The aesthetics of algorithmic experience


Abstract

We did not need the NSA scandal as a reminder that the minute we decide to engage in technologically mediated relation we inscribe ourselves in matrices of control. In fact, one might even question the status of National Security Agency (NSA) surveillance as a scandal: the democratically legitimated laws authorizing such big data projects have been on the books for a long time. Less known are the algorithmic architectures that scrape, mine, harvest, store, cluster, sequence, combine and analyse data generation through our daily use of computational systems. Even more obscure is the extent to which an aesthetic dimension attends the multiple formats and structures that organize data as a dynamic object. To conjoin aesthetics with algorithmic cultures brings us to the centre of info-politics today: namely, the capture of experience within ‘integrated world capitalism’.

The algorithmic image that I analyze in my book is an image that uses mathematics to program and set the conditions of possibility for the perceptual field. Three core traits characterize this algorithmic model of perception: informatic data reduction, predictive scanning, and the allegorical presentation of data. Statistics and algorithms determine what can or cannot be seen and therefore known. Carolyn L. Kane writes about the history, philosophy, and aesthetics of electronic media. She earned her PhD from New York University. Her book Chromatic Algorithms: Synthetic Color, Computer Art, and Aesthetics After Code was published by the University of Chicago Press. David Beer is Senior Lecturer in Sociology at the University of York, UK. Tag Archives: aesthetics. The Aesthetics of Algorithmic Experience. 04-Jan-15. By Ned Rossiter and Soenke Zehle We did not need the NSA scandal as a reminder that the minute we decide to engage in technologically mediated relations we inscribe ourselves in matrices of control. In fact, one might even question the status of NSA surveillance as a scandal: the democratically legitimated laws authorizing such big [...]. Filed in Logistics | Also tagged algorithms, experience, politics | Comments (0) ». Home. In this paper, we define the aesthetics gap and discuss key aspects of the problem of aesthetics and emotion inference in natural images. We introduce precise, relevant questions to be answered, the effect that the target audience has on the problem specification, broad technical solution approaches, and assessment criteria. We then report on our effort to build real-world datasets that provide viable approaches to test and compare algorithms for these problems, presenting statistical analysis of and insights into them. Being in its nascent stage, research on algorithmic aesthetics inference needs concretely defined tasks to solve, to start with. Aesthetics of natural images are, simply put, the emotions they arouse in people, which makes it relatively ill-defined.