



CSCI 101

Connecting with Computer Science

Computerised Society III



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2020 Fall Semester (S3)

Overview

- Focus: Social Implication
- Readings: R16
- Core Ideas:
 1. The Danger of Computers
 2. The Social Responsibilities

Computers are Dangerous!

Ahhhhhh! I don't want to die!

Technological Advancement

- It's always about trade-offs
 - There are always benefits, and harms
 - Balance in the force
 - Maximise benefit
 - Minimise/Adapt to the harms

Benefits of Computers

- Convenience
 - For good people
 - For bad people

Harms of Computers

- Mental Health Issues
Social Media, etc.
- Cyber-attack and Cyber-crimes
Alleged Russian interference on US elections, etc.
- Computer fails that lead to physical harm
Pacemaker, etc.
- Physical harm caused intentionally by computing machinery
Military Drones, etc.

Ethical Problems and Technical Problems

- Should we have autonomous military drones?
- Should facial recognition technology be used by law enforcement?
- Should we allow political advertisements on the internet?
- Where should we draw the line, between technology and humanity?

Discuss

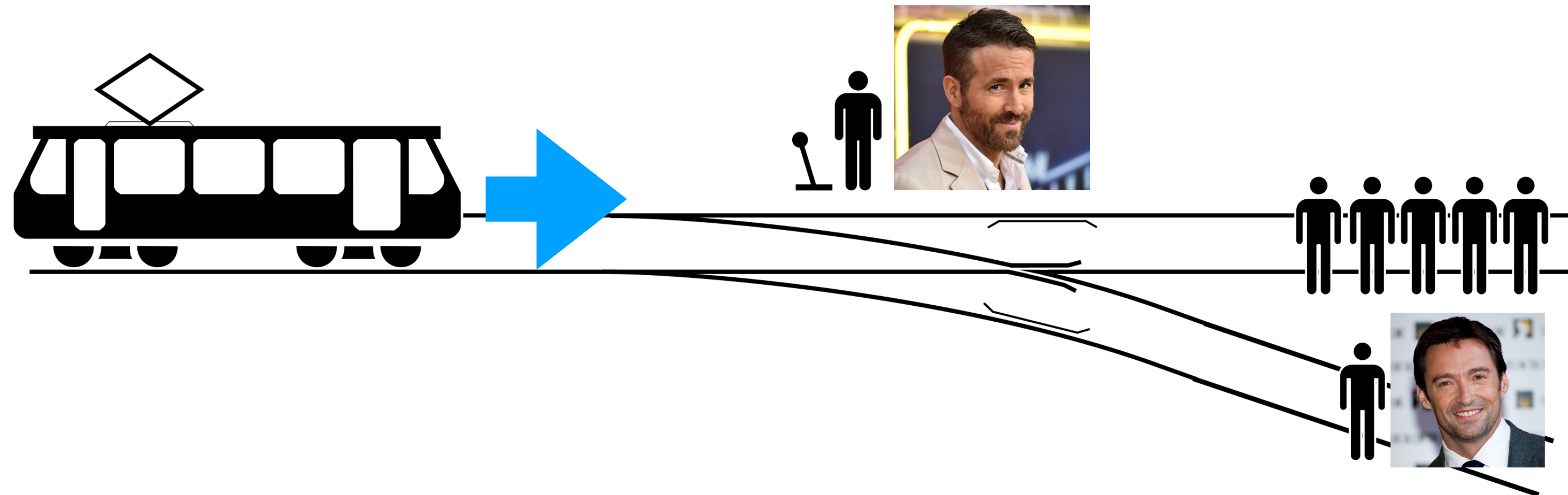
Moral Questions to Consider

Ah, that's cute.



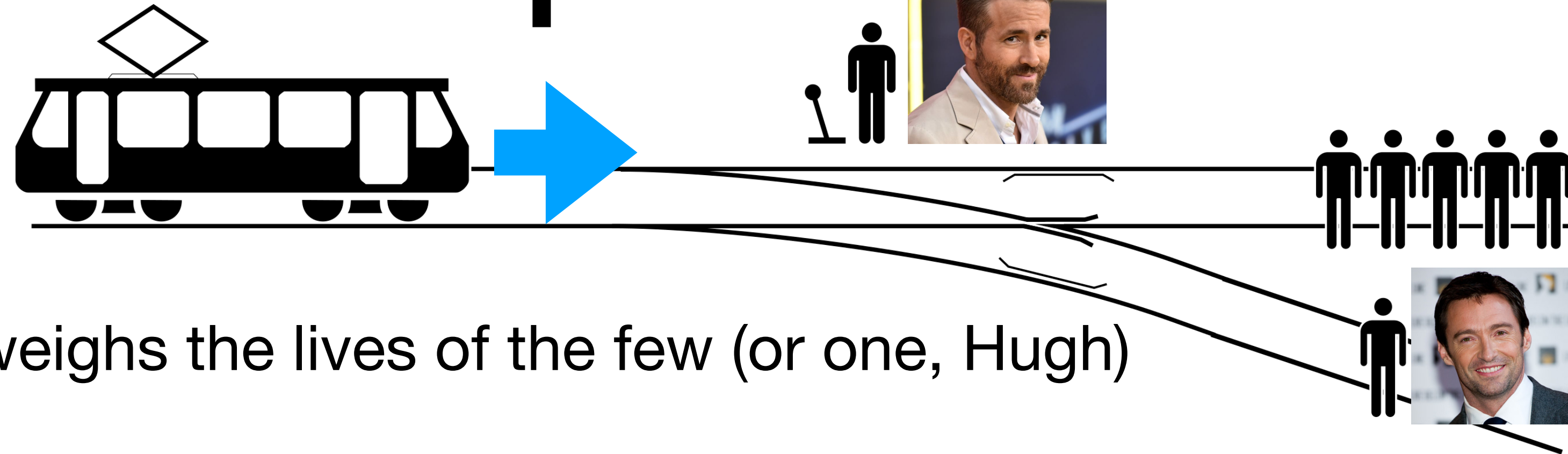
A Moral Compass

- Are morals quantifiable?
- The trolley problem
should Ryan Reynolds **pull the lever** to divert the runaway trolley onto the side track? (**Killing Hugh Jackman?**)



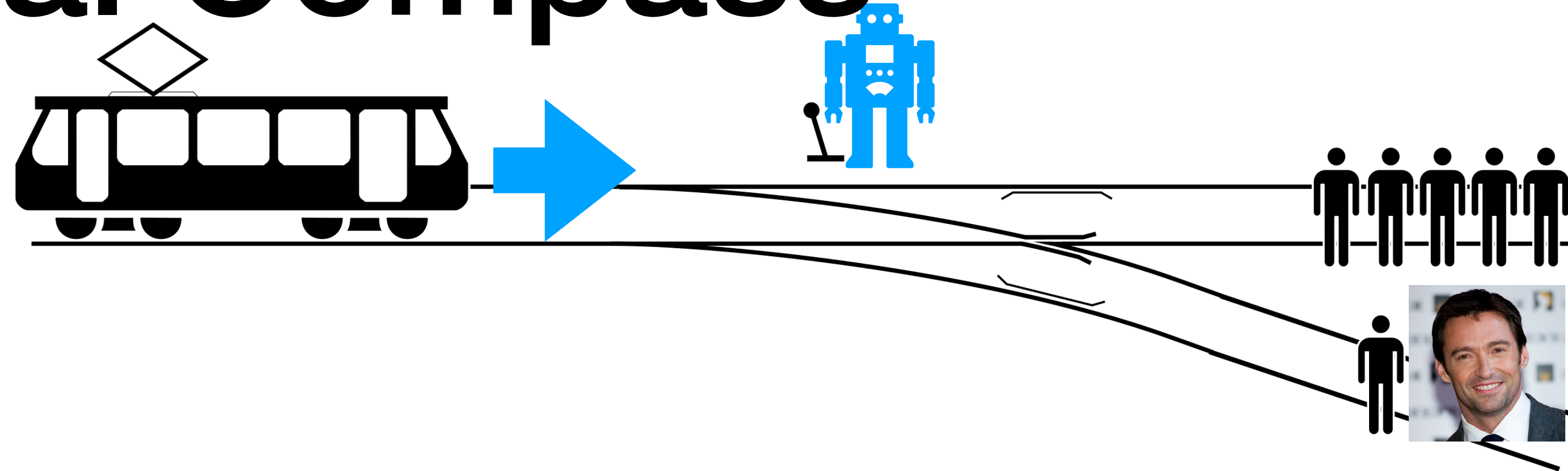
Discuss

A Moral Compass




- Argument 1
Yes, the lives of the many outweighs the lives of the few (or one, Hugh)
- Argument 2
No. Committing murder is morally wrong. The trolley is an accident, Ryan pushing the lever is murdering Hugh Jackman.
- Argument 3
No. Humans do not get to decide others' lives.
- What if one of the people is Einstein? Hawkins? Or your loved mum?

A Moral Compass



- **There is no correct answer.**
- What if the lever is controlled by a robot?
- How will the robot decide?
- What should the robot do? Should the robot do anything?
- Is it murder if the robot decide to kill Hugh?

The Responsibility of the Computer People

- **Science is innocent**, people are not
- Avoidance 
 - Something bad is gonna happen. Somebody else will take care of it. I have nothing to do.
- The Responsibility of Computer People
 - Every human has a social responsibility according to its power and abilities.
 - Do not run away from your responsibilities!