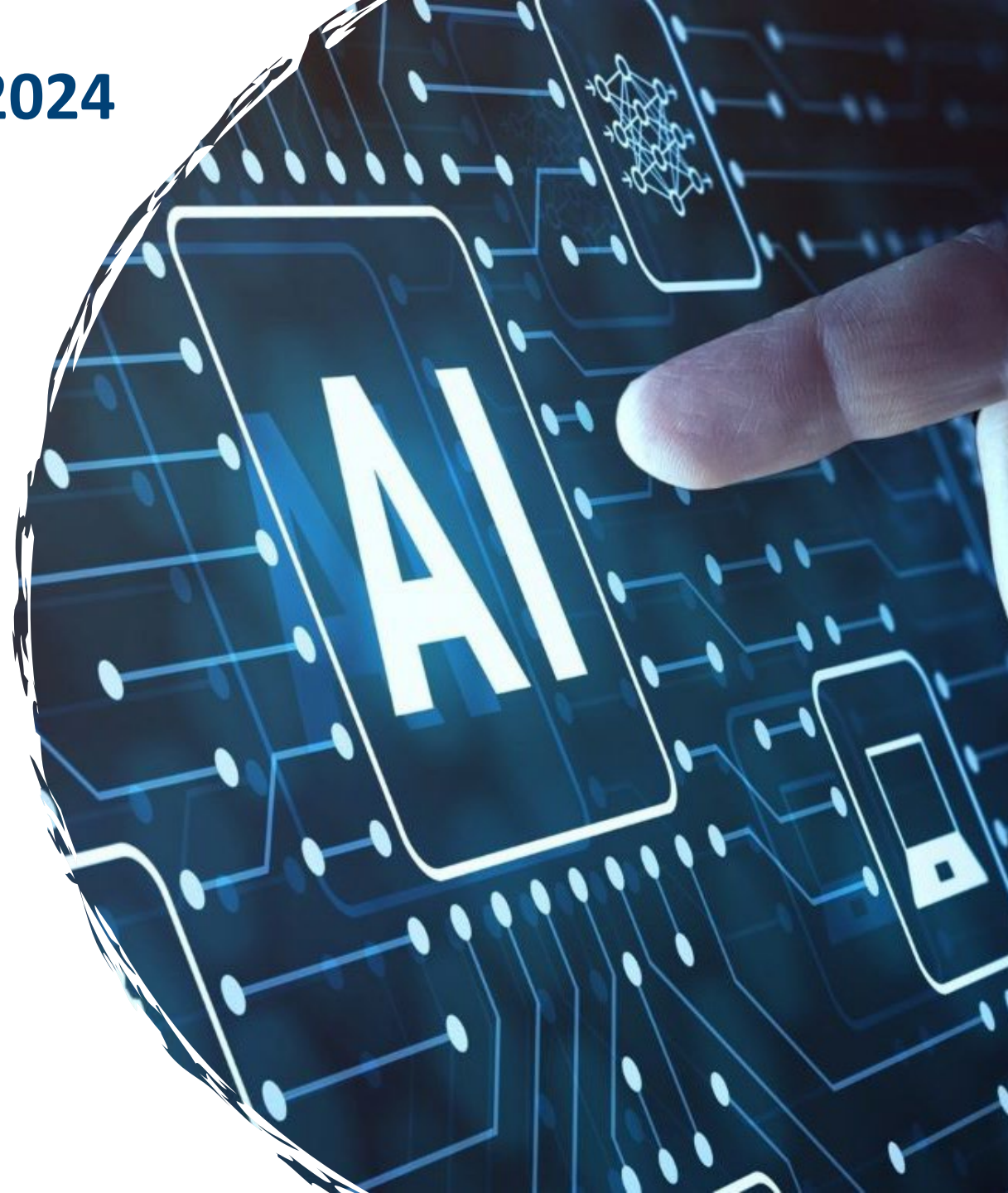


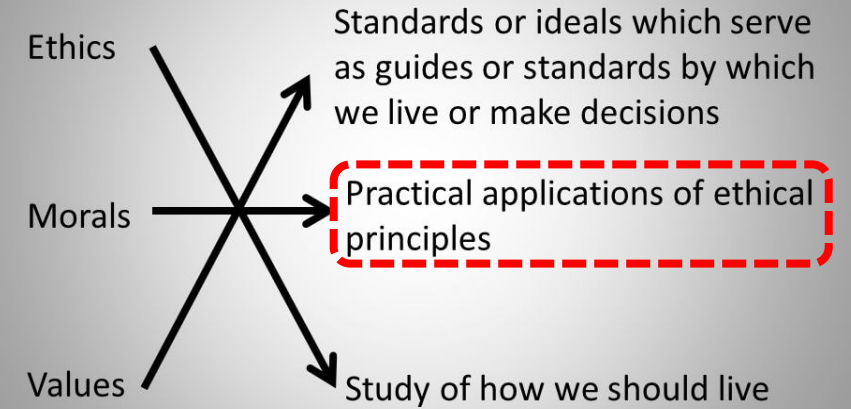
AI and Moral Decision-Making

Presented by: Bernard Sinclair-Desgagné, PhD (Yale)
Professor of Economics and CSR



- Morals vs Ethics
- The challenges of moral decision making
- AI as Moral Decision Support (MDS)

Defining Ethics, Morals, and Values



Morals vs. Ethics What's the Difference?

Morals and ethics are often used interchangeably, but they actually have distinct meanings. Here's a breakdown of the differences between the two:

MORALS

Personal beliefs about right and wrong

Based on individual upbringing, culture, and religion

Can vary widely between individuals and societies

Can be influenced by emotions and personal biases

Often deal with issues of character and virtue

ETHICS

Standards of behavior set by a group or profession

Based on a code of conduct or rules

Generally consistent within a profession or organization

Should be objective and impartial

Often deal with issues of responsibility and accountability

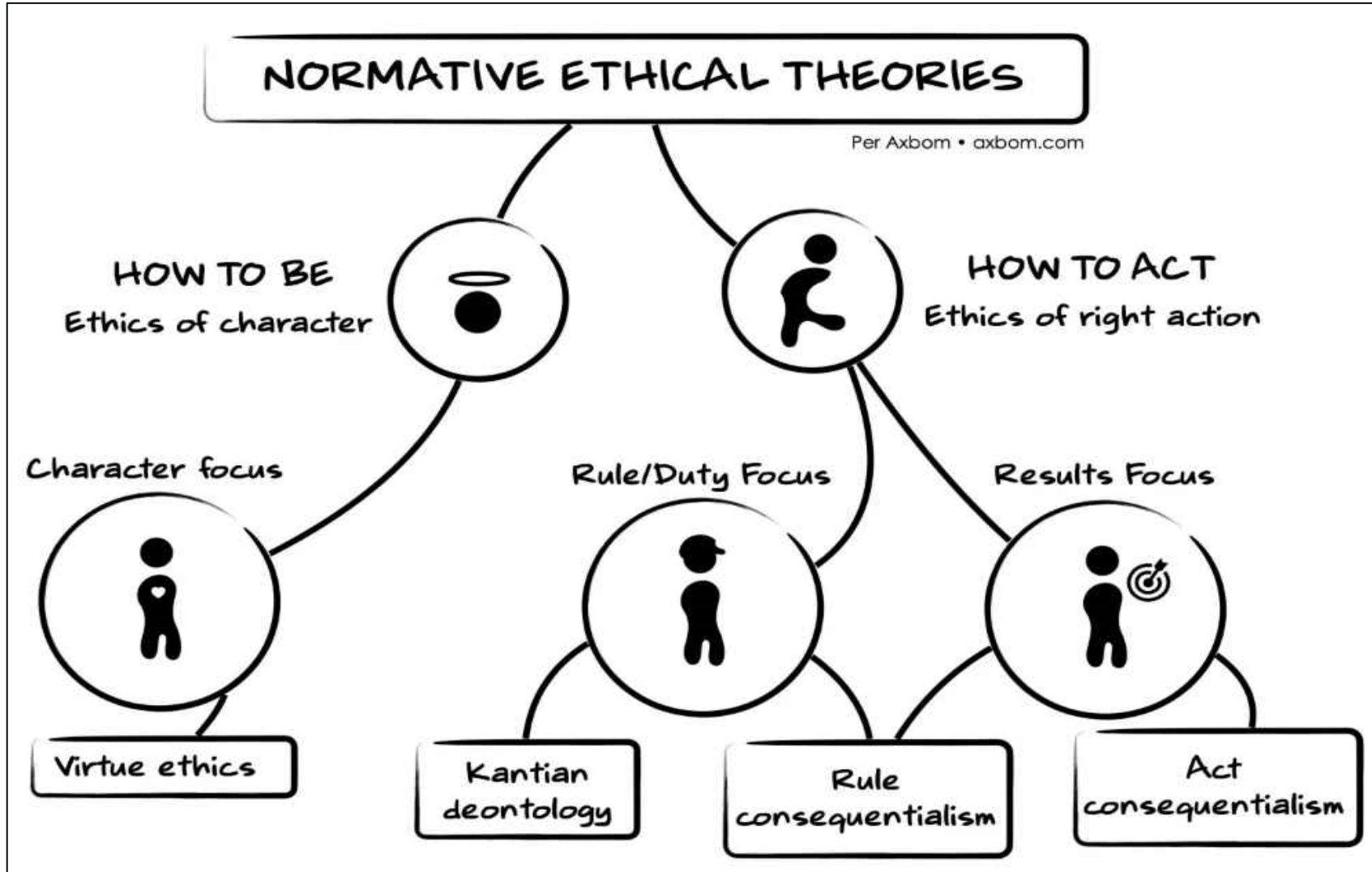
While both morals and ethics are important for guiding behavior, understanding the difference between the two can help us navigate complex ethical dilemmas and make more informed decisions.

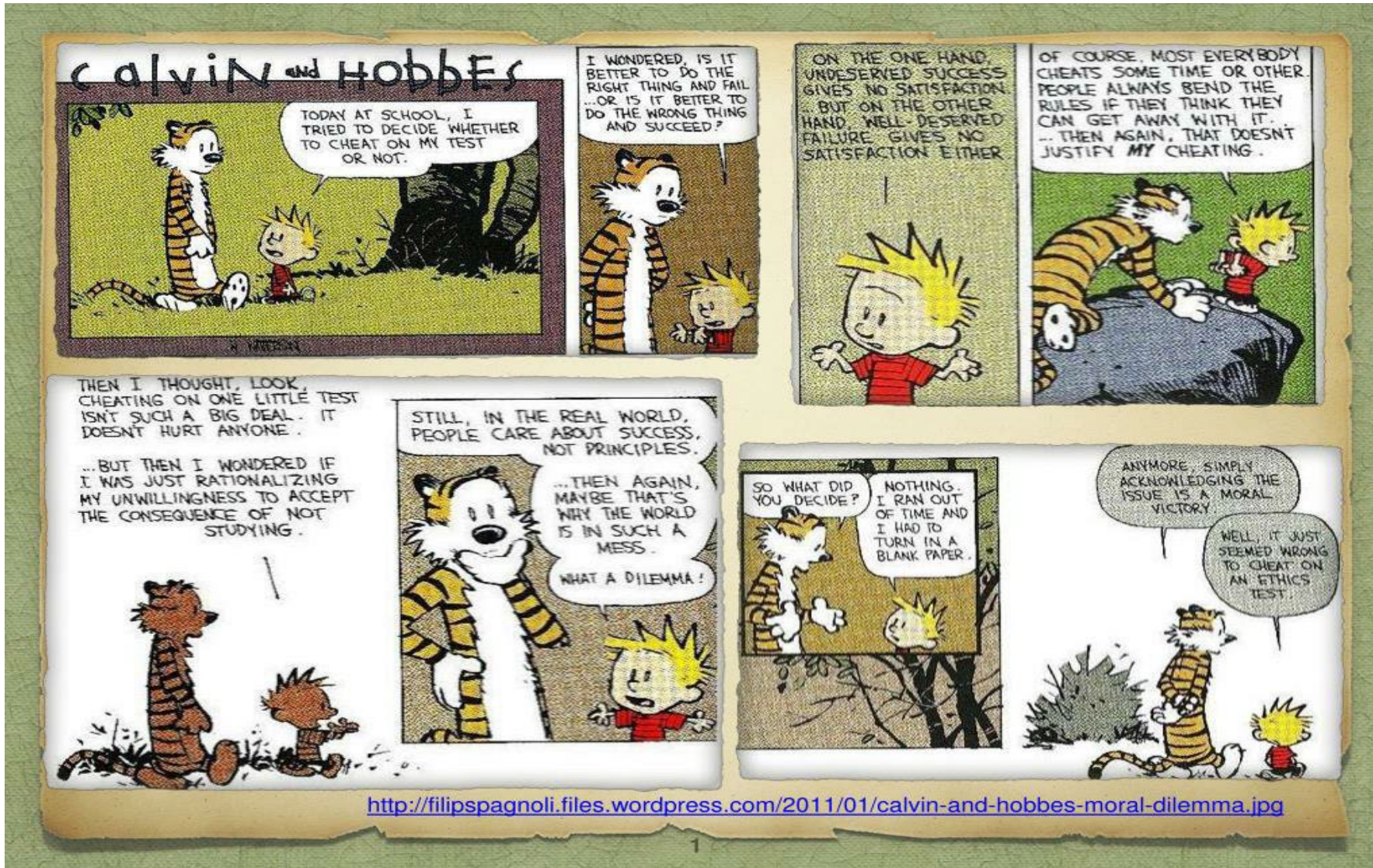
ETHICS Vs MORALITY

- **MORALITY:** from the Latin moralitas "manner, character, proper behavior", it is the conduct or rules that a person or community adhere to, believing these things to be, in some sense, obligatory. It gives us rules for everyday life (morals=moral rules) and it is practical.
- **ETHICS:** critical reflection of "morals". Philosophical reflection about the nature of the good life, of right action, of duty and obligation. It is theoretical.

Morals refers to the **concrete implementation** of ethical principles. It relies on

- Situational characteristics
- Emotions
- Cultural and personal backgrounds





<http://filipsagnoli.files.wordpress.com/2011/01/calvin-and-hobbes-moral-dilemma.jpg>

**DILEMMAS
DILEMMAS**

MORAL DILEMMA

A moral dilemma refers to a situation in which a person is faced with two or more conflicting moral choices, each of which has significant consequences.

OVERVIEW

A moral dilemma presents a difficult decision-making scenario where there is no obvious or easy solution that aligns perfectly with one's ethical principles. Moral dilemmas often involve conflicting values, obligations, or duties, forcing individuals to weigh the potential harm or benefit associated with each option.

EXAMPLE

Prioritizing Elder Care: Imagine a working individual struggling to balance work responsibilities with eldercare. On one hand, they want to provide proper care for their elderly parent but on the other hand, they fear losing their job. This could be classified as an obligation dilemma, as the individual is torn between two significant responsibilities.

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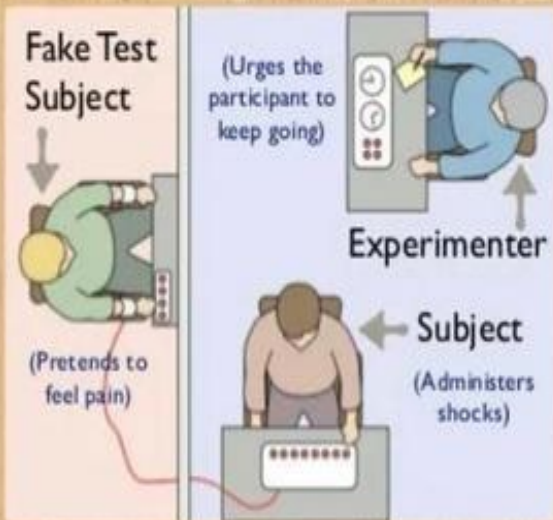
Emotional stress



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Framing

In 1963, Stanley Milgram created an experiment to see if participants would follow orders even when the requested behavior went against their moral beliefs or good judgment.

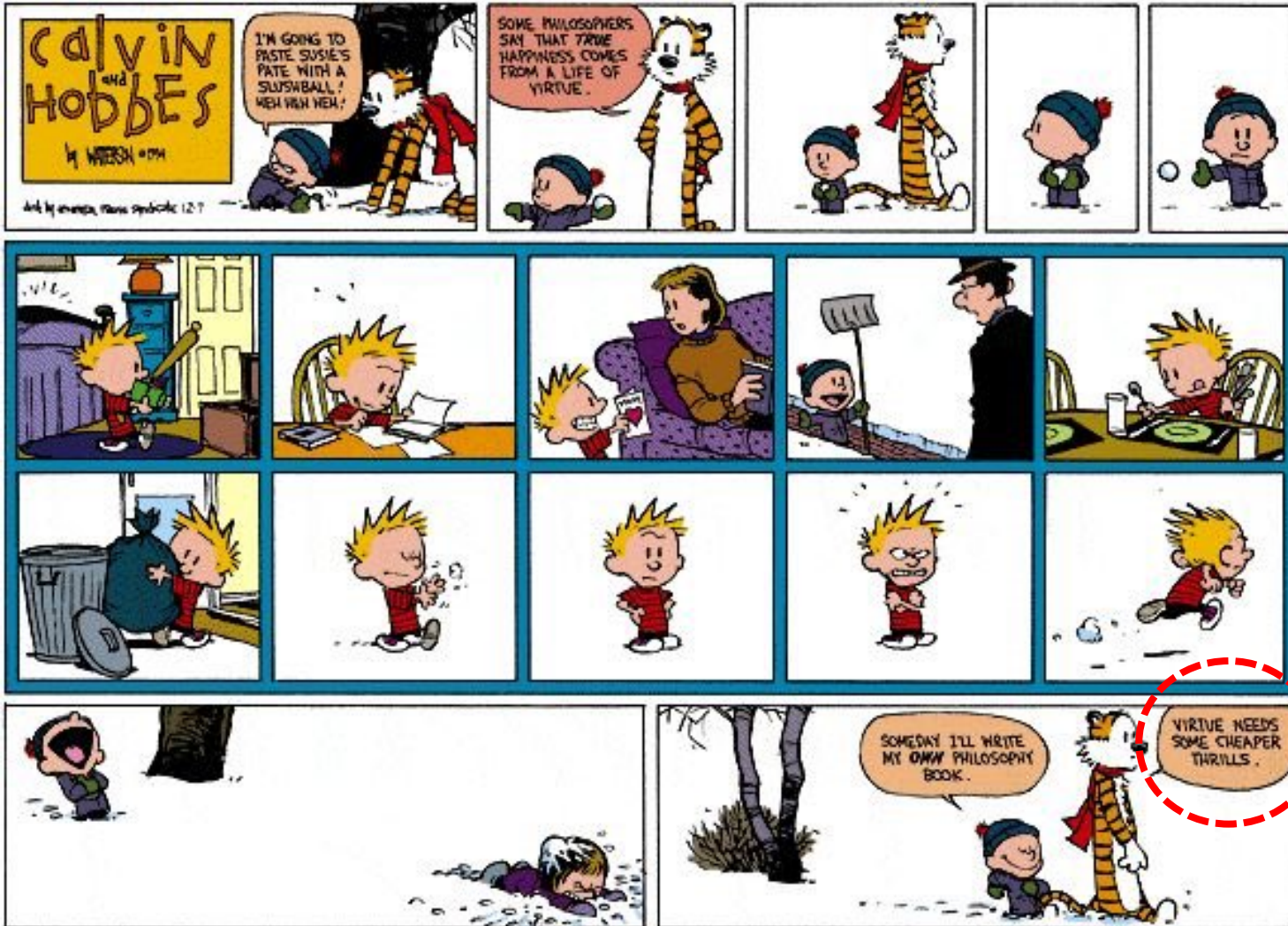


A researcher asks the participant to administer electric shocks to a test subject when he answers questions incorrectly. The test subject is an actor, who makes noises of pain when he receives the shocks. The participant is made to believe that each shock is stronger than the last one.

Incentives



Moral equilibrium



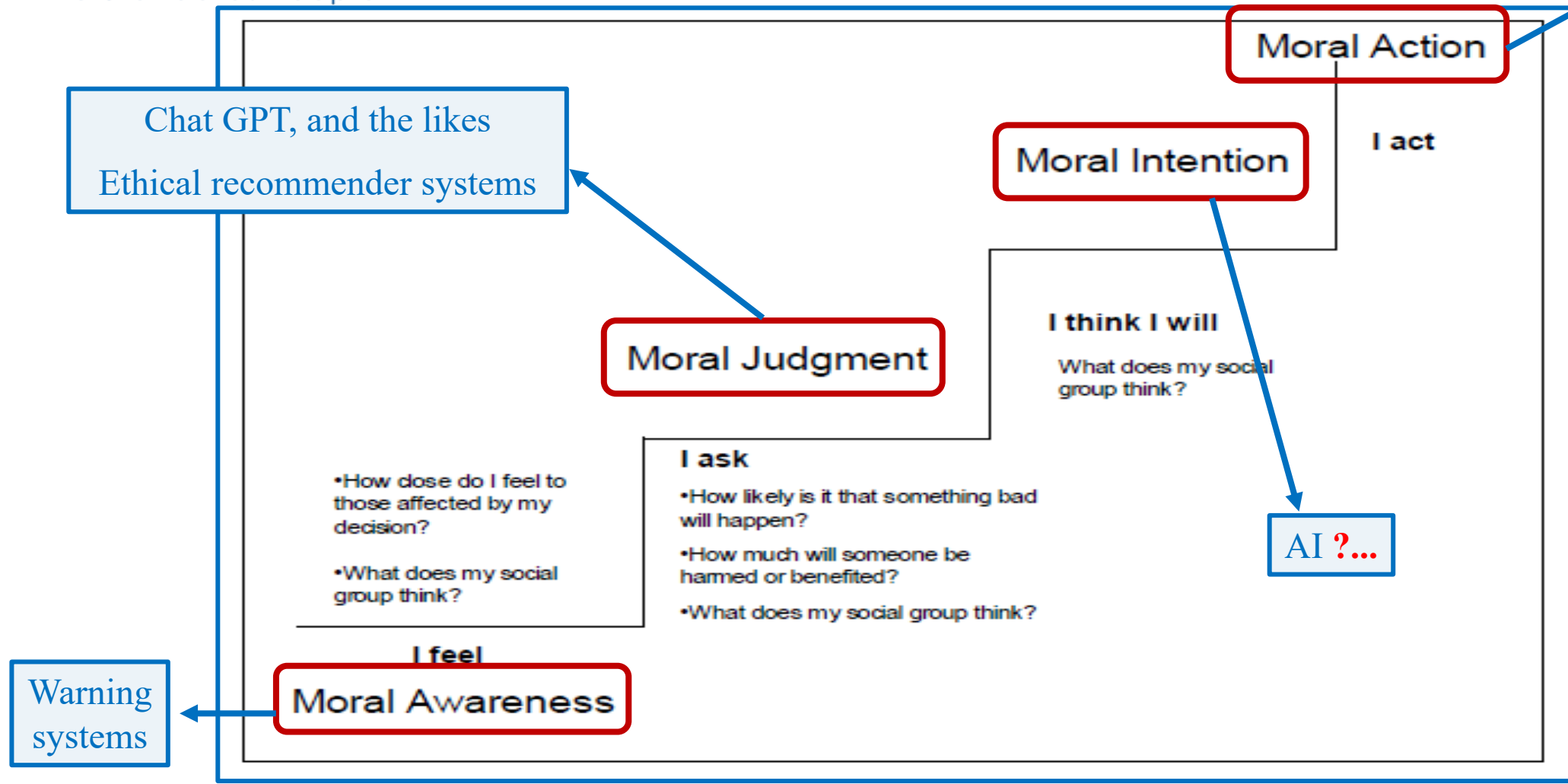
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The Standards People

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Ethical performative algorithms
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Note: This framework for moral decision-making (i.e., all that is printed in black here) is taken from Sarah Hope Lincoln & Elisabeth K. Holmes (2018), "A need to know: An ethical decision-making model for research administrators," *Journal of Research Administration* 39 (1), p. 41-47.



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Thank you for your attention!

Bernard Sinclair-Desgagné

