A New Frontier: Technological Acceleration and Improved Fourth Amendment Tradeoffs

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Machine Intelligence Improves Tradeoffs between Liberty and Security (in at least 4 ways):

- 1. Better search results
- 2. Machine analysis vs. human analysis
- 3. Rule-based search eliminates discretion
- 4. Technological oversight of government

The Fourth Amendment: Legal Assumptions

- 1. There is no privacy interest in hiding a crime
- 2. Machine analysis of data does not implicate personal privacy interests, or implicates them less than human analysis
- 3. Concern for privacy and equality: we are worried about government discretion in deciding whom to search

Improved Search

- 1. Improvements in data collection and refined search techniques can reduce privacy intrusions
- 2. Fewer false positives
- 3. Examples: TSA scanners, scanners that detect guns

Machine Analysis v. Human Analysis

- 1. Machines take first cut at information, reducing privacy intrusions
- 2. Machines can improve security by turning low-level data into high-level information
- 3. Example: NSA's use of metadata

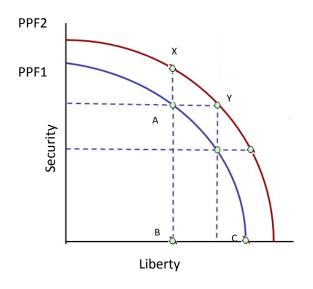
Machines Eliminate Discretion

- 1. Machines operate by algorithm, eliminating discretion in search
- 2. Algorithms can be checked to ensure they account for reasonable, not invidious, factors
- 3. Examples: TSA scanners, DNA database

Watching the Watchers

- 1. Machines can generate data on searches to uncover suspicious uses of information
- 2. Automated records can be analyzed using the same techniques used to watch individuals
- 3. Automated records can thus help deter abuses of power

Technology Can Improve Both Liberty and Security



Recommendations

- 1. Case law should recognize that new technology can enhance privacy (e.g., Maryland v. King)
- 2. Force government to go to the technological frontier (e.g., videotaped confessions)
- 3. Focus on transparency: retain rules used in machine analysis, so that government decisions can be evaluated systematically
- 4. Empower individuals: eliminate statutes that forbid individuals from recording and videotaping law enforcement