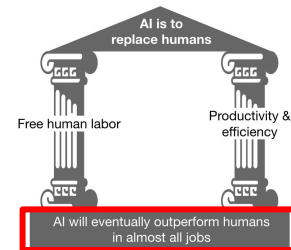
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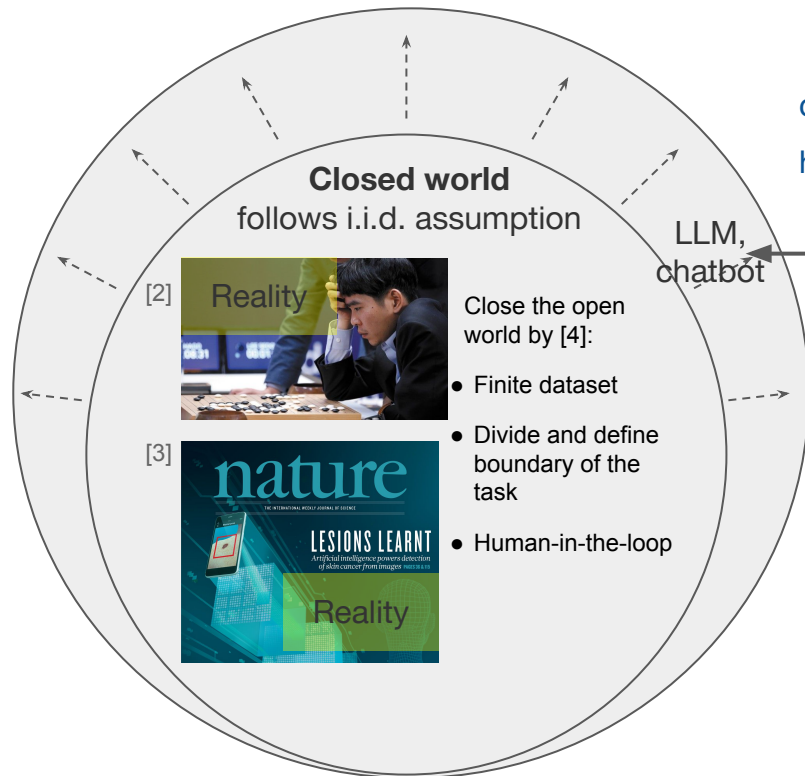
language,  
customer service

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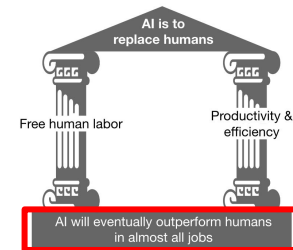
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# Argument against “AI will eventually surpass human-level performance in almost all jobs<sup>[1]”</sup>



## Open world

complex adaptive systems, e.g.: human minds,  
human behavior, financial market, cell, society

**at cost**

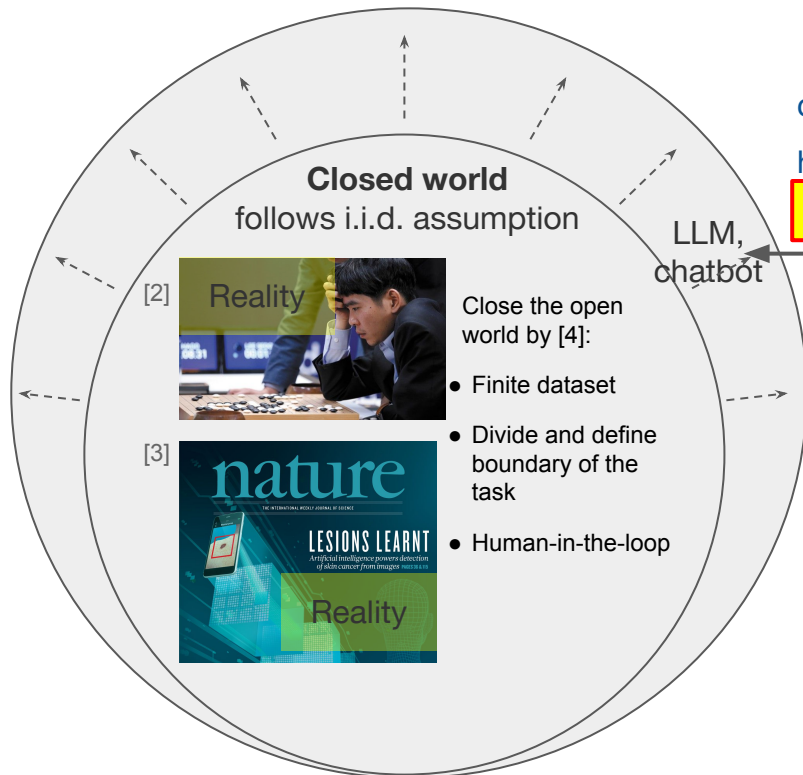
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### Closed world

follows i.i.d. assumption

[2]



[3]



Close the open world by [4]:

- Finite dataset
- Divide and define boundary of the task
- Human-in-the-loop

LLM,  
chatbot

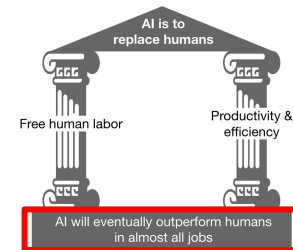
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# Argument against “AI will eventually surpass human-level performance in almost all jobs<sup>[1]”</sup>



## Open world

complex adaptive systems, e.g.: human minds,

at what cost & whose cost?

financial market, cell, society

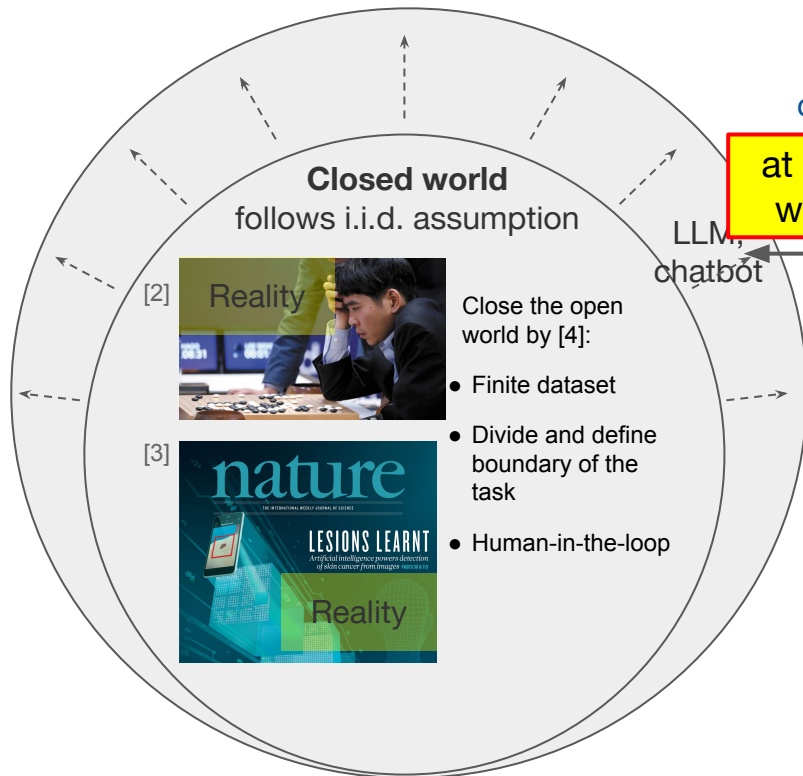
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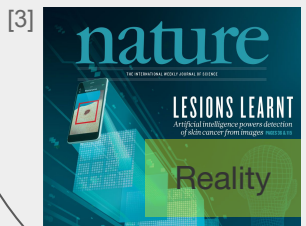


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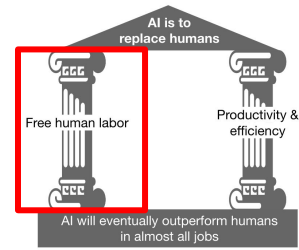
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Replacing human labor with AI will free humans



[1] Neda Atanasoski; Kalindi Vora. Surrogate Humanity: Race, Robots, and the Politics of Technological Futures. Duke University Press. 2019

[2] Mary L. Gray and Siddharth Suri. Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Building a New Global Underclass

Replacing

human labor

peasants

peasants

local workers

full-time workers

with

AI

women

slaves

offshore workers

gig workers

will free

humans

the wealthy and  
powerful

Automation

Enclosure  
Movement

U.S.  
slavery

Globalization

Gig  
economy



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- **cheaper and do not rebel**
- some workers and their work are **devalued** or **degraded** due to their social hierarchies, such that they can be atomized into a relatively closed form, harder to unionize
- assumes a new human-machine **hierarchy** that reproduces the logic of racial, ethnic, and gender hierarchies [1]

Automation

Enclosure  
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U.S.  
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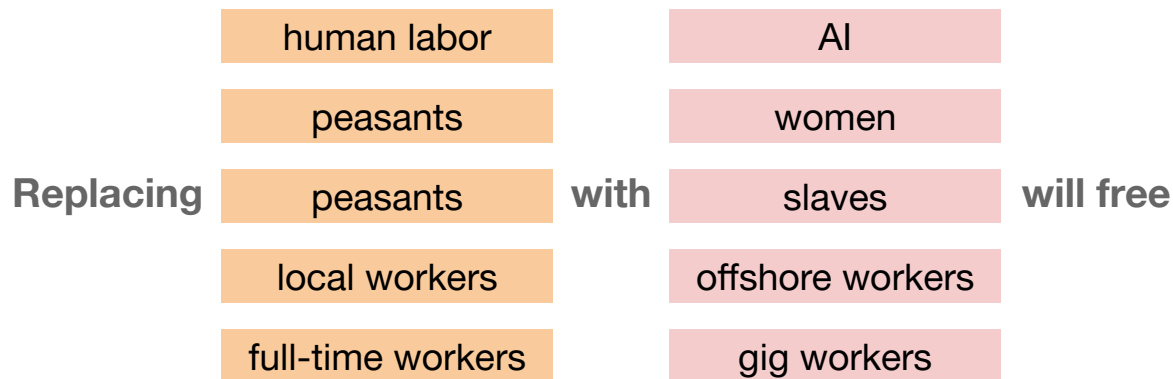
Globalization

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Productivity &  
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m humans  
s

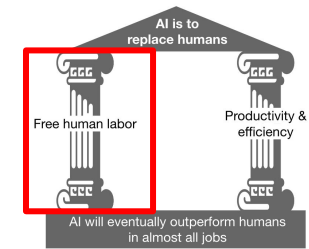
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~~humans~~

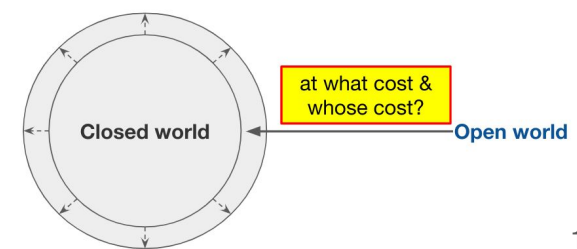
the wealthy and powerful



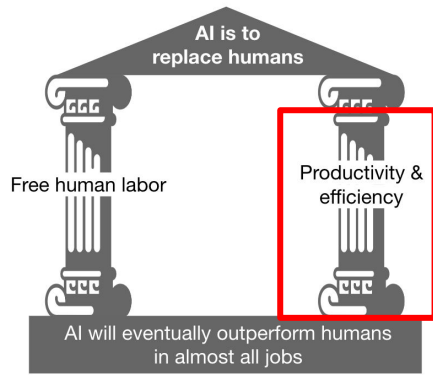
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- assumes a new human-machine **hierarchy** that reproduces the logic of racial, ethnic, and gender hierarchies [1]

### Who and whose work are devalued or degraded when AI replaces humans?

- Workers who are replaced by AI
- Workers who work behind AI [2]



[1] Neda Atanasoski; Kalindi Vora. Surrogate Humanity: Race, Robots, and the Politics of Technological Futures. Duke University Press. 2019  
 [2] Mary L. Gray and Siddharth Suri. Ghost Work: How to Stop Silicon Valley from Building a New Global Underclass



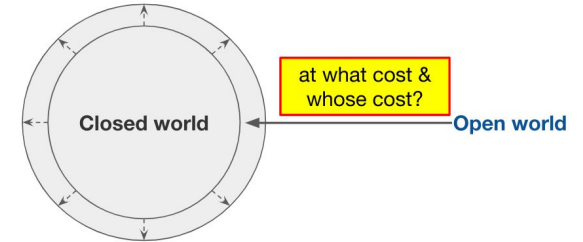
Replacing

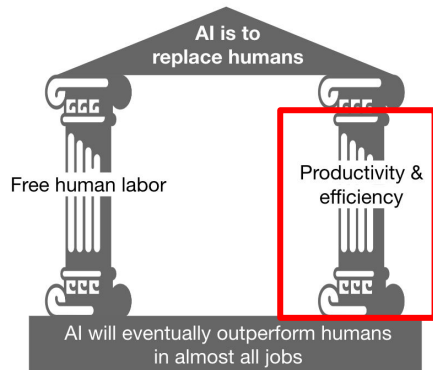
human labor  
peasants  
peasants  
local workers  
full-time workers

with

AI  
women  
slaves  
offshore workers  
gig workers

Worker replacement to increase productivity,  
**for whom?**





Replacing

human labor

peasants

peasants

local workers

full-time workers

with

AI

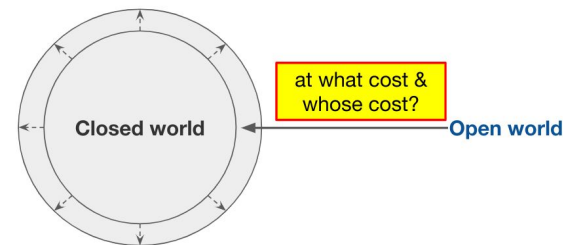
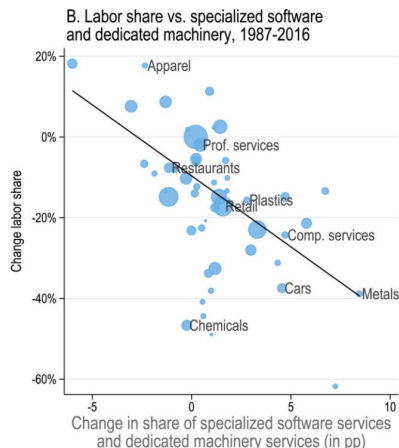
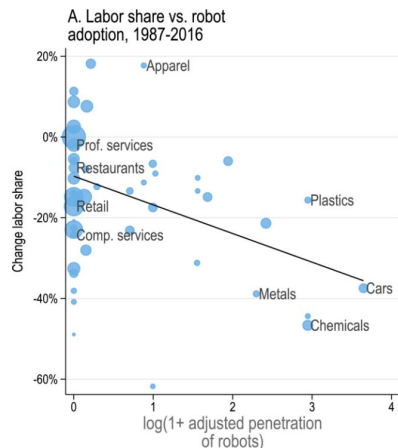
women

slaves

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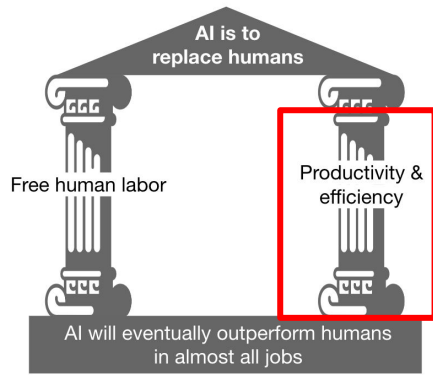
gig workers

Worker replacement to increase productivity,  
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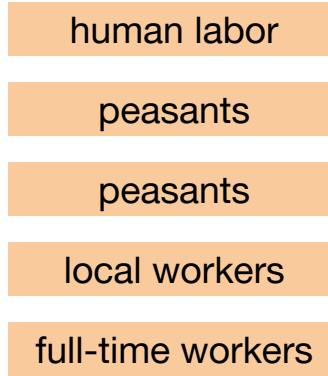


Automation and productivity gain can go hand-in-hand with widened inequality [1]

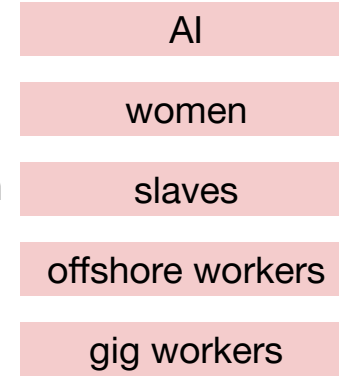
Negative correlation between automation technologies and changes in industry labor shares [1].



Replacing



with



Worker replacement to increase productivity,

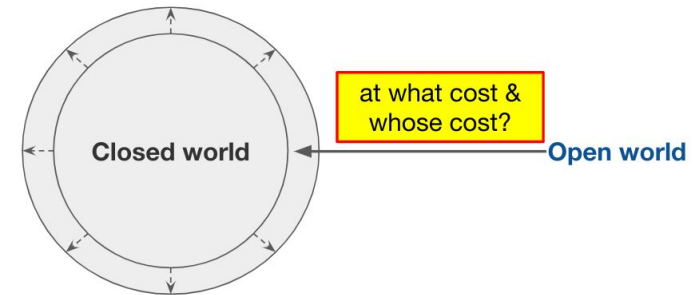
for whom?

at what cost and whose cost?

## At the cost of other essential human and social values [1,2,3]:

- Human rights, autonomy, equity, social justice, democracy, privacy, copyright, the value of work, environmental values, user experience, community, belonging.....

## The costs and harms are disproportionately distributed among the powerful and the powerless [1,2,3]

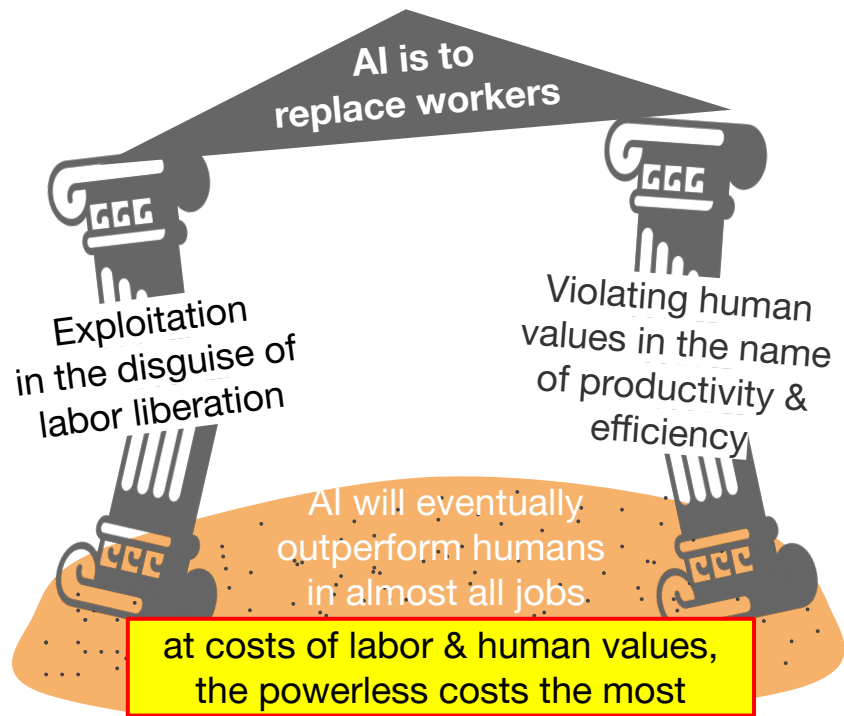


[1] Chris Wiggins and Matthew L. Jones. How Data Happened: A History from the Age of Reason to the Age of Algorithms. WW Norton. 2023

[2] Kate Crawford. Atlas of AI Power, Politics, and the Planetary Costs of Artificial Intelligence. Yale University Press. 2021

[3] Cathy O'Neil. Weapons of Math Destruction: How Big Data Increases Inequality and Threatens Democracy. Crown Books. 2016

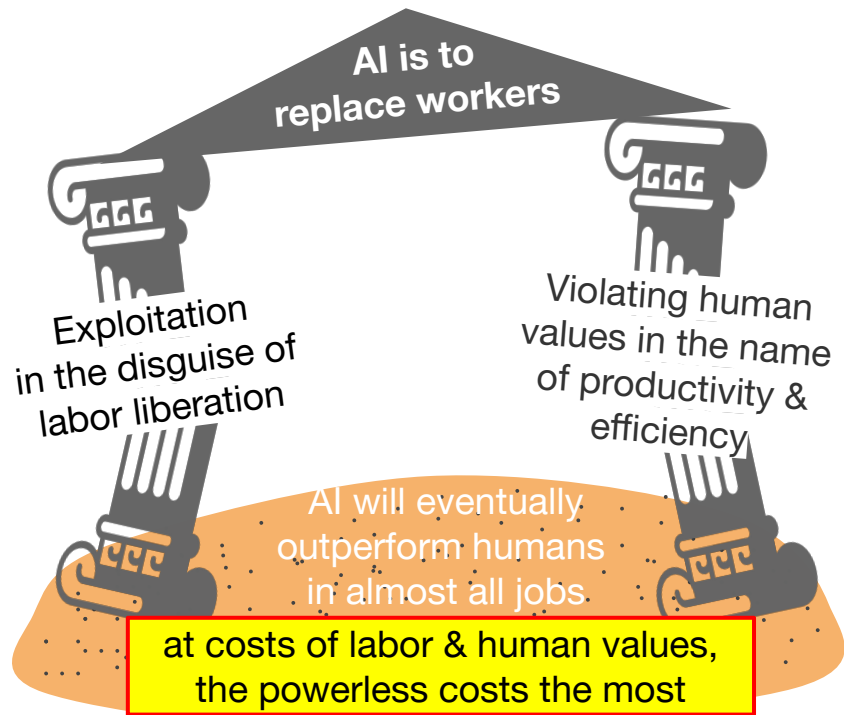
## The mainstream imagination of AI



*“People who criticize new technologies are sometimes called **Luddites**, but it’s helpful to clarify what the Luddites actually wanted. The main thing they were protesting was the fact that **their wages were falling** at the same time that **factory owners’ profits were increasing, along with food prices**. They were also protesting **unsafe working conditions, the use of child labor, and the sale of shoddy goods** that discredited the entire textile industry. The Luddites did not indiscriminately destroy machines; if a machine’s owner paid his workers well, they left it alone. The Luddites were **not anti-technology**; **what they wanted was economic justice**. They destroyed machinery as a way to get factory owners’ attention. The fact that the word “Luddite” is now used as an insult, a way of calling someone irrational and ignorant, is a result of a **smear campaign by the forces of capital**.”*

— Ted Chiang, *“Will A.I. Become the New McKinsey?”*

## The mainstream imagination of AI



Technology and its impact are the symptom (“fever”), not the root cause (“disease”).

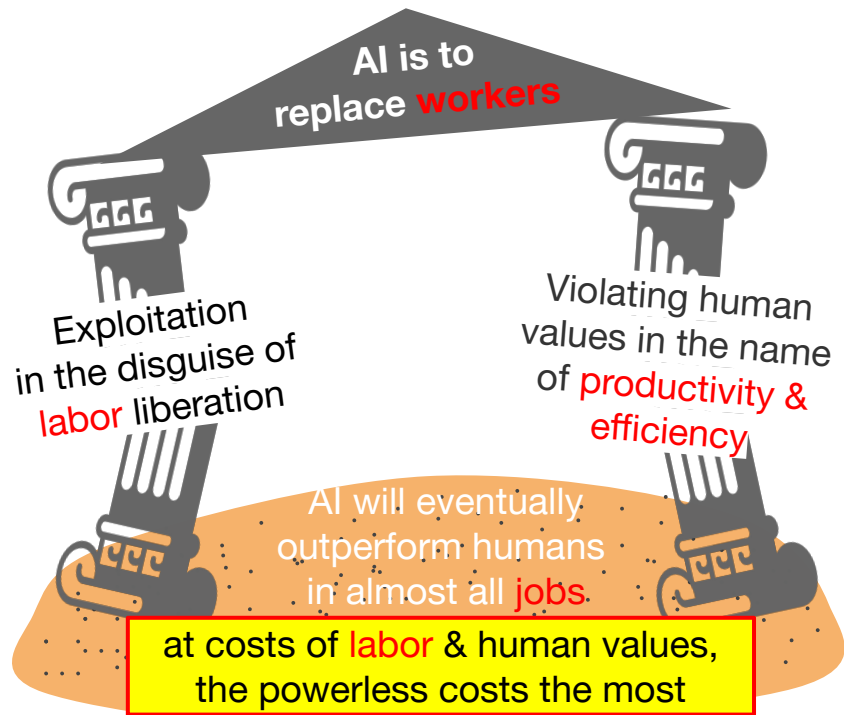
The treatment effect will be limited if we just blame and correct the bad datasets/algorithms/technologists (“lower the temperature”)

without identifying and treating the underlying disease. [1]

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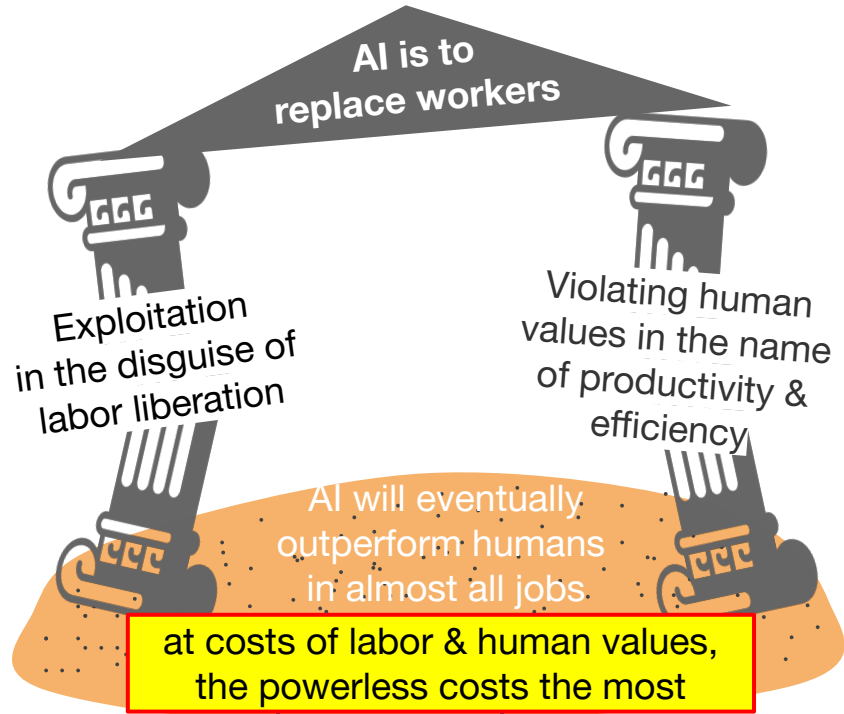
without identifying and treating the underlying disease. [1]

### My diagnosis of the root cause (“disease”):

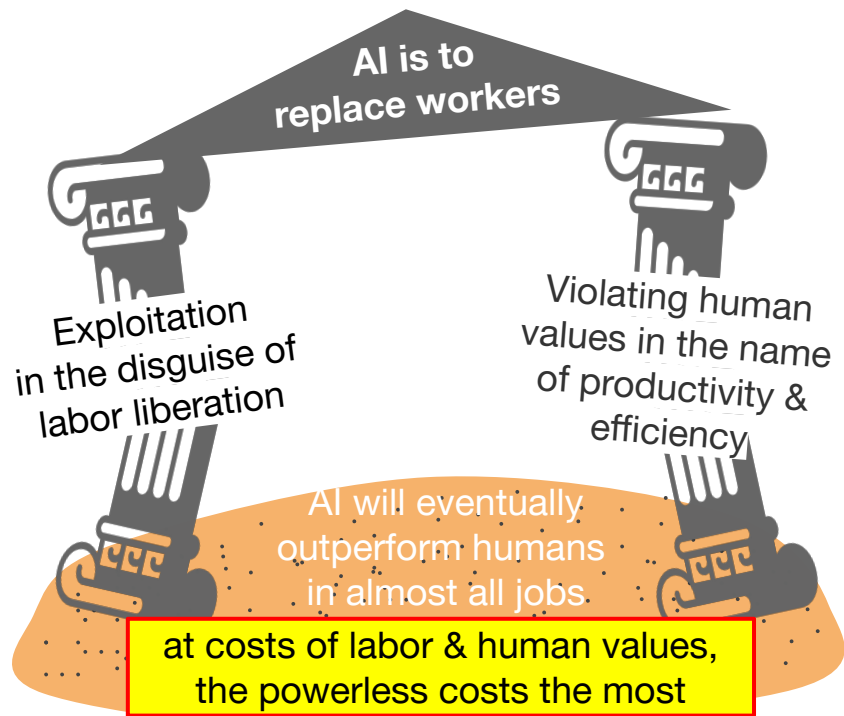
AI is deeply entangled with the concept of **work**. I.e.: the means of production and how a society and its social, political, and economic structures are organized around it.



## The mainstream imagination of AI



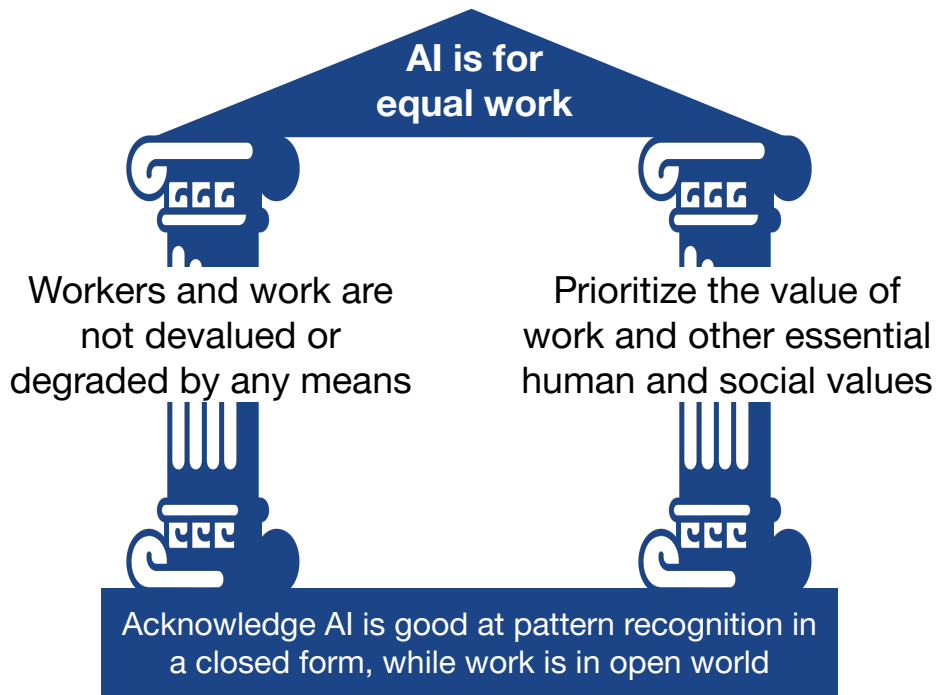
## The mainstream imagination of AI



How we set objectives for AI is deeply entangled with different values and moralities for **work**, reflecting different **ideologies** in society

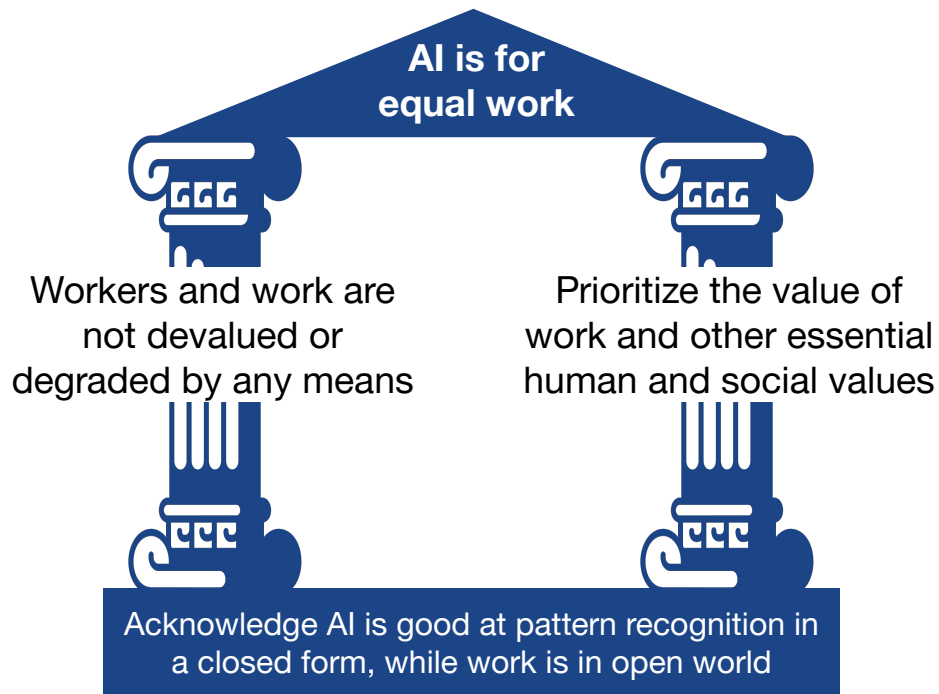
View **work** as laborious that should be avoided.  
Value the freedom in consumption over the freedom in production

## Imagination of AI for my project



View **work** as an indispensable human activity that create value, meaning, belonging, and connection in community.  
Value the freedom in production over the freedom in consumption

## Imagination of AI for my project



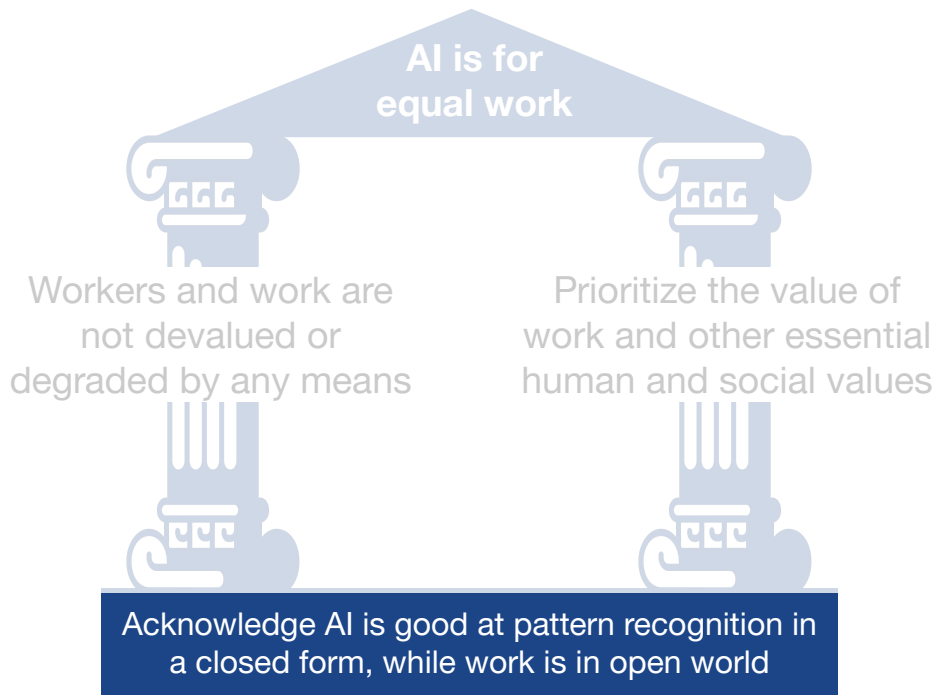
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**What will AI be under this new “axiomatic system” (worldview)?**

I use **medical image analysis** as the real-world task domain

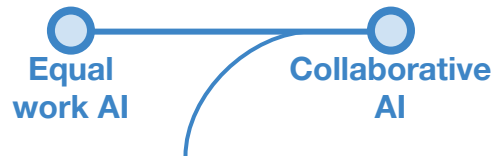


## Imagination of AI for my project



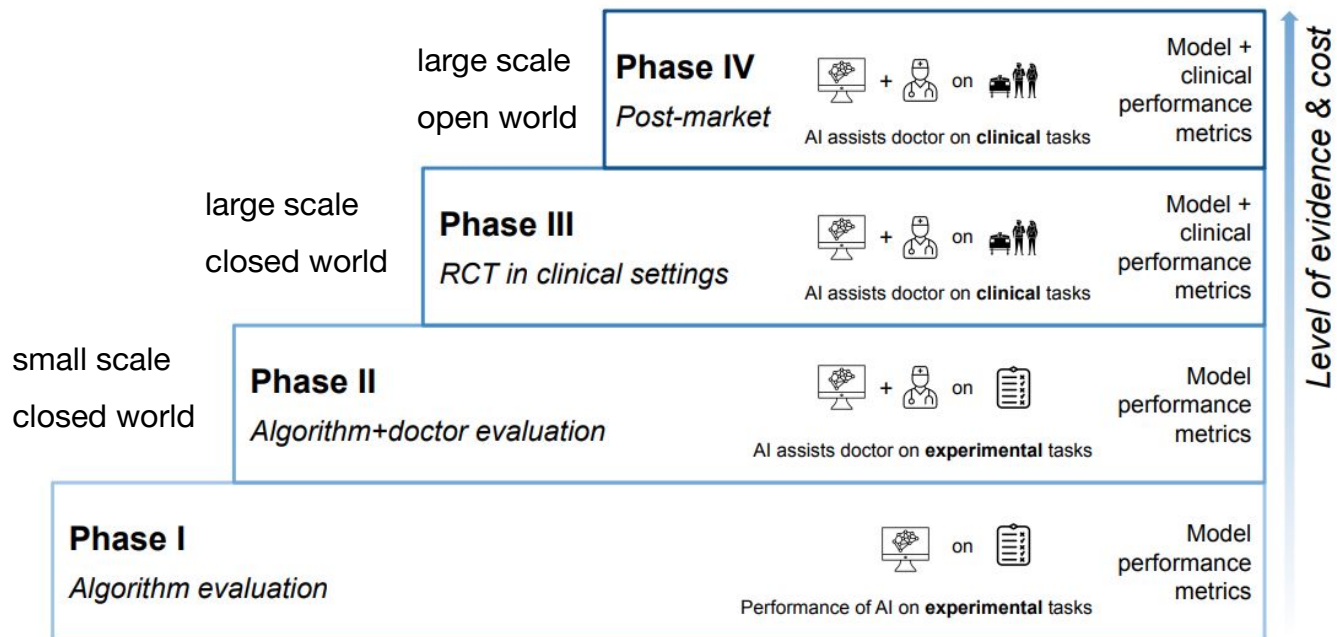
**What will AI be under this new “axiomatic system” (worldview)?**

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Assumption on close-ended AI and open-ended task

# Testing AI for human-AI collaboration in real-world clinical settings



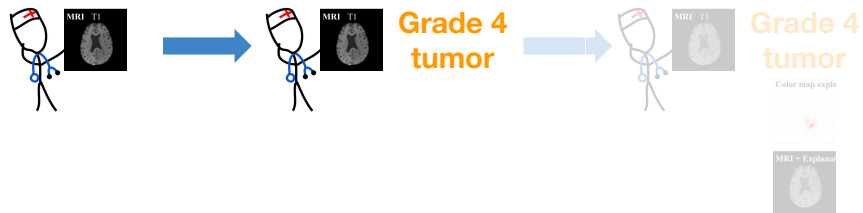
The four phases of evaluating the clinical utility of AI in glioma imaging [1].

# A clinical user study on the utility of AI in doctor-AI collaboration

- National online survey, 35 neurosurgeons, each read 25 MRI, gave judgment at three conditions:

\* 9. Your prediction is Grade 4 glioblastoma. AI's prediction is Grade 4 glioblastoma.

When viewing AI's suggestion, what is your current judgment on the tumor grade?



1. DR

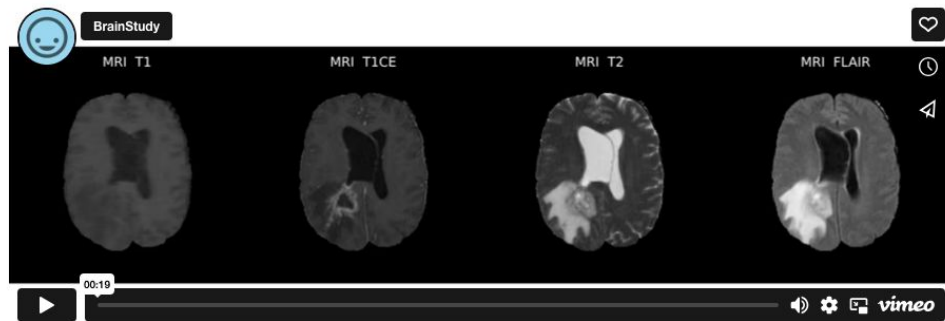
Doctor only

2. DR+AI

Doctor assisted  
by AI **prediction**

3. DR+XAI

Doctor assisted  
by AI prediction &  
**explanation**



☐ Grade 2/3 glioma

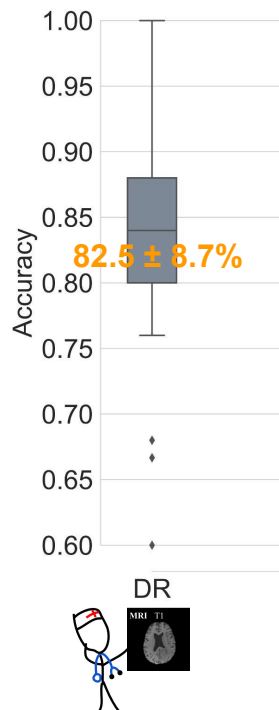
☐ Grade 4 glioblastoma

Study Ethics No.: H20-03588

Weina Jin (co-first author), Mostafa Fatehi (co-first author), Ru Guo, Ghassan Hamarneh, Evaluating the clinical utility of artificial intelligence assistance and its explanation on the glioma grading task, Artificial Intelligence in Medicine, 2024

## Result

Is doctor+AI better than doctor alone?



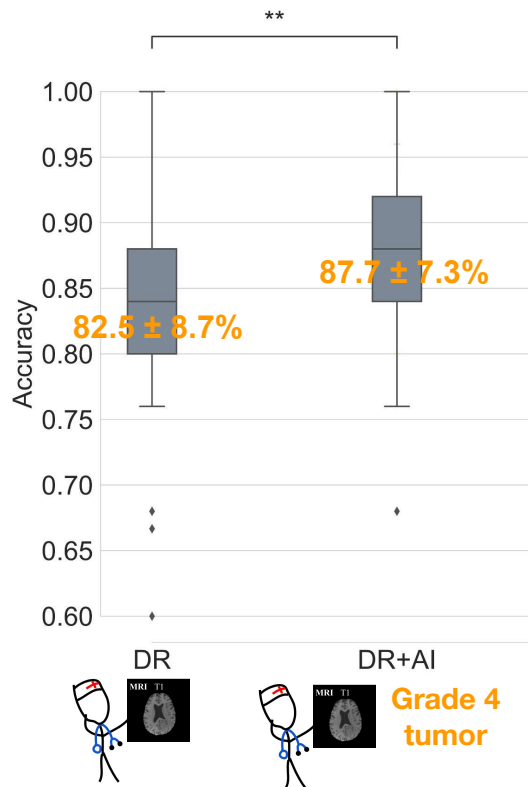
## Result

Is doctor+AI better than doctor alone?

**Doctor + AI > Doctor** ✓

On improving doctors' task performance:

- AI prediction (**DR+AI**) is helpful



Wilcoxon signed-rank tests with Bonferroni correction



## Result

Is doctor+AI better than doctor only?

**Doctor + AI > Doctor** ✓

On improving doctors' task performance:

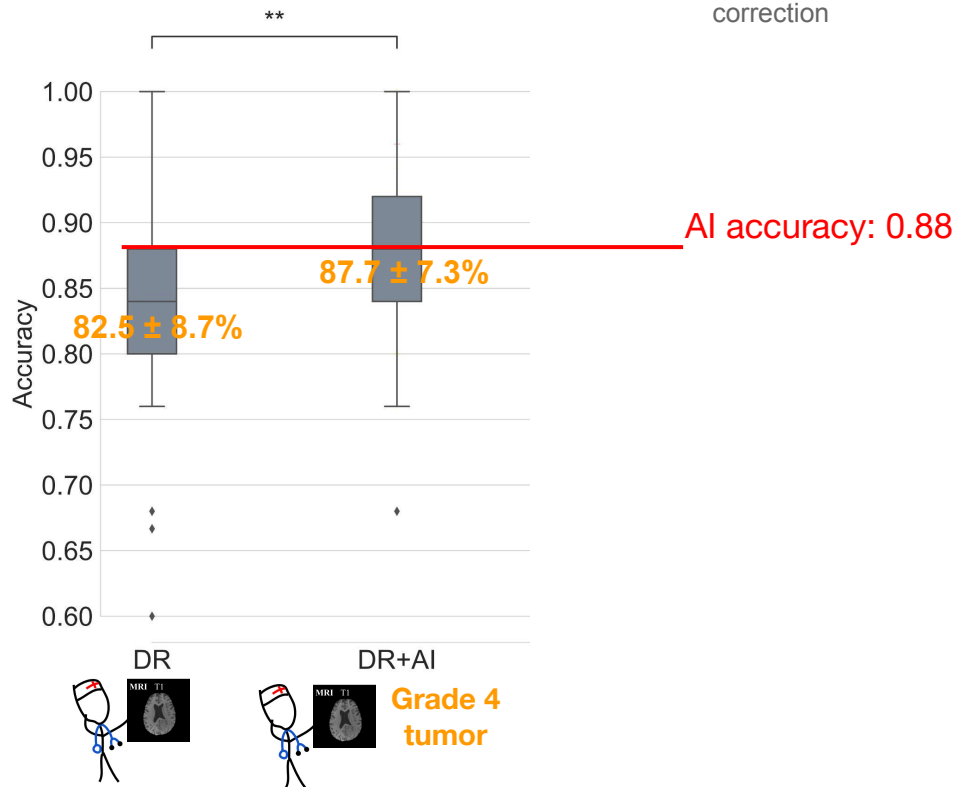
- AI prediction (**DR+AI**) is helpful

If so,

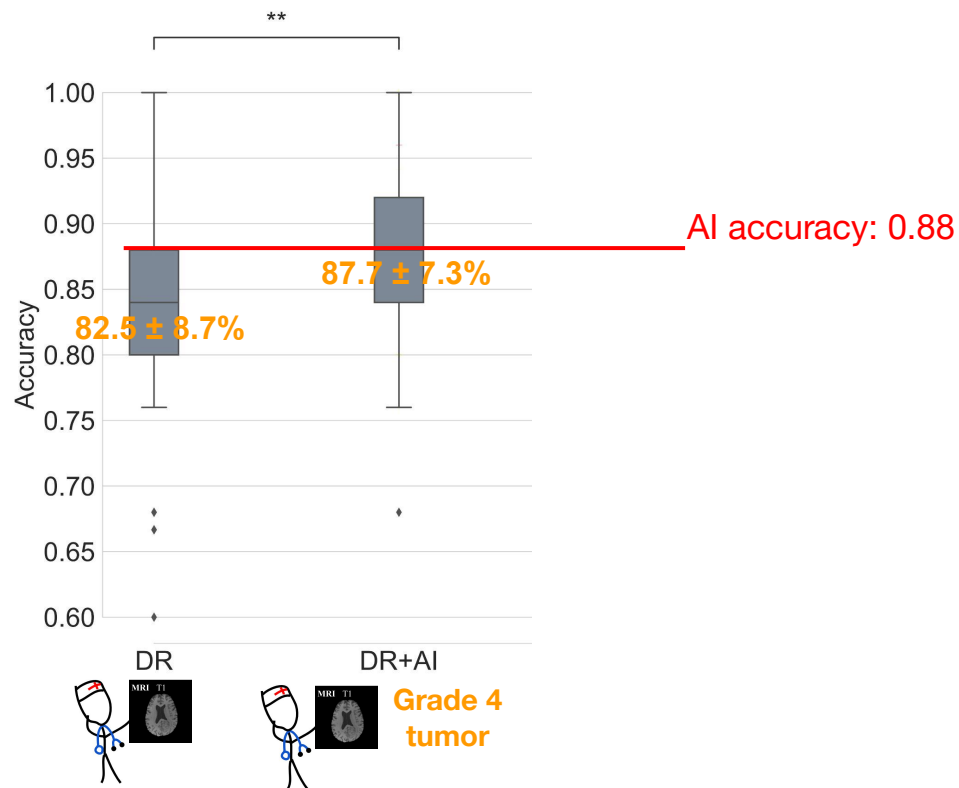
**Doctor + AI > max(Doctor, AI)** ✗

Not achieve complementary doctor-AI  
performance in **DR+AI**

Wilcoxon signed-rank  
tests with Bonferroni  
correction



## Critical moment Should we replace doctors with AI? Why or why not?



# Critical moment Should we replace doctors with AI? Why or why not?

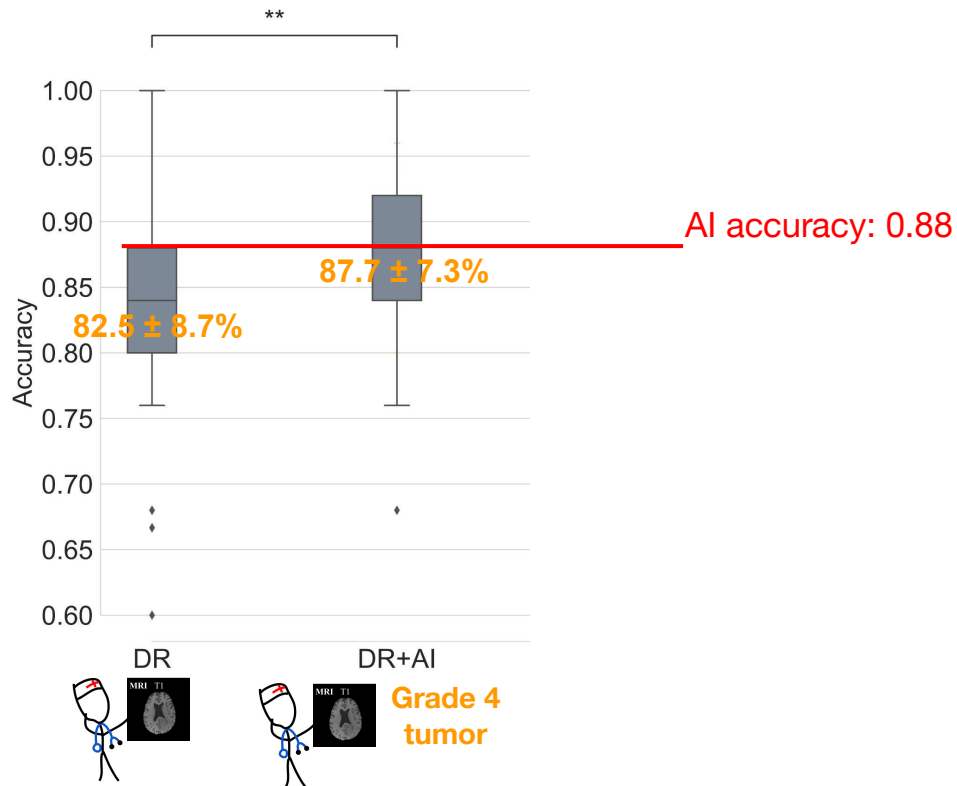
## AI to replace humans



- Ignores the fact that evaluation is conducted in a closed form; devalue worker's value in open-world tasks
- Regard machine as rational, perfect. And humans as irrational, imperfect. Adjust humans to AI by degrading worker's work and closing the open world task

## Equal work AI

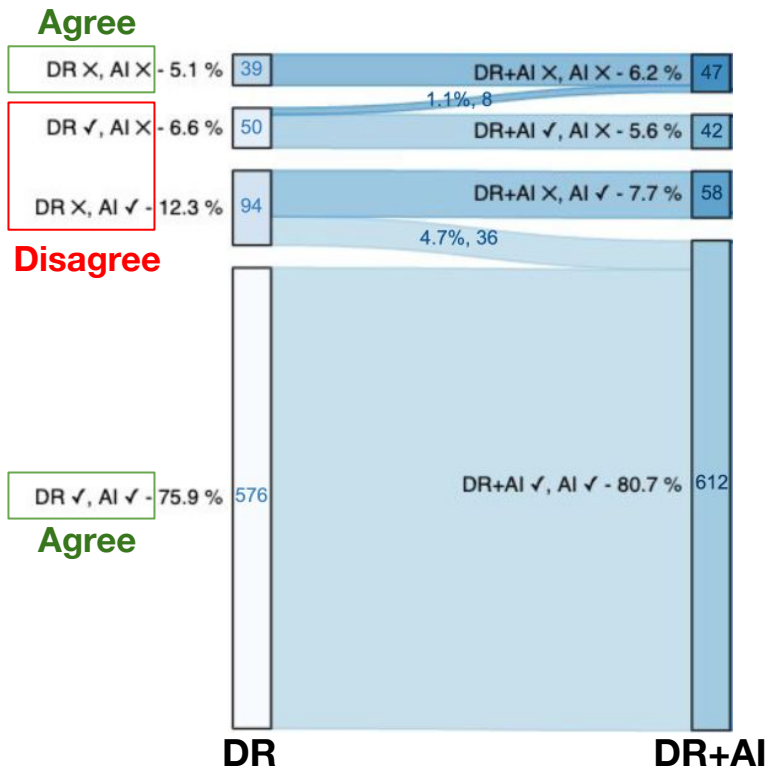
- Adjust AI to humans



## Result Why doctors improved their performance with AI prediction?

Because physicians' decision patterns converged to be more similar to AI decisions, as they **only switched decisions** when **disagreeing** with AI.

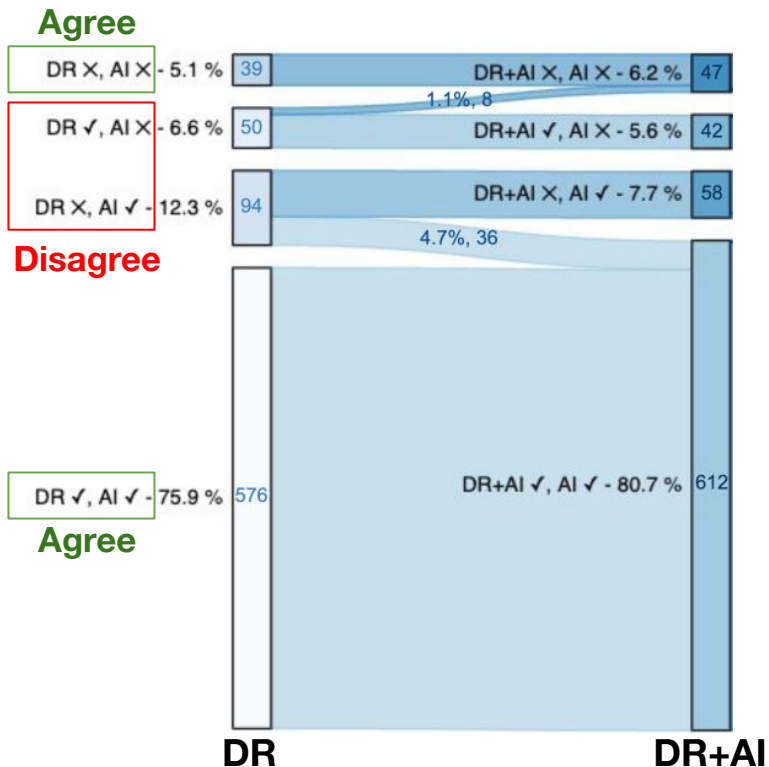
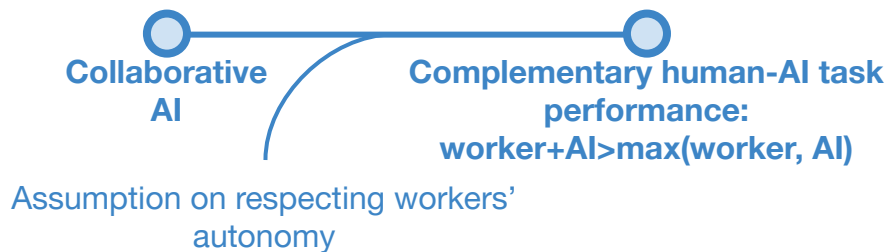
I.e.: doctors' improved performance is due to **overreliance on AI**



## Result Why doctors improved their performance with AI prediction?

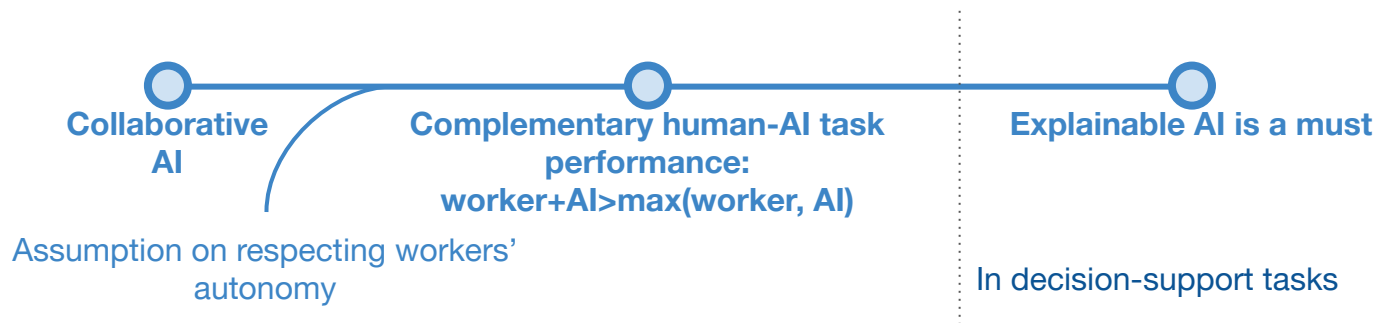
Because physicians' decision patterns converged to be more similar to AI decisions, as they **only switched decisions** when **disagreeing** with AI.

I.e.: doctors' improved performance is due to **overreliance on AI**



## How to achieve complementary human-AI task performance?

**Theorem 1.** *With a black-box AI as the human's decision-making assistant, and the task accuracies  $h$  and  $m$  of the human and AI, then the human-AI team accuracy  $t$  will not achieve complementary accuracy, i.e.:  $t \leq \max(h, m)$ .*



*Proof.* Since the black-box AI will provide the human with information that is not instance-specific, the human has a uniform probability of whether to take or reject an AI suggestion, we denote such uniform probability as  $b$ . Then the human-AI team accuracy can be calculated as:

$$t = mb + h(1 - b)$$

If  $h \geq m$ :

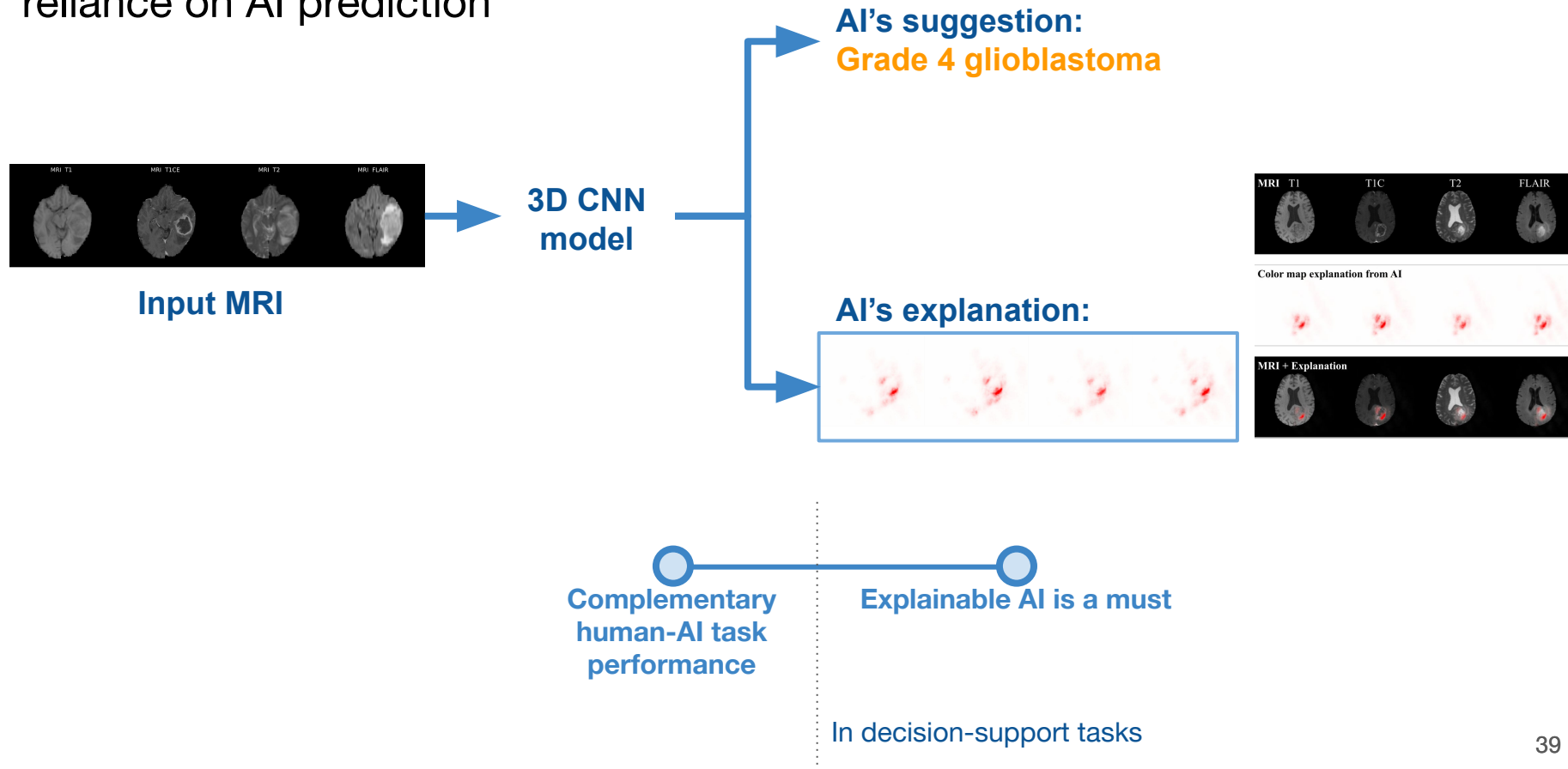
$$t = mb + h(1 - b) \leq hb + h - hb = h$$

If  $h < m$ :

$$t = mb + h(1 - b) < mb + m - mb = m$$

Therefore,  $t \leq \max(h, m)$

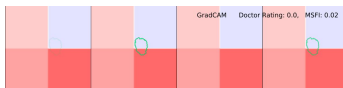
**Explainable AI (XAI)** the additional information that facilitate workers' proper reliance on AI prediction



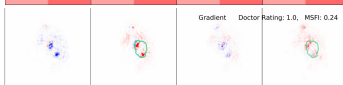
# Candidates of 16 post-hoc heatmap explanation methods on the glioma task

## Gradient based

Grad-CAM



Gradient



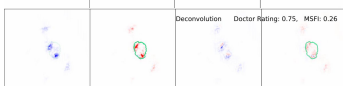
Input x Gradient



SmoothGrad



Deconvolution



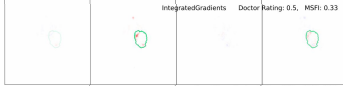
Guided Backpropagation



Guided Grad-CAM



Integrated Gradient



DeepLIFT

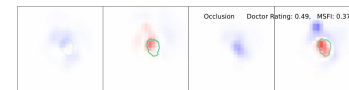


Gradient SHAP

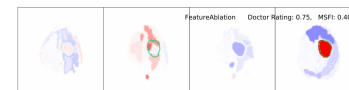


## Perturbation based

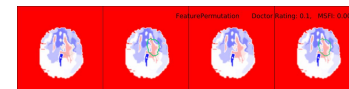
Occlusion



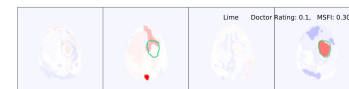
Feature Ablation



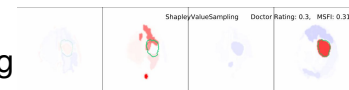
Feature Permutation



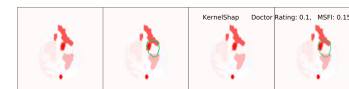
LIME



Shapley Value Sampling



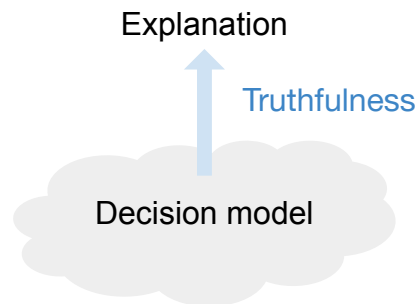
Kernel SHAP





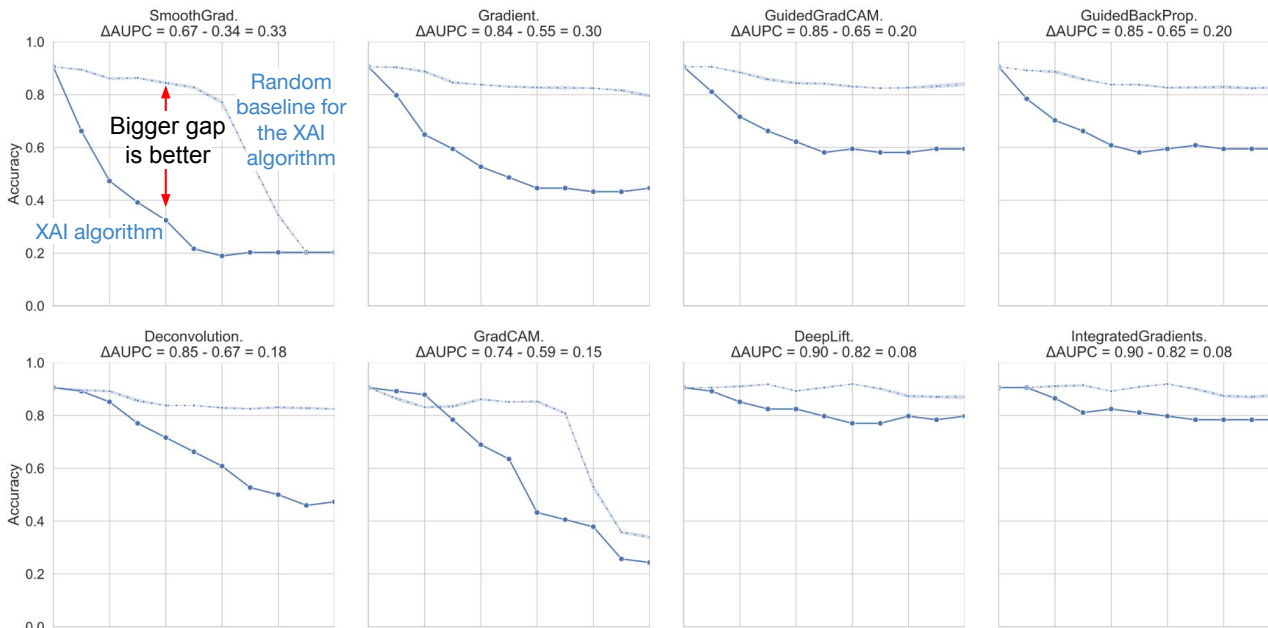
# The AI explanation method was selected for being relatively truthful to AI decision process

## Gradual feature removal experiment



### Assumption:

Removing important features will cause AI performance to drop.



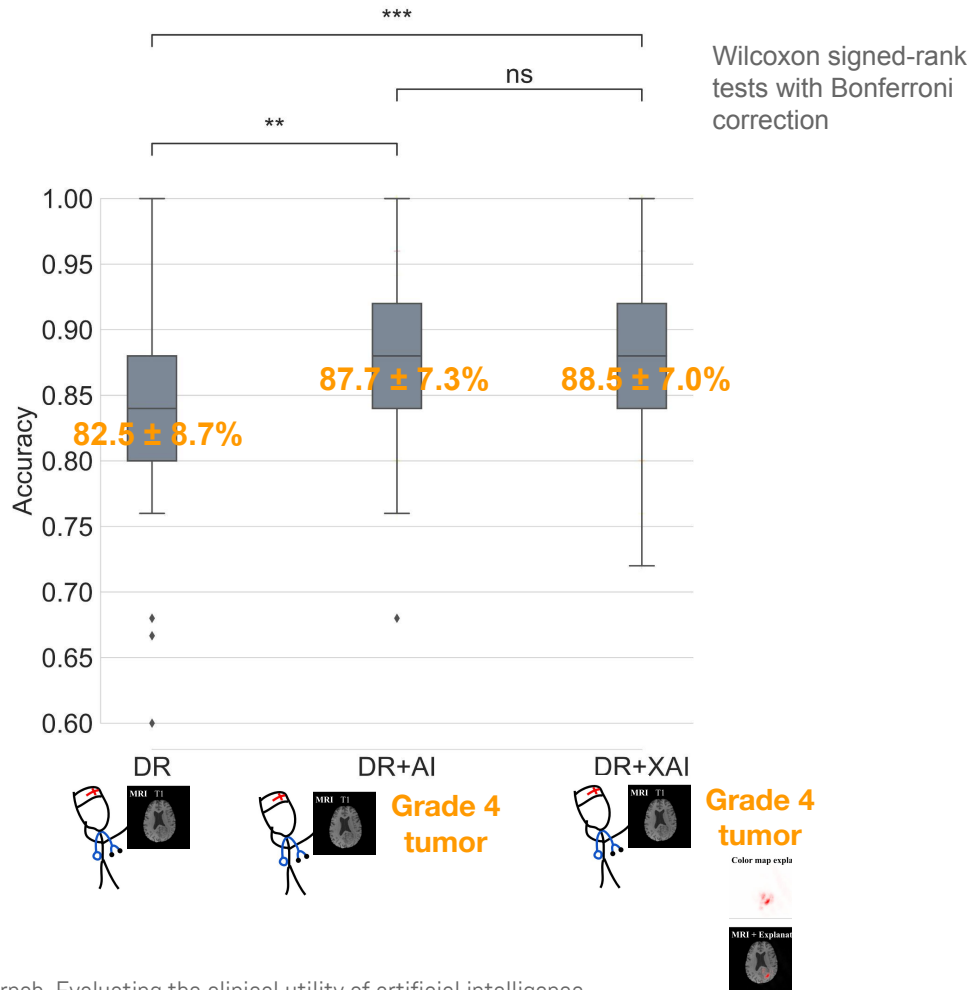
.....

Weina Jin, Xiaoxiao Li, Ghassan Hamarneh.  
Evaluating Explainable AI on a Multi-Modal  
Medical Imaging Task:  
Can Existing Algorithms Fulfil Clinical  
Requirements? AAAI. 2022

# Result

On improving doctors' task performance:

- AI prediction (**DR+AI**) is helpful
- AI explanation (**DR+XAI**) not show additional value



# Result

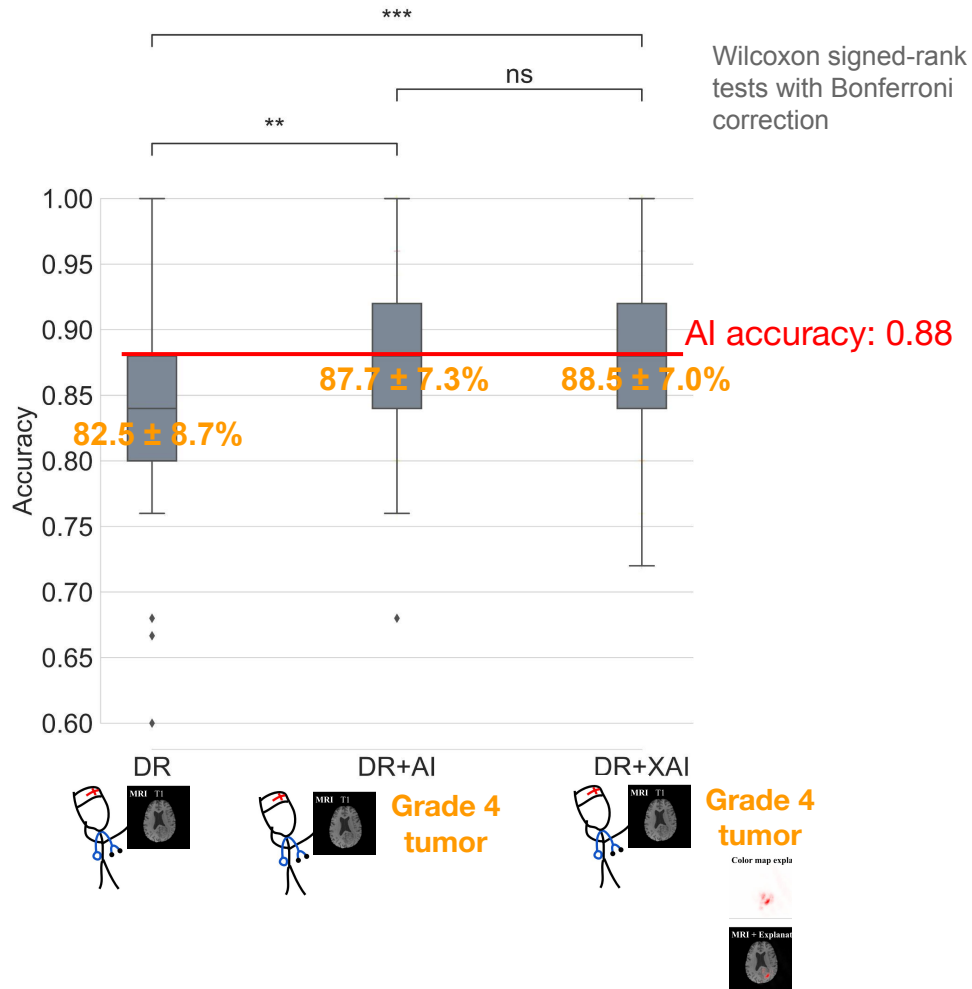
On improving doctors' task performance:

- AI prediction (**DR+AI**) is helpful
- AI explanation (**DR+XAI**) not show additional value

**Doctor + AI > max(Doctor, AI)** ❌

Suggestion      Explanation

Not achieve complementary doctor-AI performance in **DR+AI** or **DR+XAI**

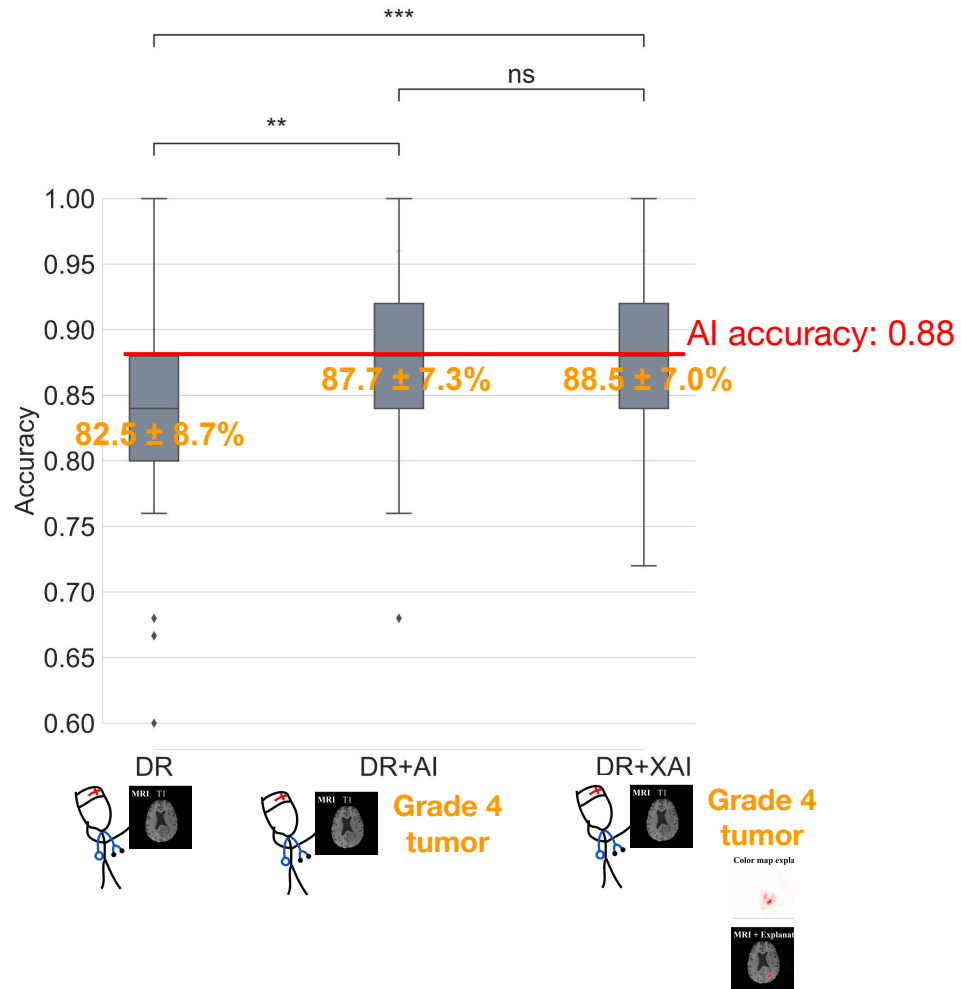


**Critical moment** Explainable AI does not work, shall we go back to use black-box AI to replace doctors?

AI to  
replace  
humans



  
Equal  
work AI



**Critical moment** Explainable AI does not work, shall we go back to use black-box AI to replace doctors?

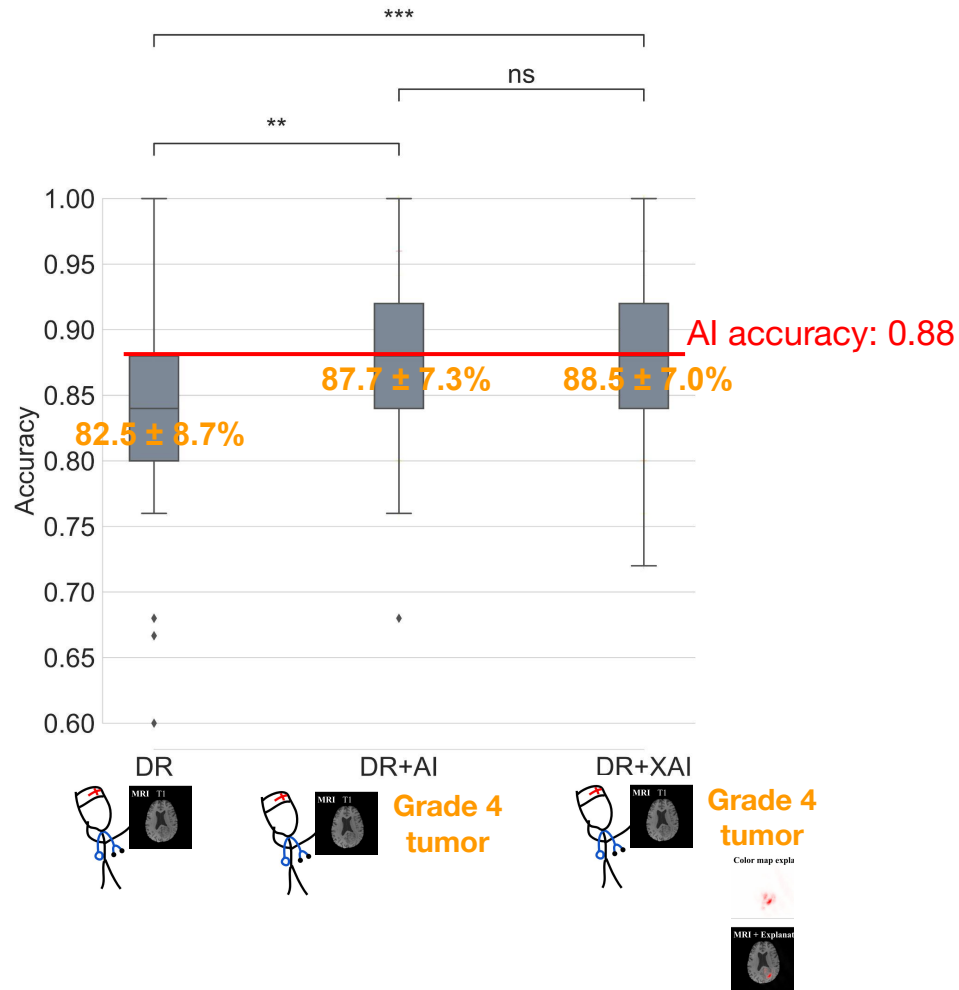
AI to  
replace  
humans



- Adjust humans to AI
  - Abandon the understanding of human and complexity

Equal  
work AI

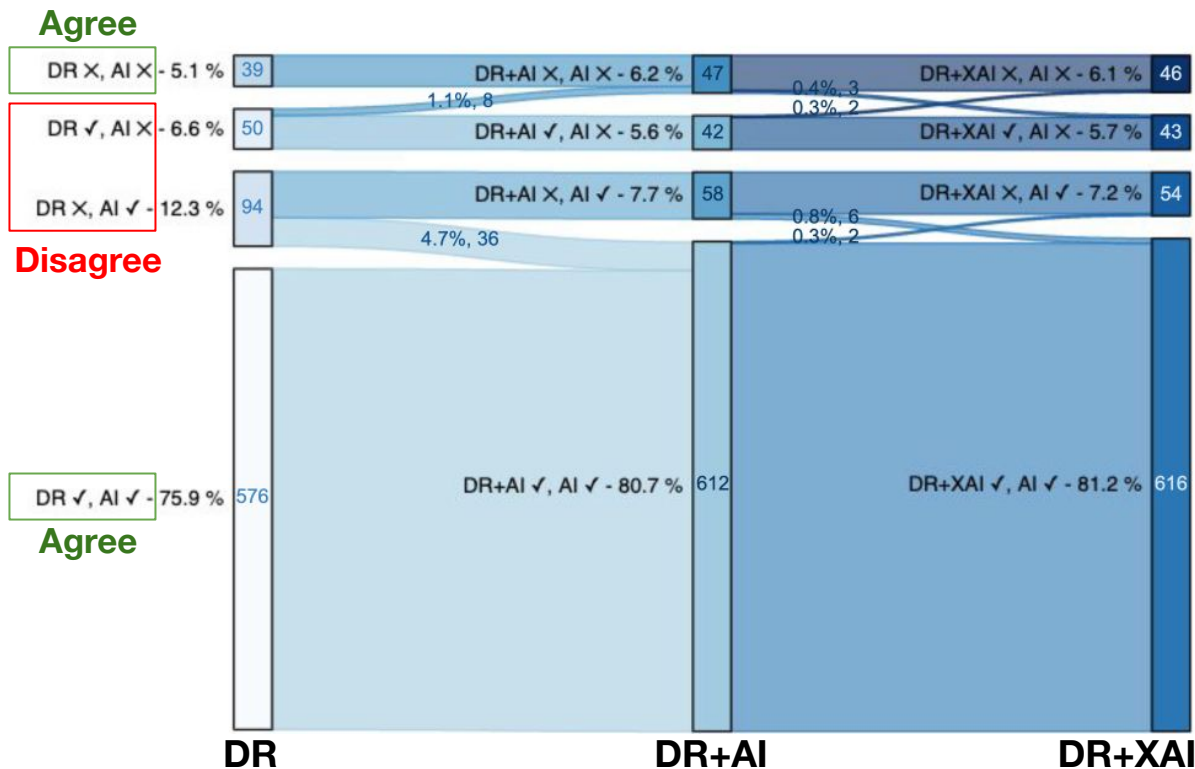
- Adjust AI to humans
  - Embrace uncertainty, diversity, richness, and complexity



## Result Why did not AI explanation help?

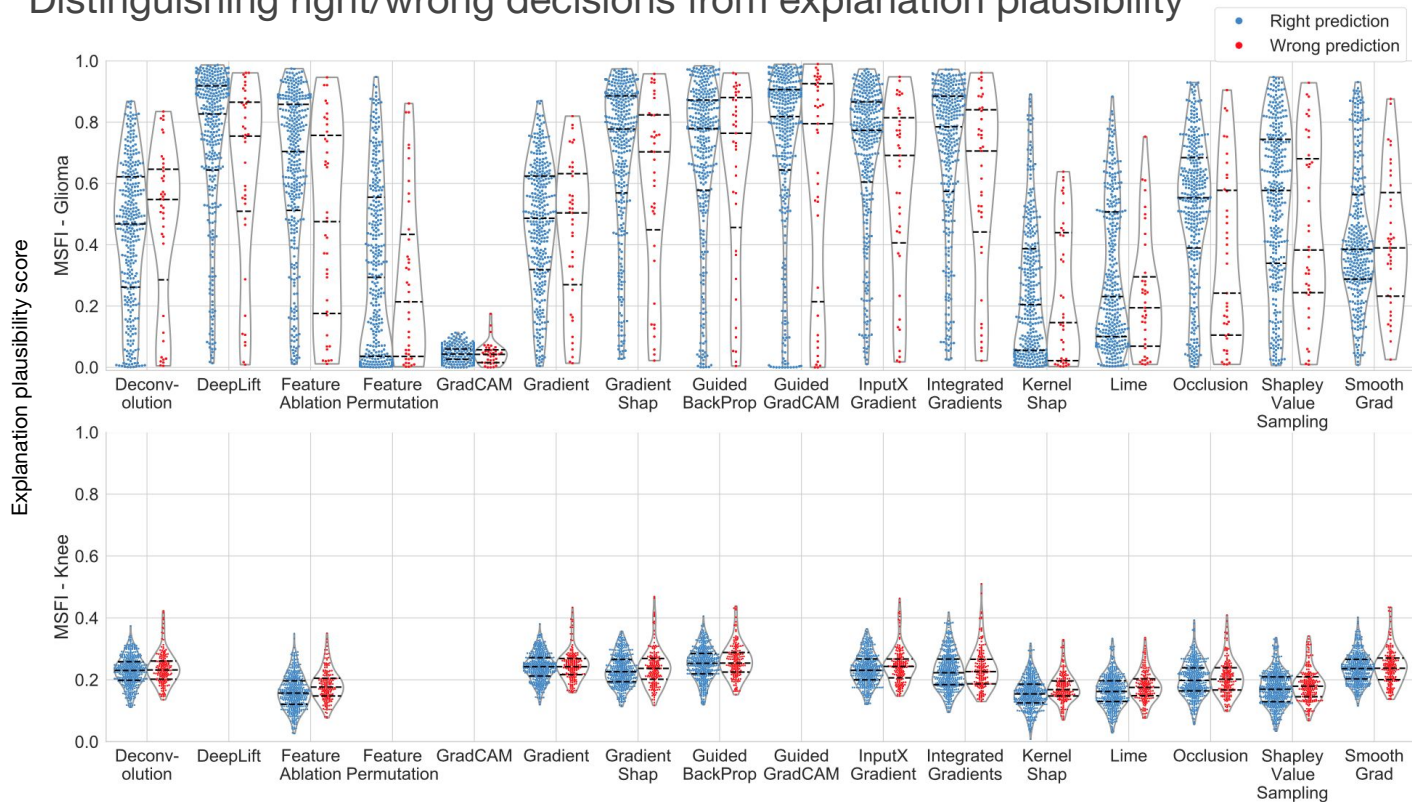
Because physicians had both **changed decisions correctly and incorrectly** with basically the same amount.

I.e.: explanation cannot help doctors to discern potentially questionable decisions of AI.



# Evaluation of the 16 post-hoc heatmap methods on informative plausibility

Distinguishing right/wrong decisions from explanation plausibility



Human judgment on explanation plausibility can reveal decision quality



**Guideline 4**  
**Informative plausibility**

“

**What does that (color map region) mean?** Like hey, which part of my car gets my car moving? It should say press the accelerator. But yours would just show a dashboard of the car, and show that this button had some red, that button had some red, but it's not an explanation. Let's go to an example, and you'll see, what about the red areas under MRI T1CE (modality)? **Was it central necrosis?** But it couldn't be the central necrosis, because there's more central necrosis in the temporal lobe, and that area didn't get highlighted. So anyway, I don't know, it's just confusing.

...These color maps were totally useless **without text, without any context or explanation**, like those details. The color maps were just pretty, but they didn't explain anything.

– Neurosurgeon #3

“

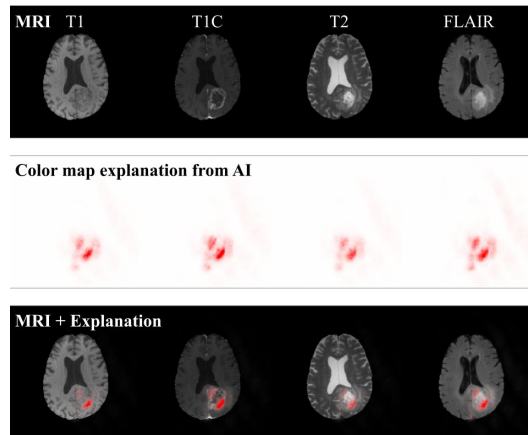
Though the color map is drawing your eyes to many different spots, but I feel like I didn't understand why my eyes were being driven to those spots, like **why were these very specific components important?** And I think that's where all my confusion was.

– Neurosurgeon #2

## Qualitative results

### Why AI explanation did not help?

Because the existing AI explanations do not explain in a clinically relevant way



Weina Jin (co-first author), Mostafa Fatehi (co-first author), Ru Guo, Ghassan Hamarneh, Evaluating the clinical utility of artificial intelligence assistance and its explanation on the glioma grading task, Artificial Intelligence in Medicine, 2024

Doctor



# Existing AI explanations do not speak clinical language to explain



What (explanation) we get currently, when a radiologist read it, they **point out the significant features**, and then they **integrate those knowledge**, and say, to my best guess, this is a glioblastoma. And I have the same expectations of AI (explanation).

– Neurosurgeon #3

*Physicians' clinical image interpretation process:*

Medical image



Human-interpretable feature

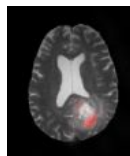
Human-interpretable reasoning based on the features

Clinical decision

Tumor grade 4

*Physicians' interpretation process of AI explanation:*

Heatmap explanation



Contrast-enhanced region of the tumor

Contrast-enhanced region is an indicator of higher grade tumor

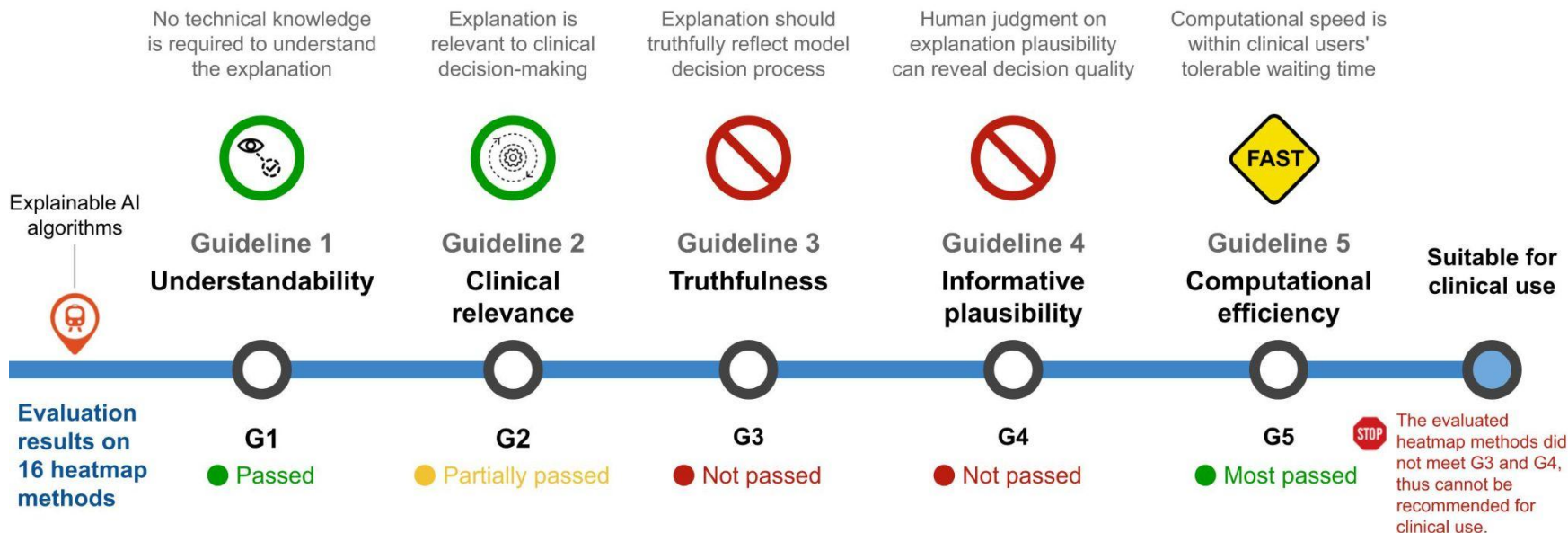
Clinical decision

Tumor grade 4

“Context of the important features”

# The clinical XAI guidelines and evaluation results on 16 heatmap methods

## Clinical Explainable AI Guidelines



## How to achieve complementary human-AI performance?

**Theorem 2.** Given that the probability of human acceptance of an AI suggestion  $f(P_i)$  is a function of the explanation plausibility  $P_i$  with a monotonic relationship:  $\forall P_i, P_j \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $P_i > P_j$ , then  $f(P_i) > f(P_j)$ , if plausibility is indicative of AI decision correctness, with  $P_i^r$  and  $P_i^w$  denoting the plausibility of AI explanation for the prediction of an instance  $x_i$  if  $x_i$  is predicted correctly or incorrectly and  $P_i^r \neq P_i^w$ , then complementary human-AI accuracy can be achieved,  $t > \max(h, m)$ , conditioned on one of the following:

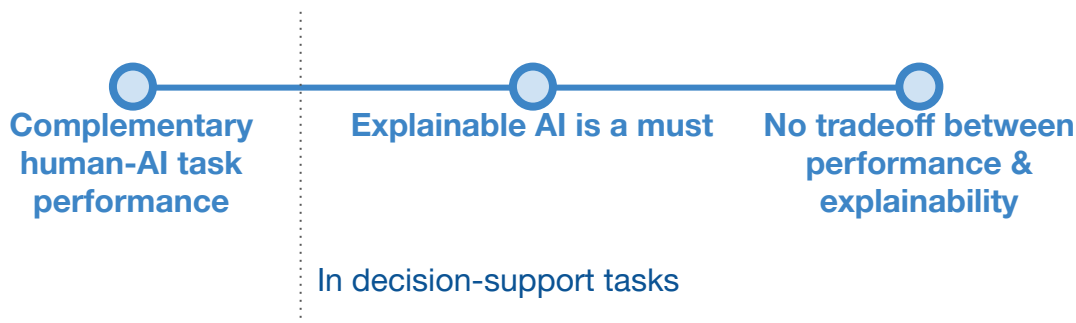
- 1) if  $h \geq m$  and  $\mathbb{E}[f^r] > \frac{h(1-m)}{m(1-h)} \mathbb{E}[f^w]$ ; or
- 2) if  $m > h$  and  $\mathbb{E}[f^r] > \frac{h(1-m)}{m(1-h)} \mathbb{E}[f^w] + \frac{m-h}{m(1-h)}$

where  $h$ ,  $m$ , and  $t$  are the accuracies of the human, AI, and human-AI team;  $\mathbb{E}[f^r]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[f^w]$  are the expectations of  $f(P_i^r)$  and  $f(P_i^w)$  over the dataset  $x_i \in \mathcal{D}$ .

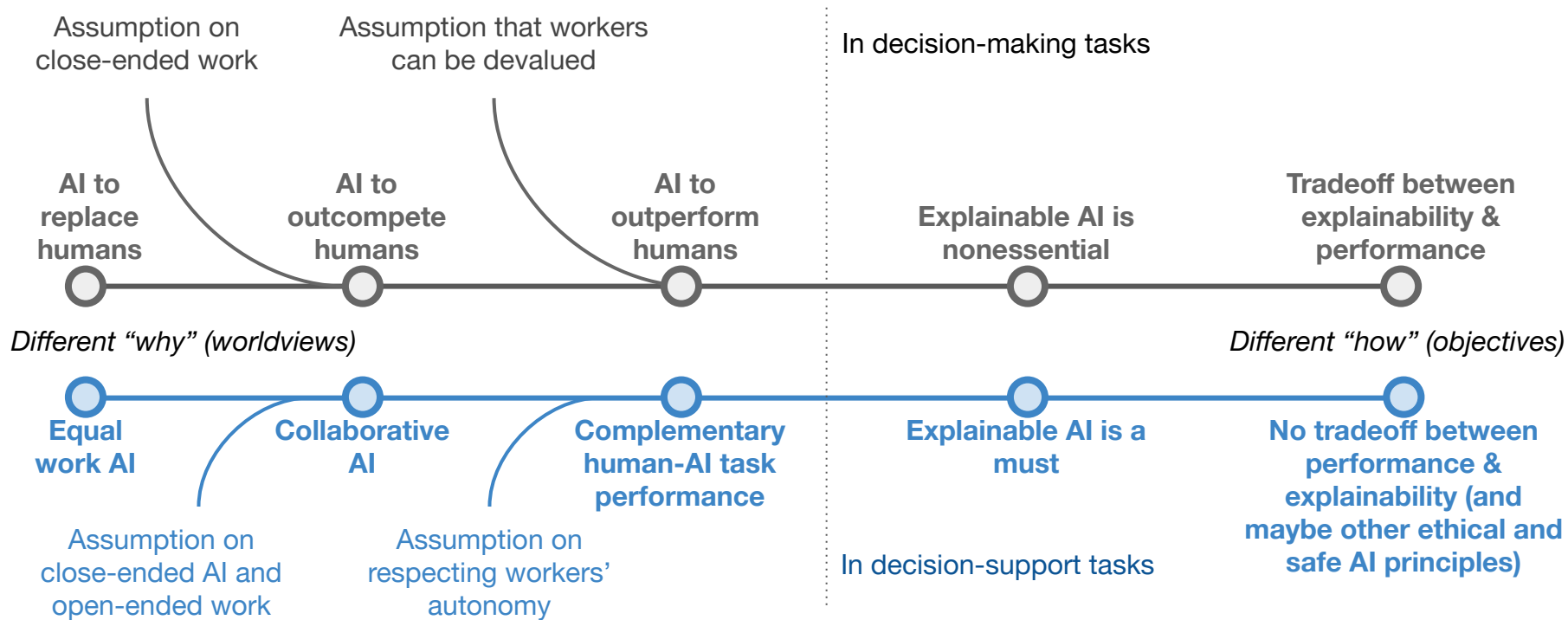
With a **superior or inferior AI,**

complementary performance can be achieved, as long as AI can **learn to**

**collaborate with humans** by reliably indicating its decision quality.



## What will AI be under this new “axiomatic system” (worldview)?



# Thank you!

## Constructing a Different Imagination Beyond “AI Outperforming Humans”

