

# “BIG DATA” has failed spy agencies, business and everybody else: Computers can’t accurately anticipate human social actions!

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For all of it's hype, BIG DATA has missed every major crime, every major terrorist action, every big business swing and every social trend.

For all of the billions in marketing hype, salesmanship, PR and crappy software: Cisco, Oracle, Palantir, Lucid and all of the other “WE CAN SEE THE FUTURE” analysis software products that Silicon Valley foisted off on the market, the reality now is that it all has failed miserably.

Whatever a computer tells you people are going to do, is almost never what happens.

For example: Here is a massive amount of taxpayer time and resources spent on a crime prevention BIG DATA project that didn't stop a single crime. Now it is being tossed out the window:

## [Maryland scraps failed cartridge casing mandate advocated by .](#)

Maryland became the last state to end a mandate requiring gun makers and sellers to submit spent bullet casings for all handguns sold in state.



[guns.com/2015/05/13/maryland-scraps-failed-cartrid...](http://guns.com/2015/05/13/maryland-scraps-failed-cartrid...)

AND...

One of the biggest hype stories out of Silicon Valley, FACEBOOK, finally admits that their billions of dollars of computers and software can't even get it right and that only real humans can figure out real humans:

## Facebook Says You Filter News More Than Its Algorithm Does

A Facebook study of 10 million users shows that your selection of friends holds more sway than filtering algorithms when it comes to seeing news from opposing political viewpoints.

- By [Rachel Metz](#) TECHNOLOGY REVIEW

### Why It Matters

Facebook is the world's largest social network, with over 1.4 billion active users each month.

Ever wonder how much news Facebook's algorithm may be sorting out of your News Feed that you don't agree with politically? Not much, the social network says.

Facebook studied millions of its most political users and determined that while its algorithm tweaks what you see most prominently in your feed, you're the one really limiting how much news and opinion you take in from people of different political viewpoints.

Eytan Bakshy, a research scientist on Facebook's data science team and coauthor of the paper, says the group found that Facebook's News Feed algorithm only slightly decreases users' exposure to news shared by those with opposing viewpoints.

"In the end, we find individual choices, both in terms of who they choose to be friends with and what they select, matters more than the effect of algorithmic sorting," he says.

The work comes more than three years after Bakshy and other researchers [concluded](#) that while you're more likely to look at and share information with your closest connections, most of the information you get on Facebook stems from the web of people you're weakly connected to—refuting the idea that online social networks create “filter bubbles” limiting what we see to what we want to see (see “[What Facebook Knows](#)”).

However, Bakshy says, the previous research, published in 2012, didn't directly measure the extent to which you're exposed to information from people whose ideological viewpoints are opposite from yours.

In an effort to sort that out, researchers looked at anonymized data for 10.1 million Facebook users who define themselves as liberal or conservative, and seven million URLs for news stories shared on Facebook from July 7 to January 7. After using software to identify URLs that consisted of “hard” news stories (pieces focused on topics like national news and politics) that were shared by a minimum of 20 users who had a listed political affiliation, researchers labeled each story as being aligned with liberal, neutral, or conservative ideologies, depending on the average political leaning of those who shared the stories.

Researchers found that 24 percent of the “hard” stories that liberal Facebook users' friends shared were aligned with conservative users, while 35 percent of the “hard” stories that conservative Facebook users' friends shared were aligned with liberal users—an average of 29.5 percent exposure, overall, to content from the other side of the political spectrum. The researchers also looked at the impact of Facebook's News Feed ranking algorithm on the kind of news you see. Bakshy says that overall, the algorithm reduces users' exposure to content from friends who have opposing viewpoints by less than 1 percentage point—from 29.5 percent to 28.9 percent.

And when it came down to what users ended up actually reading, researchers report that conservatives were 17 percent less likely to click on liberally aligned articles than other “hard” stories in their news feeds, while liberals were 6 percent less likely to click on conservatively aligned articles presented to them.

[Sharad Goel](#), an assistant professor at Stanford who has studied filter bubbles, says people in the field have talked about this issue for several years but Facebook alone was in a position to explore it. He says one thing worth keeping in mind is that people may get their news from many sources, which can dwarf the impact of what they see on Facebook. “I do agree with one of their main messages—that the algorithm itself is not driving a lot of polarization,” he says.

## [Your elected officials have screwed with the “BIG DATA” hype so they could give big checks to their Silicon Valley buddies...](#)

The puzzling failure of economics | The Economist. The Financial Crisis and the Systemic Failure of Academic Economics. Economics has **failed** us: but where are the fresh voices?



[zdnet.com/article/the-dismal-failure-of-big-data/](http://zdnet.com/article/the-dismal-failure-of-big-data/)

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### [Why big data has \(so far\) failed medicine | ZDNet](#)

Why big **data** has (so far) **failed** medicine. Summary: **How** will machine learning help healthcare? Hint: It's not through electronic medical records.



[zdnet.com/article/why-big-data-has-so-far-failed-me...](http://zdnet.com/article/why-big-data-has-so-far-failed-me...)

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### [Has big data technology failed to deliver what promised .](#)

The big **data** evangelists consider it a revolutionary technology. But, as it often happens with new technologies, the examples of **failed** implementations are more than a few.



[blog.softone.gr/archives/2014/05/28/has-big-data-technolo...](http://blog.softone.gr/archives/2014/05/28/has-big-data-technolo...)

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### [Official: Tesco'S Big Data Has Failed. Long Live Aldi'S Bit](#)

official: tesco's big **data** has **failed**. long live aldi's bit of rough...

 [the-insight-edge.com/blog/official-tescos-big-data-failed-beat...](http://the-insight-edge.com/blog/official-tescos-big-data-failed-beat...)

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## [Examples of failed projects – Why Do Projects Fail?](#)

The following entry is a record in the "Catalogue of Catastrophe" – a list of **failed** or troubled projects from around the world. Target – Canada ... £224M Synopsis : With changing security threats, securing a country's borders has become an ever increasing priority. The ...

 [calleam.com/WTPF/?tag=examples-of-failed-projects](http://calleam.com/WTPF/?tag=examples-of-failed-projects)

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## [8 Reasons Big Data Projects Fail – InformationWeek](#)

Most companies remain on the big **data** sidelines too long, then fail. ... Big **data** is a big deal. ... organizations still will fail to collect the right **data** and they'll fail to ask pertinent questions at the start.

 [informationweek.com/big-data/big-data-analytics/8-reasons-big...](http://informationweek.com/big-data/big-data-analytics/8-reasons-big...)

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## [What Is Big Data? | SAS](#)

The project has already led to savings in 2011 of more than 8.4 million gallons of fuel by cutting 85 million miles off of daily routes. ... 2 Source: Thomas H. Davenport and Jill Dyche, "Big **Data** in Big Companies," May 2013. Read the full research report. Big **data** solutions from SAS. Want more ...

 [sas.com/en\\_us/insights/big-data/what-is-big-data...](http://sas.com/en_us/insights/big-data/what-is-big-data...)

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## [Tearing down the ivory tower: Can Big Data succeed where BPM.](#)

On Successful Workplace today there's an interesting post about Big **Data** bringing down the house and it inspired me to continue the idea here.

 [customerthink.com/tearing\\_down\\_the\\_ivory\\_tower\\_can\\_big\\_data...](http://customerthink.com/tearing_down_the_ivory_tower_can_big_data...)

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## [Big Data is Falling into the Trough of Disillusionment](#)

My presentation on big **data** for the upcoming BI Summit in Barcelona is obsolete. ... then 15 days later over at Gartner one of their analysts, Svetlana Sicular, has said that Big **data** is over the hype curve. Cause and effect? ... Big **Data** is a big deal.

 [blogs.gartner.com/svetlana-sicular/big-data-is-falling-into...](http://blogs.gartner.com/svetlana-sicular/big-data-is-falling-into...)

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