

Freedom & AI

Can Free Software include ethical AI systems?

Justin W. Flory
Rochester Institute of Technology



[@jflory7](https://twitter.com/@jflory7)



Mike Nolan
UNICEF Office of Innovation



[@nolski](https://twitter.com/@nolski)



Goodhart's Law

wikipedia.org/wiki/Goodhart's_law

“When a measure becomes a target, it ceases to be a good measure.”



What we want to solve

AI systems are being built, but there are not clear actionable steps to mitigate risks of infringing on human rights.



What this talk is about

1. What freedoms do we want to protect?
2. How do **we** respect these freedom?
3. How to ensure **others** respect our freedom?



1.

**What freedoms do
we want to protect?**



**First... let's
travel back
to 1983.**





27 Sept. 1983: GNU Project announced





FREE SOFTWARE
F O U N D A T I O N

4 Oct. 1985: Free Software Foundation founded





25 Feb. 1989: GNU General Public License created



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src: gnu.org/graphics/license-logos.html

Is the past relevant today?



**Your future is
the new
commodity.**



**Where are
we today?**





ainowinstitute.org



partnershiponai.org

AI Now Institute / The Partnership on AI



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What freedoms do we want to protect?

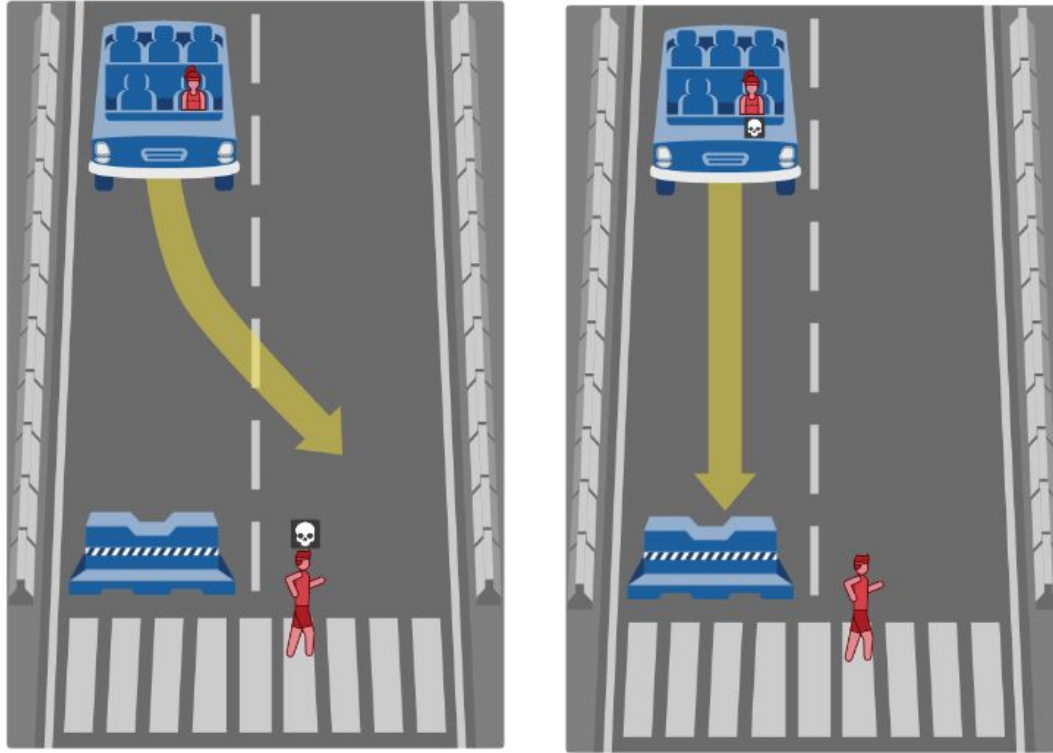


1. Freedom to...

Audit automated decision-making systems



What should the self-driving car do?



Trolley problem



2. Freedom to...

**Deliver
accountability
and responsibility**



**We deserve to
be put over their
profit.**



WORLD NEWS AUGUST 27, 2018 / 8:39 AM / A YEAR AGO

U.N. calls for Myanmar generals to be tried for genocide, blames Facebook for incitement

Stephanie Nebehay

9 MIN READ



[reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-un/myanmar-generals-had-genocidal-intent-against-rohingya-must-face-justice-u-n-idUSKCN1LCOKN](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-un/myanmar-generals-had-genocidal-intent-against-rohingya-must-face-justice-u-n-idUSKCN1LCOKN)



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3. Freedom to...

**Appeal a
decision**



**We must not
erase the
opportunity for
empathy.**



A meme featuring a man with long, wavy brown hair and blue face paint. He has a wide-open mouth, as if shouting or screaming. He is wearing a dark, possibly black, jacket. The background is a blurred green field. The text 'FREEDOOOOM!!!' is overlaid in large, white, serif font across the bottom of the image.

FREEDOOOOM!!!

2.

**How do we respect
these Freedoms?**



Reproducibility

arxiv.org/abs/1810.03993

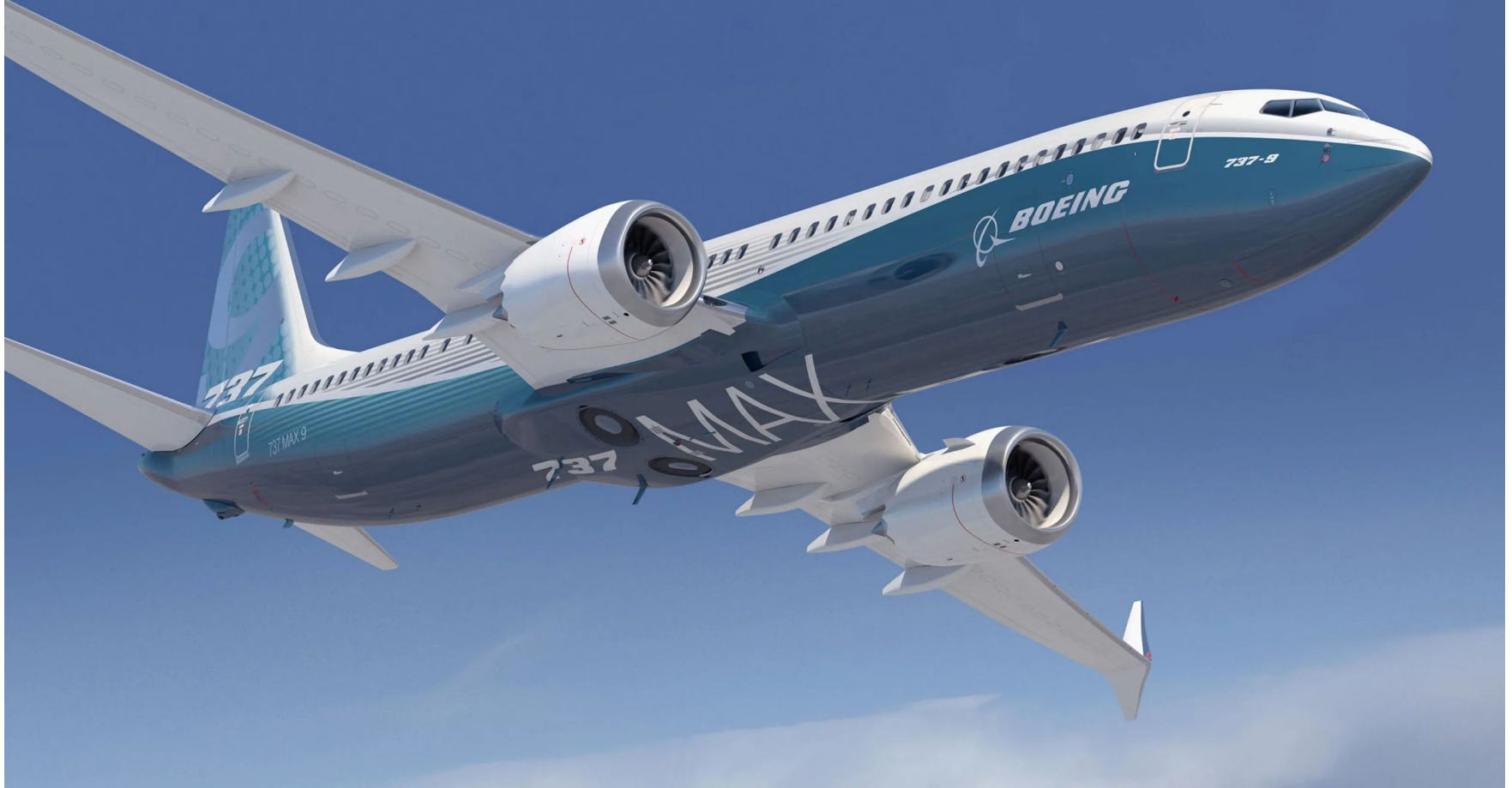


Liability & responsible design



Appealing mechanisms





What happens without manual overrides?



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src: [usatoday.com](https://www.usatoday.com)

**Want to build a
movement? Define
a standard.**





WHATWG



IEEE

Luckily, Free Software advocates are pretty good at this.





We can do it.



3.

**How to ensure others
respect our Freedoms?**



We have our own ways to enforce values.



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src: gph.is/2RF50xJ

**What tools do
we have?**



1.

Licensing



2.

Regulation



3.

**Independent
certification**



4.

Labor

Organization



They are scared.





When do we want it?

Now.



Pledge



freeourfuture.world



freeourfuture.world

Freedom & AI

Let's build a future that we own, together, for everyone.

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Mike Nolan
UNICEF Office of Innovation



[@nolski](https://twitter.com/@nolski)

