

**Fall Symposium on
Digital Scholarship 2023
@HKBU**

**AI as the Publics' Shadow
in an Inquiry-Driven Society**

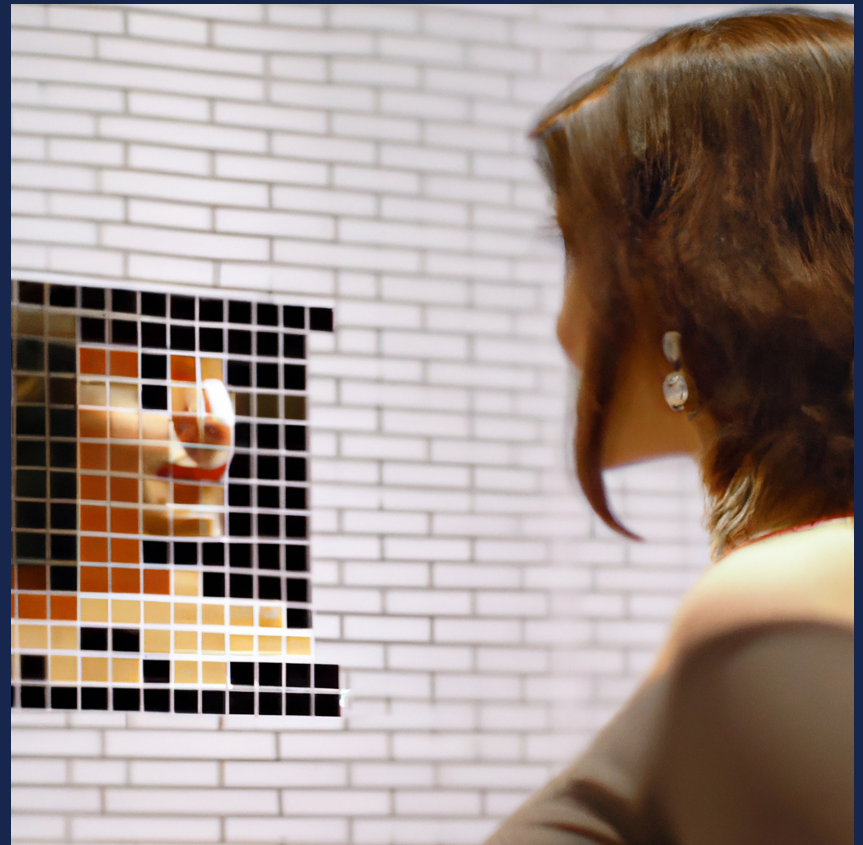
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We live in an inquiry driven culture

- **Information retrieval** (in lieu of memorization)
- **Algorithms** are prevalent
- **Access** to info is unequal
- **Questions** (for info retrieval) are data points

We live in an inquiry driven culture



Differing Design Goals of Info Retrieval Tools

Google = an **indexing portal**, sending users in (the right?) direction, not a content provider; algorithmic bias in ranking search results

Generative AI = a content **aggregator** with limitations, enticing users to linger and chat more, a self-contained re-mixing machine

We live in an inquiry driven culture

- **Unstructured data abundance** despite indexical portals (e.g. Google)
- Systems at scale require annotated resources
- Inefficiency and challenges: **Information retrieval**
- Ranking algorithms (methods of categorization) give false impressions of one correct way of knowing the world

Mona Diab, “**Data Paucity and Low Resource Scenarios**,” *KDD '20: Proceedings of the 26th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining* August 2020; <https://doi.org/10.1145/3394486.3409565>

Data Paucity Exacerbated by Generative AI

- **Digital disparity**: Not everything is digital (oral culture, uncodified emotions, minor languages, few of the 7000 languages globally are represented digitally)
- Systems at scale require **ranking algorithms** (blessing and a curse)
- Generative AI (as probabilistic models) promotes social “**medians**” in its datasets
- Discursive outputs = a form of data **throttling**
- AI as **opaque** “black box tech” (producing info without revealing its internal workings)

Which Tasks for AI?

- Simulation training (AI)
- Information retrieval
- Data organization (AI)
- Data curation or pattern recognition (AI)
- Data creation
- Data interpretation (cognitive tasks)
- Repetitive bureaucratic tasks (AI)
- Decision making

Use Cases for AI

- Turning Close-Ended Questions into Open-Ended Ones
- Generating Counter-Arguments
- ChatGPT as a “Reading Buddy”
- Peer Review AI-generated “essays”
- Socratic Method assignment
- Brainstorming
- Indexing (frequency / distribution of topics)

Make AI Ask You Questions

Key Elements of Political Communication

September 21, 2023



I'm looking for some elements of political communication. Can you give me 5?



Certainly! Political communication is a multifaceted field that encompasses various elements. Here are five key elements of political communication:

1. **Framing:** This refers to the way issues, events, or candidates are presented and interpreted. By emphasizing certain aspects and downplaying others, communicators can shape the perception of their audience. For instance, an economic downturn can be framed as a result



Got it. Given the information you've provided, here's a series of questions to help you further refine your paper:

1. **How have framing techniques evolved over the time period you're studying (1992-2020)?** Are there discernible patterns or shifts in the way candidates frame their achievements and their opponents' perceived failures?
2. **How do post-debate polls reflect the effectiveness of a candidate's framing strategy?** For instance, if a candidate consistently frames their opponent in a negative light, do the polls show a corresponding dip in the opponent's favorability?
3. **Are there specific debates or moments within debates that stand out as particularly impactful in terms of framing?** What were the framing techniques used, and how did they influence post-debate polls?
4. **How do different moderators or debate formats influence the opportunities candidates have to frame themselves and their opponents?** For example, do town-hall formats versus traditional debate stages lead to different framing strategies?
5. **Are there instances where a candidate's attempt to frame their achievements or their opponent's failures backfired, as reflected in post-debate polls?** What might account for these missteps?
6. **How do external events (e.g., economic downturns, wars, scandals) influence the framing strategies candidates employ in debates?** And how do these external frames interact with post-debate poll results?