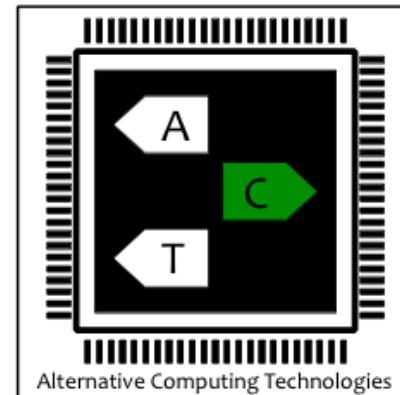


AxGAMES: Towards Crowdsourcing Quality Target Determination in Approximate Computing

Jongse Park, Emmanuel Amaro, Divya Mahajan,
Bradley Thwaites, Hadi Esmaeilzadeh

Alternative Computing Technologies (**ACT**) Lab
Georgia Institute of Technology

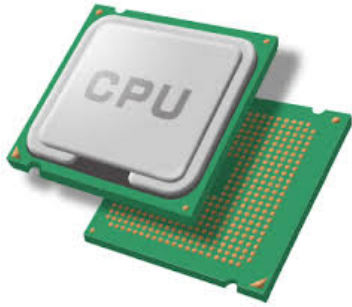
ASPLOS 2016



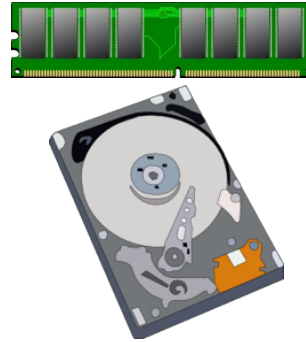
Approximate computing

Embracing imprecision

Relax the abstraction of “*near perfect*” **accuracy** in



Data Processing



Storage



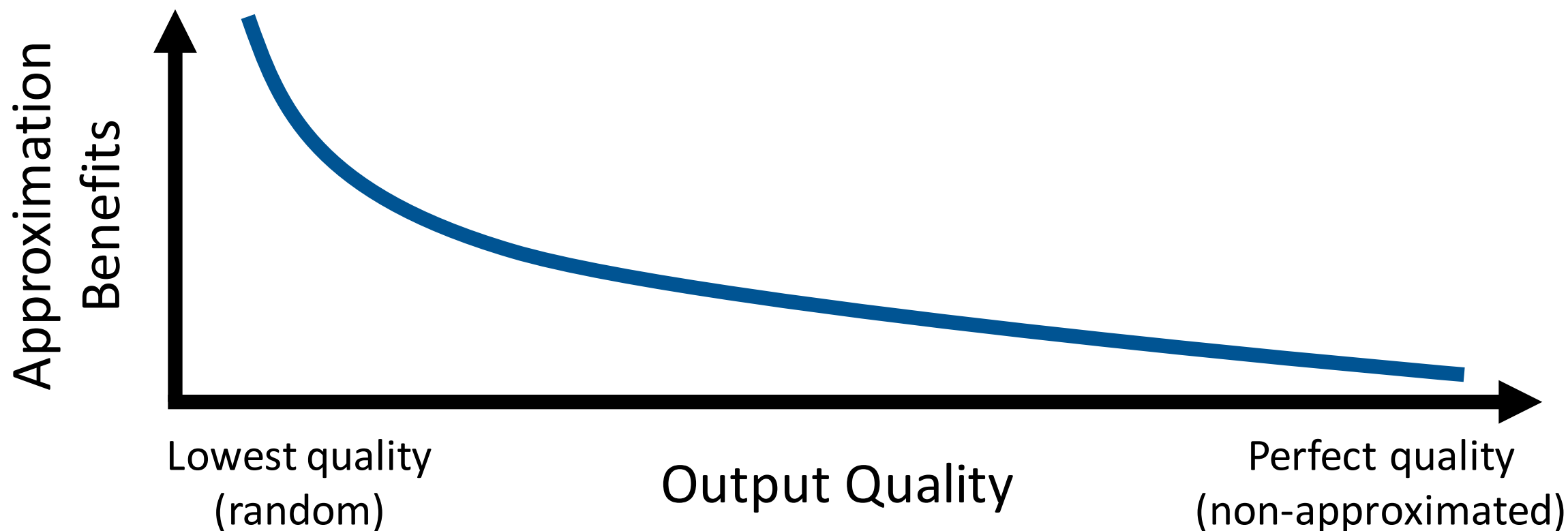
Communication

Accept **imprecision** to improve

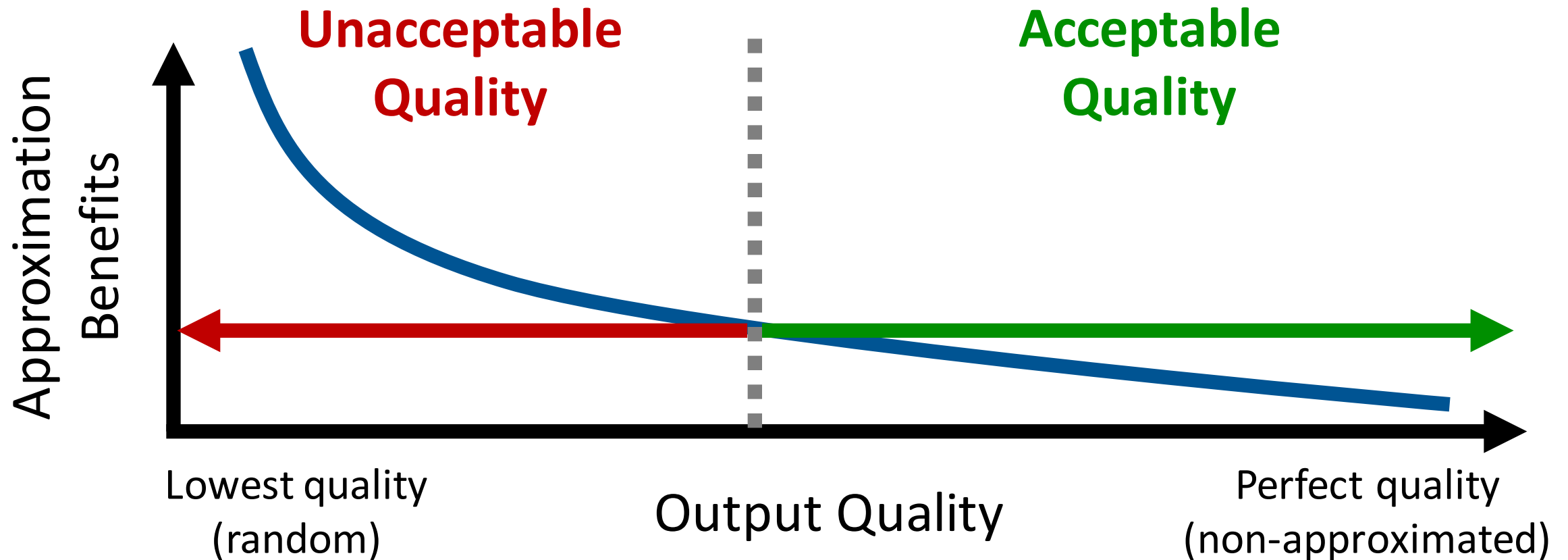
performance

energy efficiency

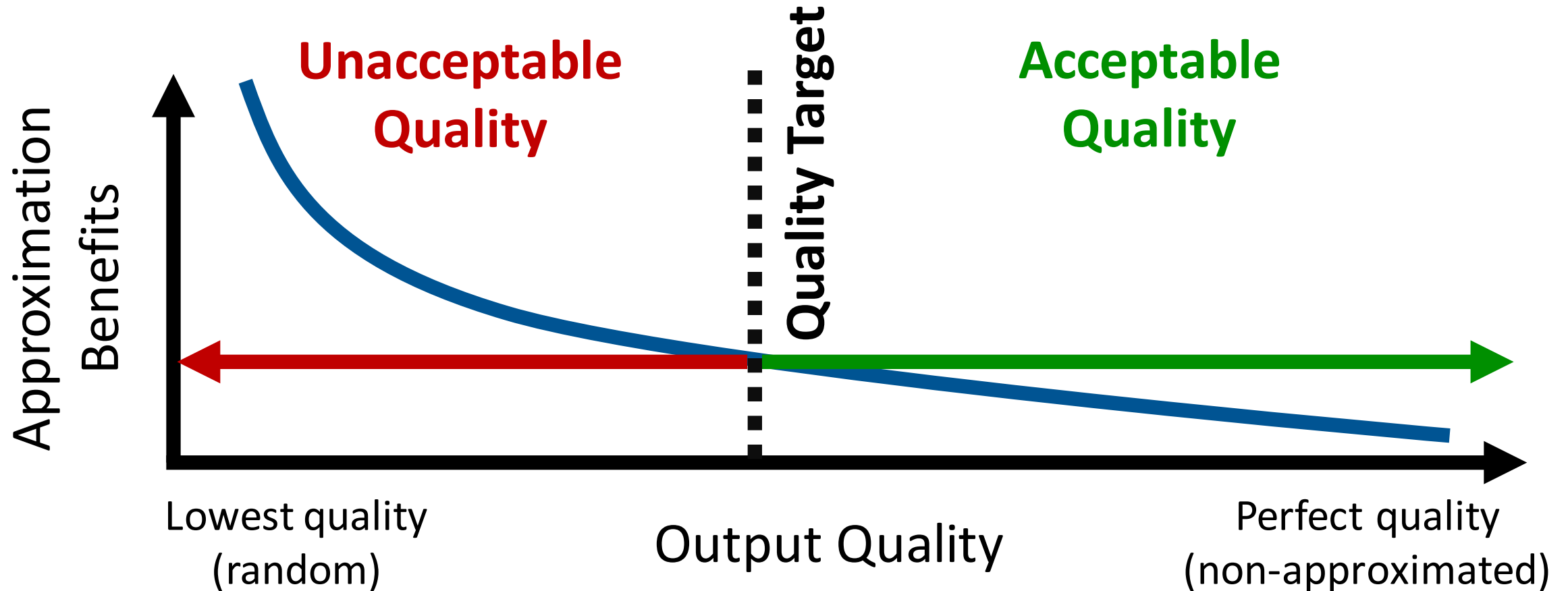
Tradeoff b/w quality and benefits



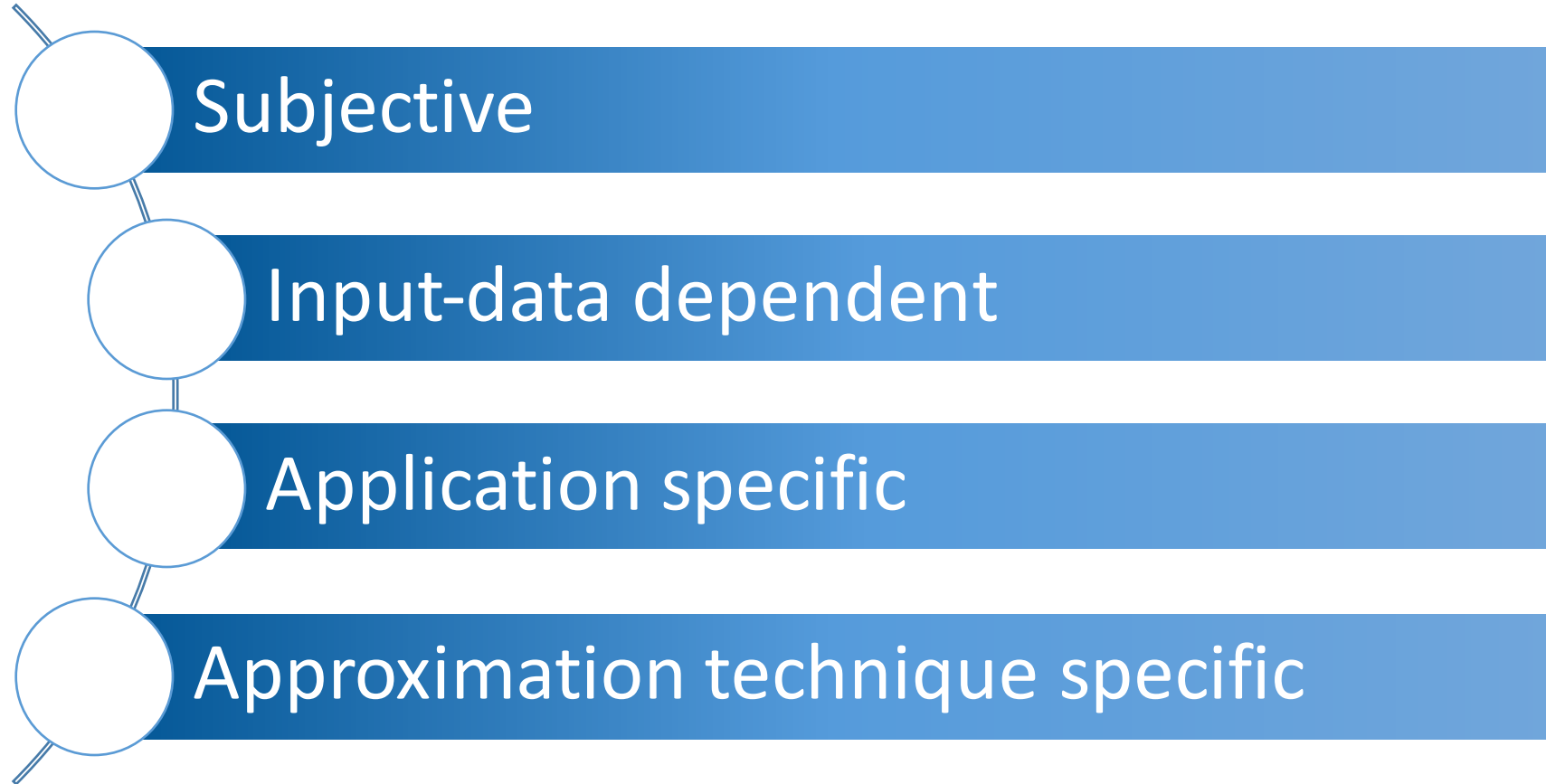
Tradeoff b/w quality and benefits



Tradeoff b/w quality and benefits

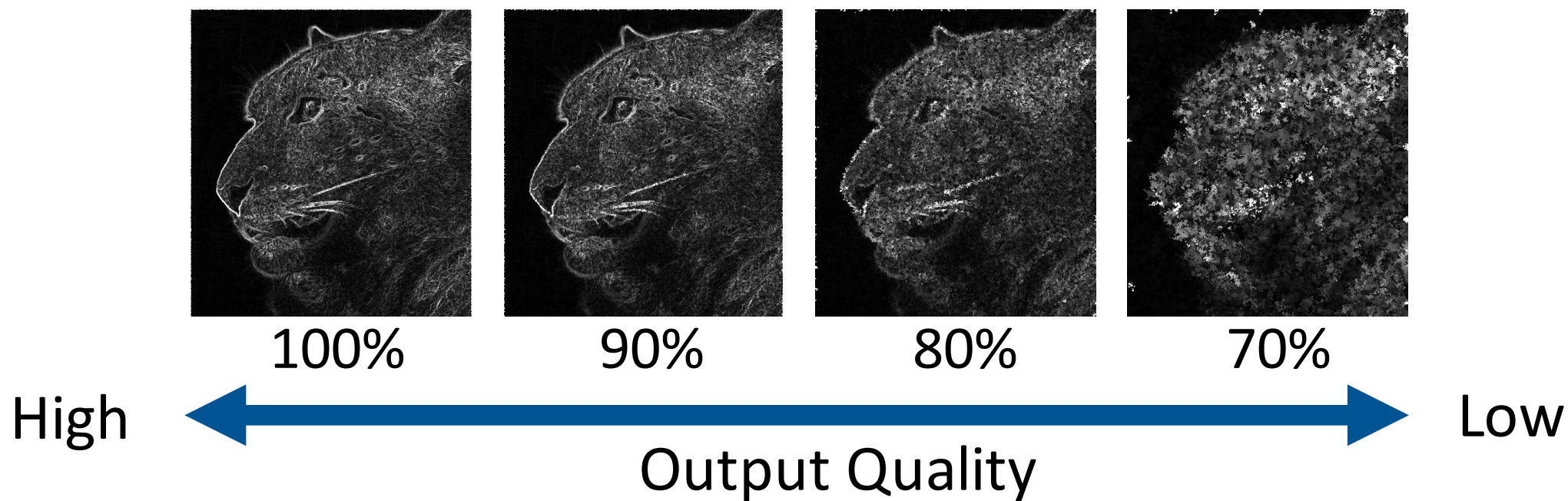


Acceptable quality is



Acceptable quality

Subjective



Acceptable quality

Subjective

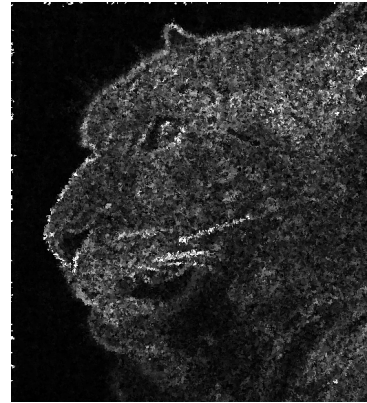
Which has the lowest acceptable quality?



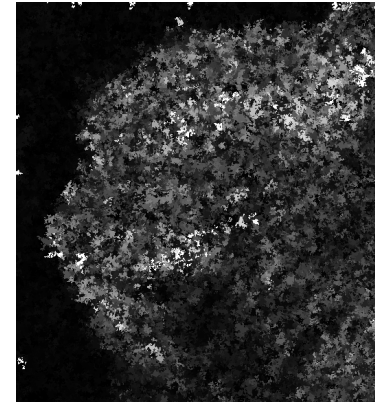
100%



90%



80%



70%

High



Output Quality

Low

Acceptable quality

Subjective

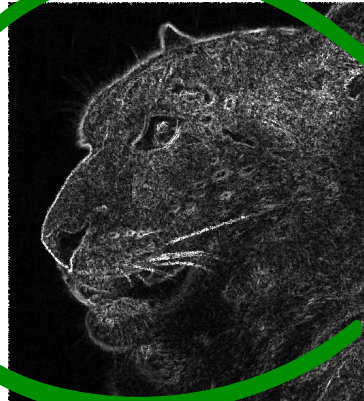
Which has the lowest acceptable quality?



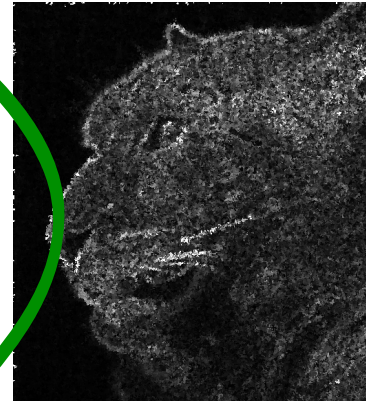
Alice



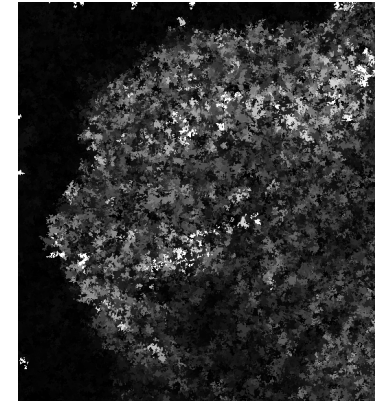
100%



90%



80%



70%

High



Output Quality

Low

Acceptable quality

Subjective

Which has the lowest acceptable quality?



Alice



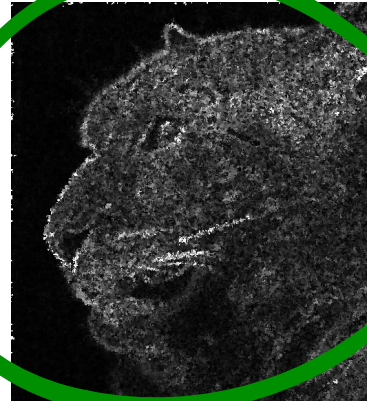
Bob



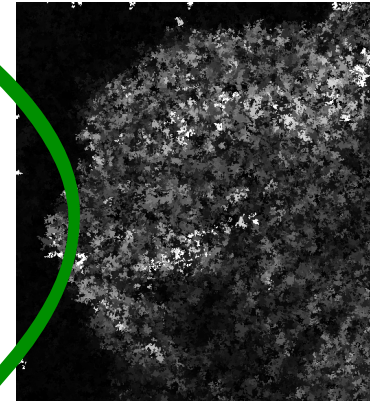
100%



90%



80%



70%

High



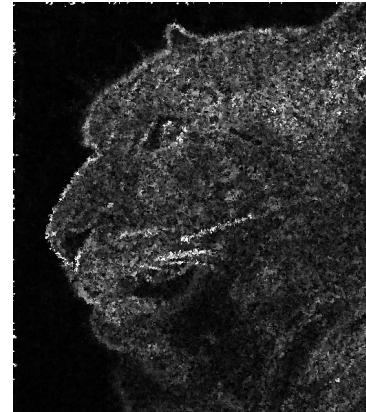
Low

Output Quality

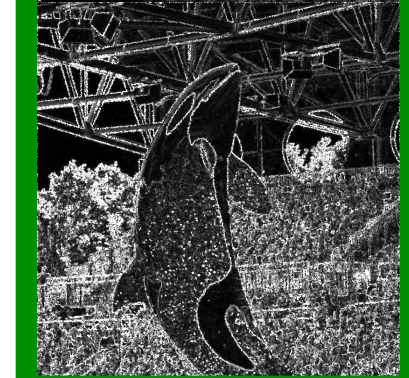
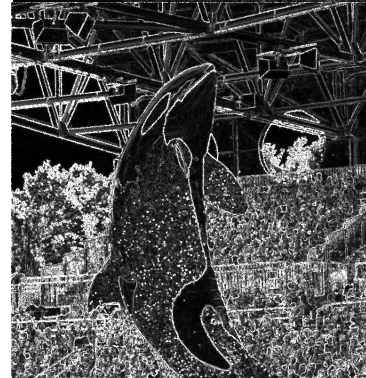
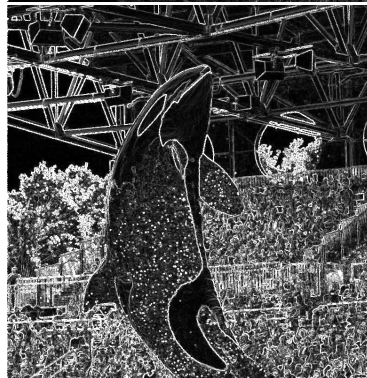
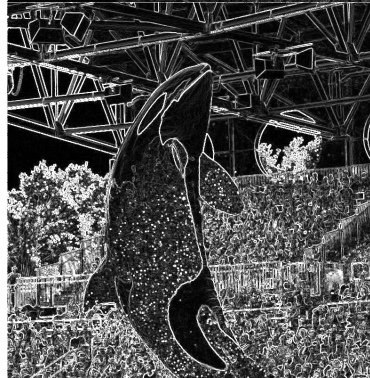
Acceptable quality

Input data dependent

Leopard



Orca



100%

90%

80%

70%

High

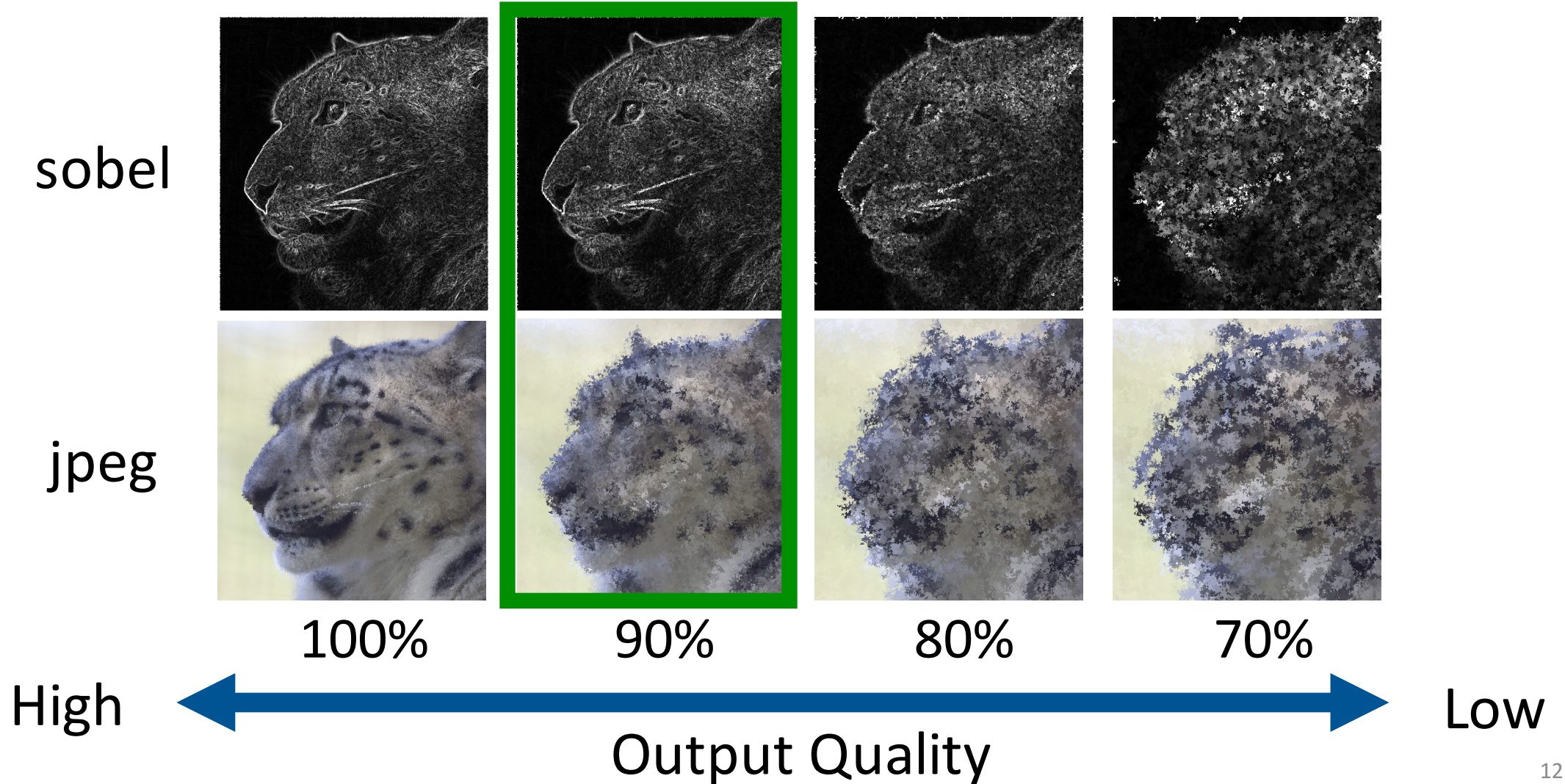


Low

Output Quality

Acceptable quality

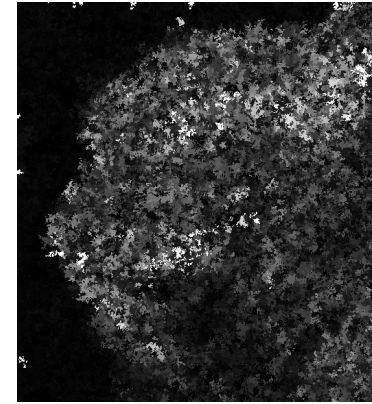
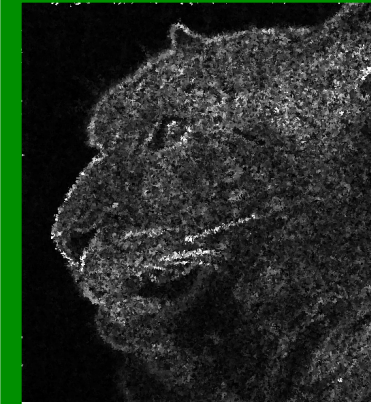
Application specific



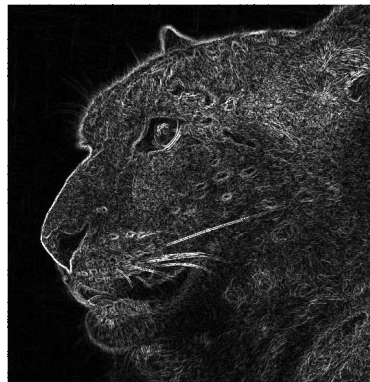
Acceptable quality

Approximation technique specific

Technique A



Technique B



100%

90%

80%

70%

High



Low

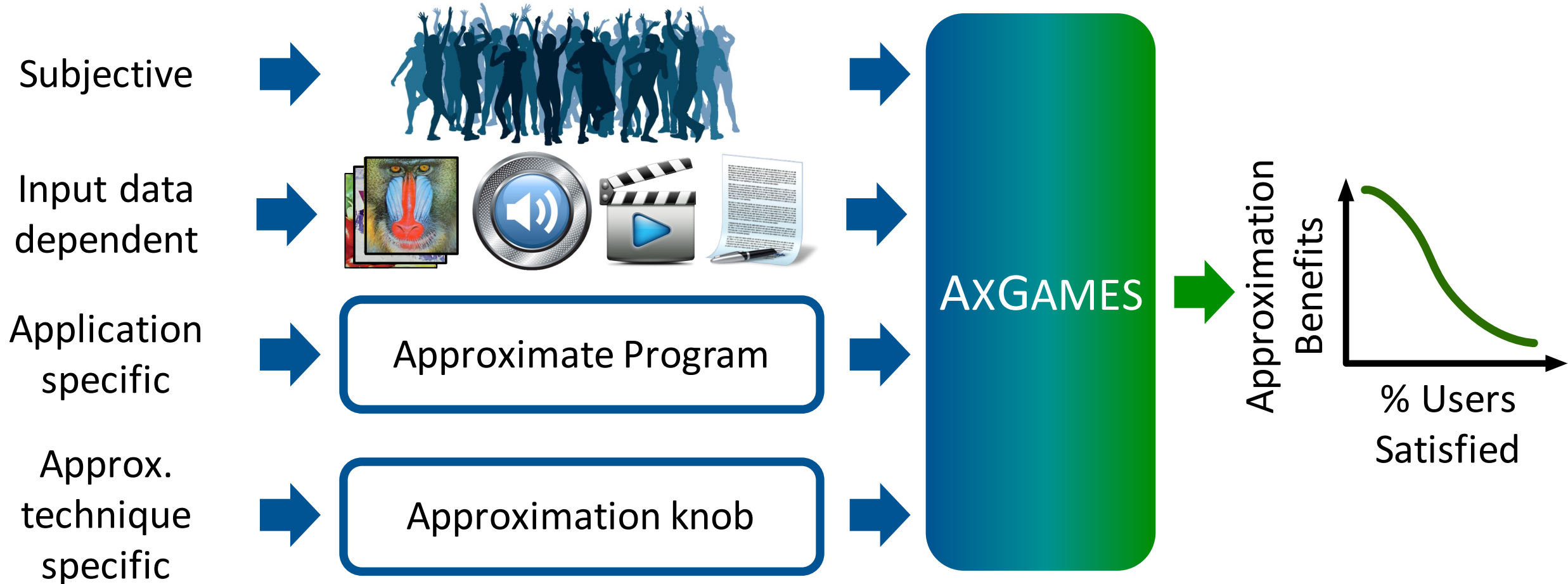
Output Quality

AXGAMES

Transforming the tradeoff in approximate computing

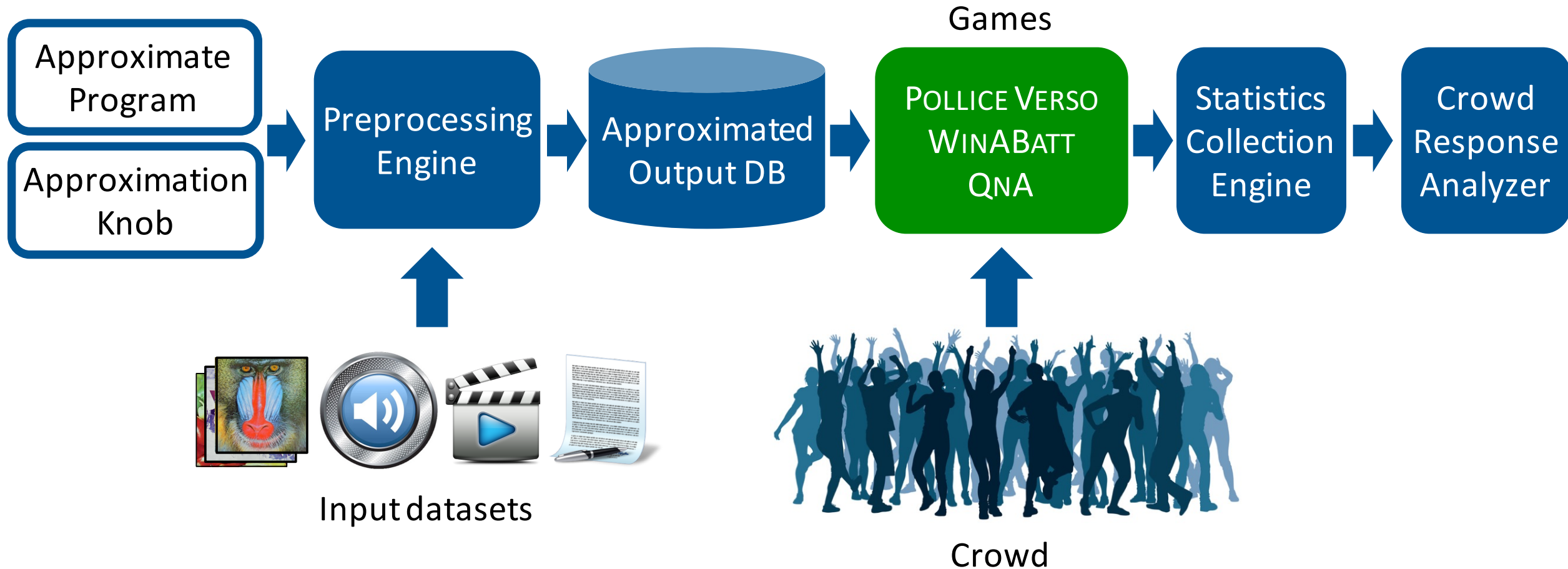


AXGAMES: systematic and general framework



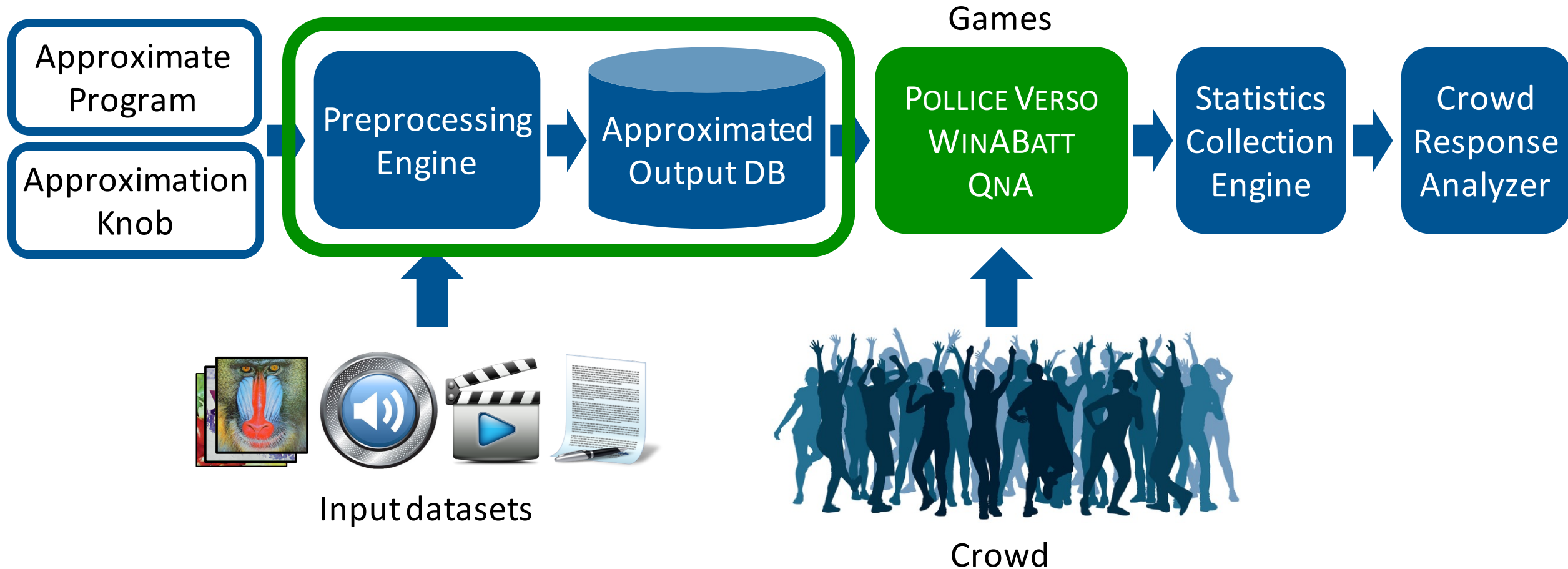
AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



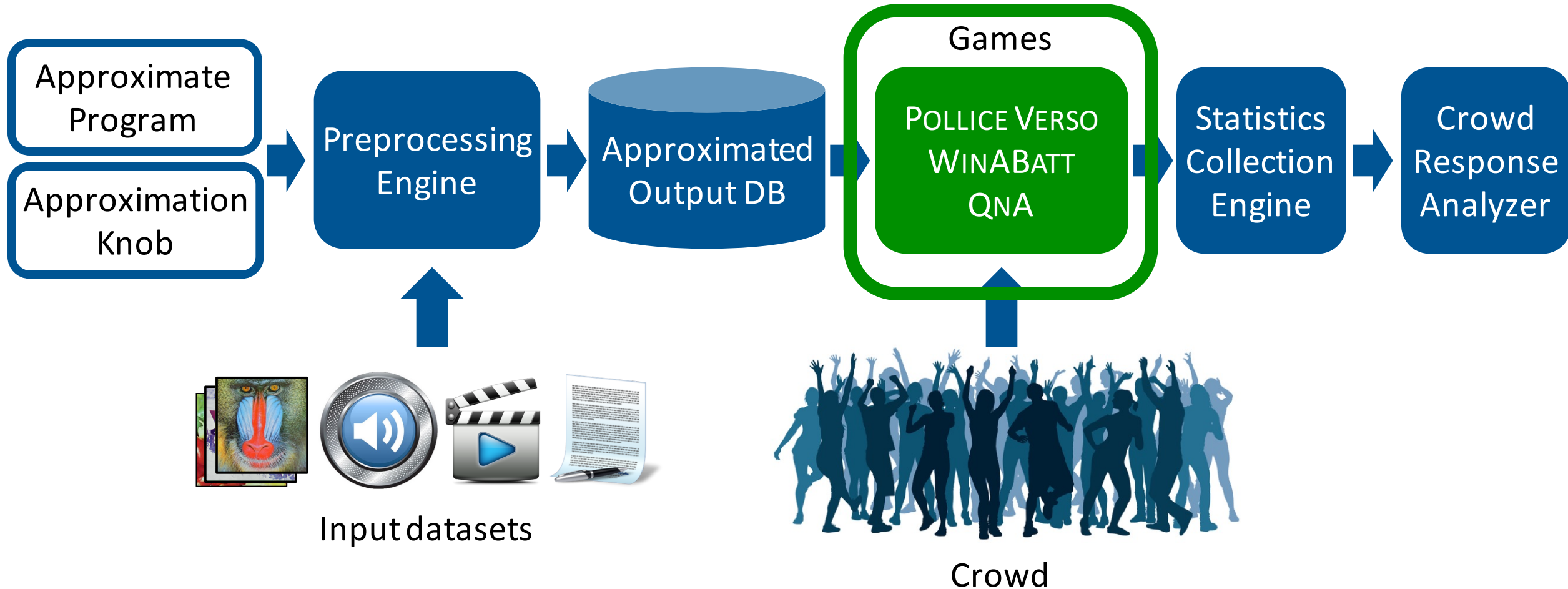
AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



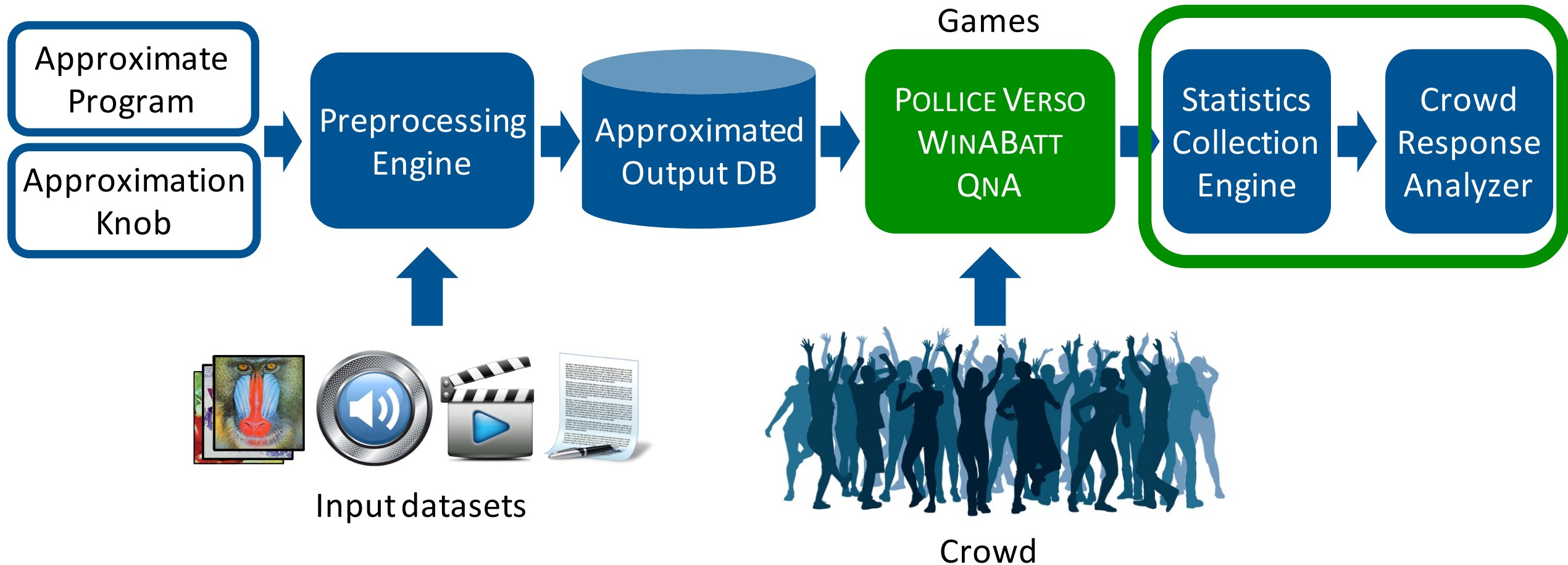
AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



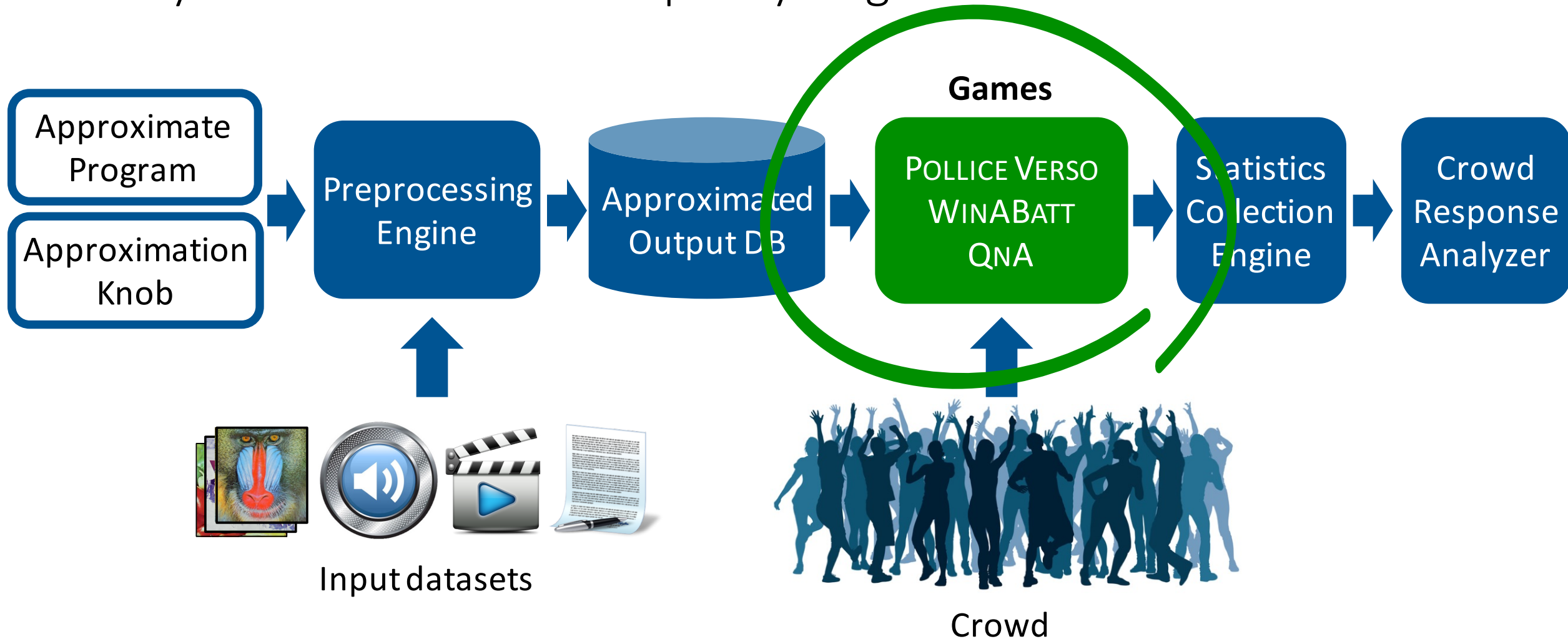
AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



Three games

Research questions to be answered

Three games

Research questions to be answered

1. How much quality loss would the crowd accept?



**POLLICE
VERSO**

Three games

Research questions to be answered

1. How much quality loss would the crowd accept?  **POLLICE
VERSO**
2. How much quality loss would the crowd accept
when **quality-cost tradeoff** is considered?  **WINABATT**

Three games

Research questions to be answered

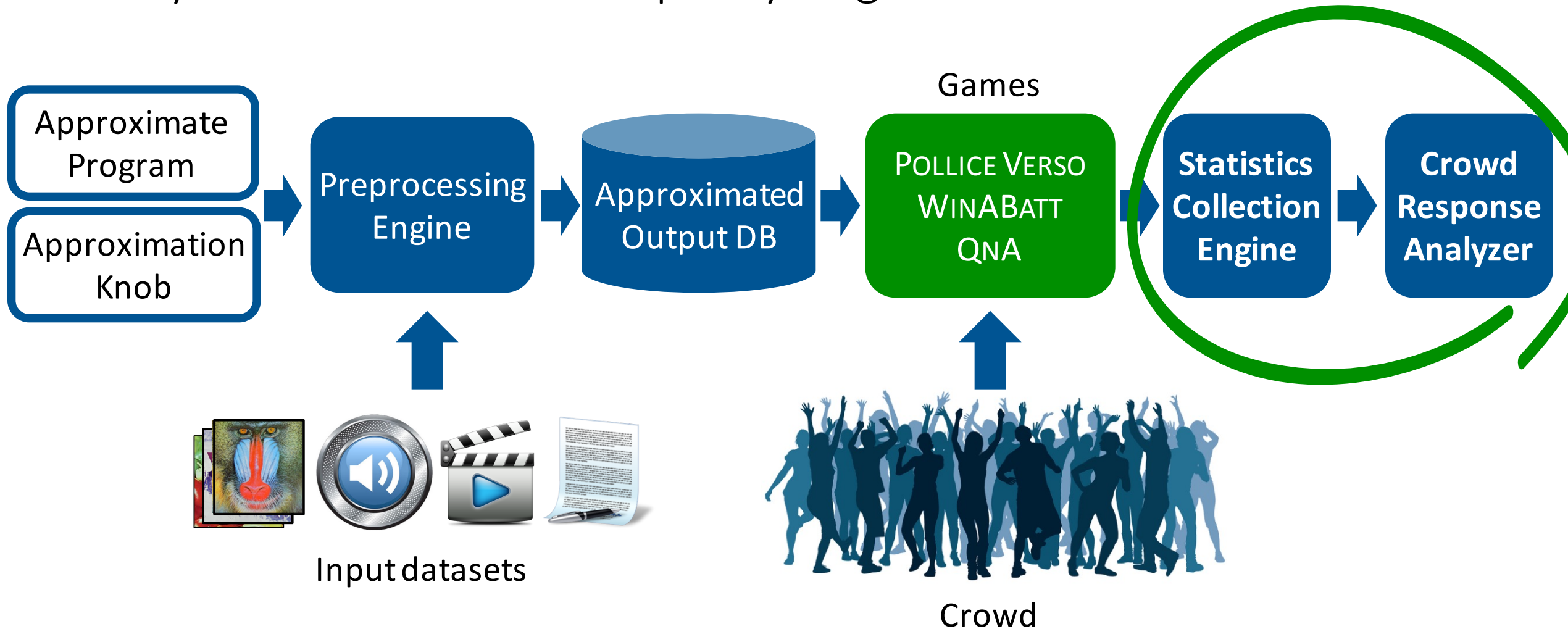
1. How much quality loss would the crowd accept?  **POLLICE
VERSO**
2. How much quality loss would the crowd accept
when **quality-cost tradeoff** is considered?  **WINABATT**
3. How much quality loss would the crowd accept
when **quality-cost tradeoff** and
context of application are considered?  **QNA**

Let's play!



AXGAMES

A systematic solution for quality target determination



Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis



Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis

Binomial Proportion Confidence Interval (Clopper-Pearson Exact Method)

$(n_{trials}, n_{success})$ 

$$\frac{1}{1 + \frac{(n_{trials} - n_{success} + 1)}{n_{success} \times F[1 - \alpha; 2n_{success}, 2(n_{trials} - n_{success} + 1)]}} < SuccessRate$$

with a confidence level

Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis

Binomial Proportion Confidence Interval (Clopper-Pearson Exact Method)

$$(n_{\text{trials}}, n_{\text{success}}) \rightarrow r < \textit{SuccessRate}$$

with a confidence level

Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis

Binomial Proportion Confidence Interval (Clopper-Pearson Exact Method)

$$(n_{\text{trials}}, n_{\text{success}}) \rightarrow r < \text{SuccessRate}$$

with a confidence level

$$\text{E.g., } (100, 80) \rightarrow 72.28\% < \text{SuccessRate}$$

with 95% confidence level

Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis

Quality q



$(n_{Votes}, n_{GoodEnough})$



$r < \% \text{ Users Satisfied}$

Crowd response analyzer

Statistical analysis

Quality q



$(n_{Votes}, n_{GoodEnough})$



$r < \% \text{ Users Satisfied}$

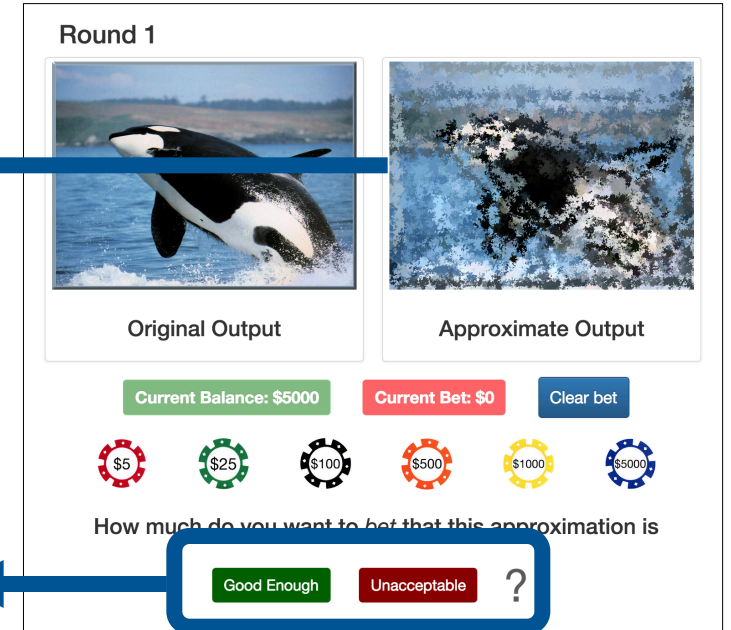
70%



$(1000, 634)$



$60.82\% < \% \text{ Users Satisfied}$



Benchmark

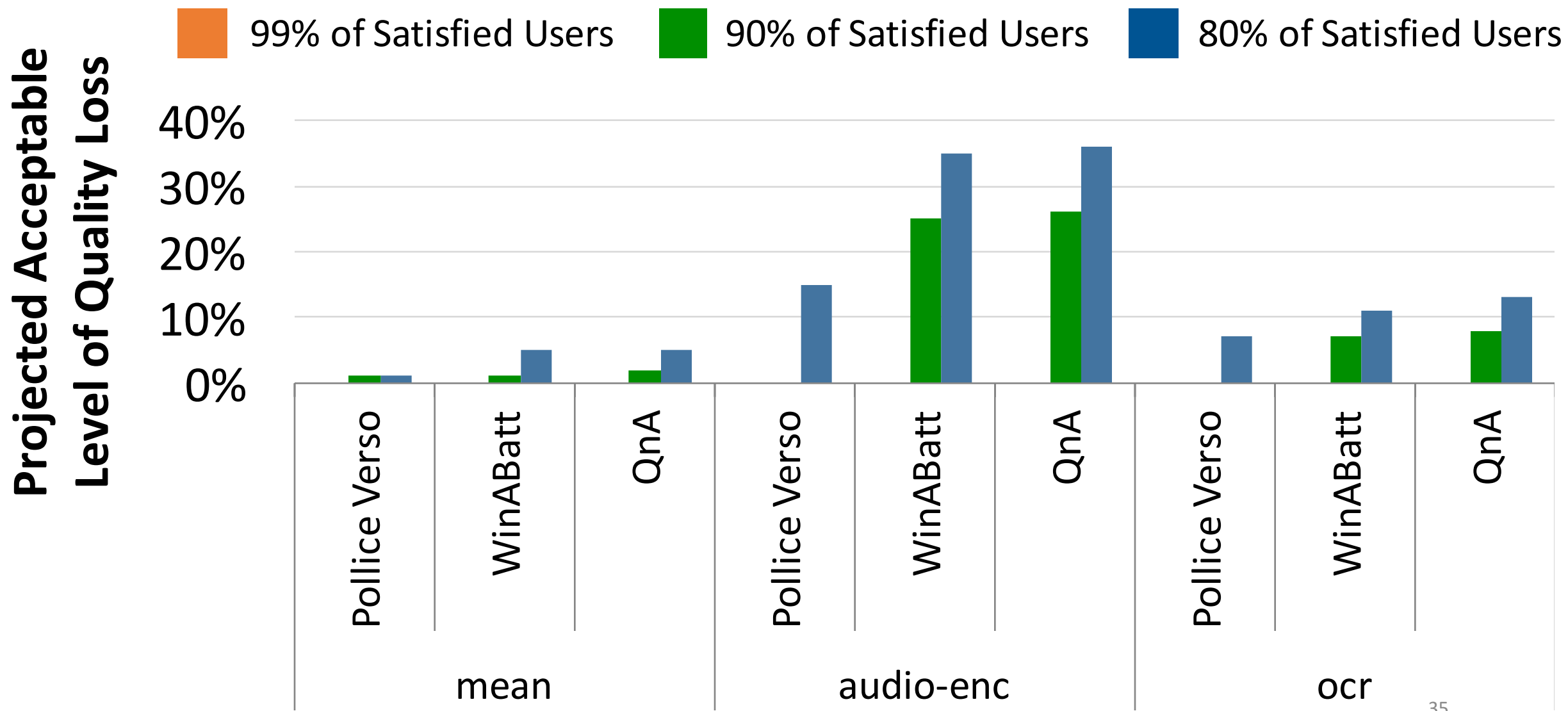
Benchmarks	Description	Quality Metric
emboss Image processing	Embossing filter	Normalized Root Mean Square Error (NRMSE)
jpeg Image processing	Lossy compression	
mean Image processing	Blurring filter	
sobel Image processing	Edge detection	
audio-enc Audio processing	Audio encoder	
ocr Text recognition	Optical character recognition	Text Similarity Ratio
speech2txt Text recognition	Embossing filter	

Crowd recruitment

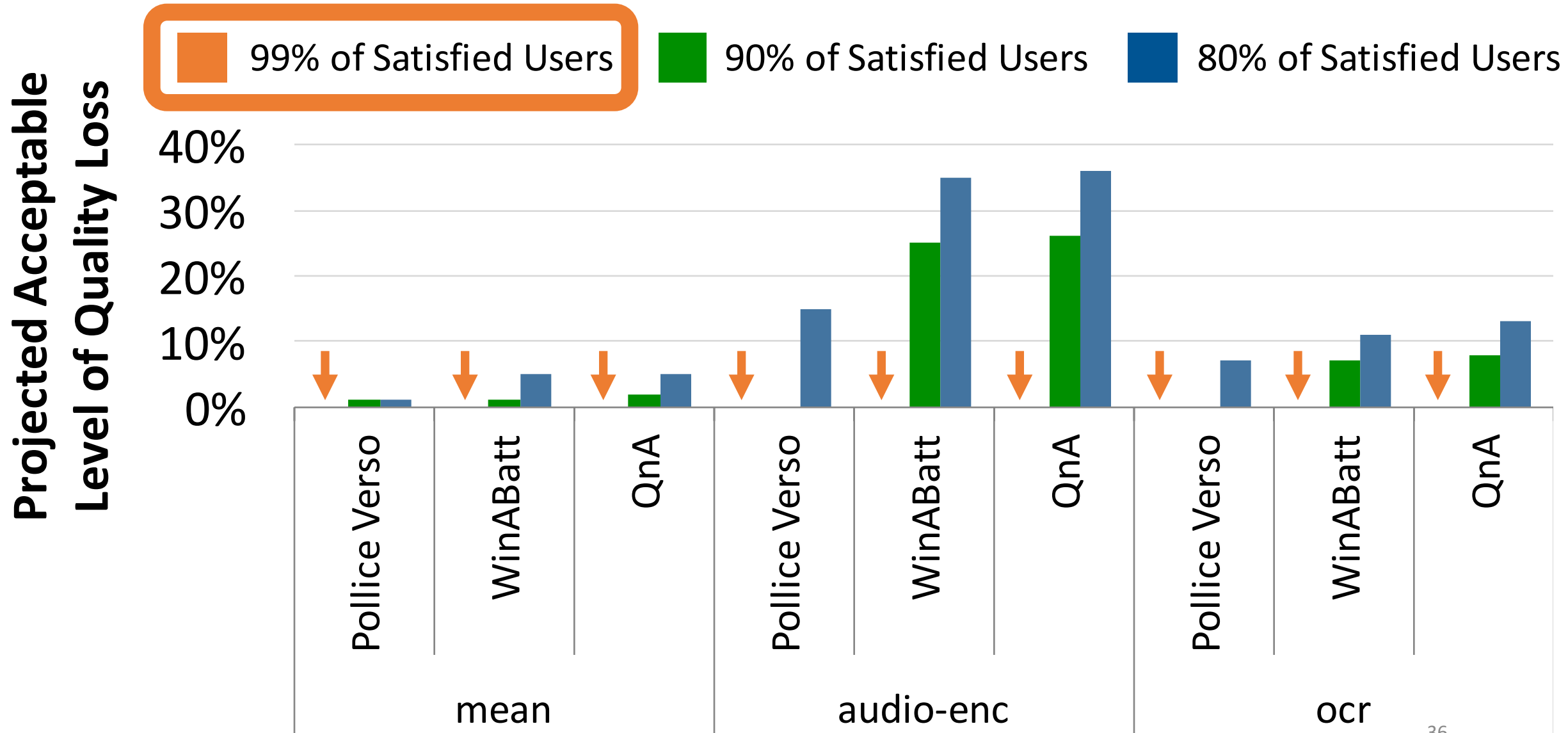


700 Turkers for 7 benchmarks
30 rounds per player
(10 rounds per game)

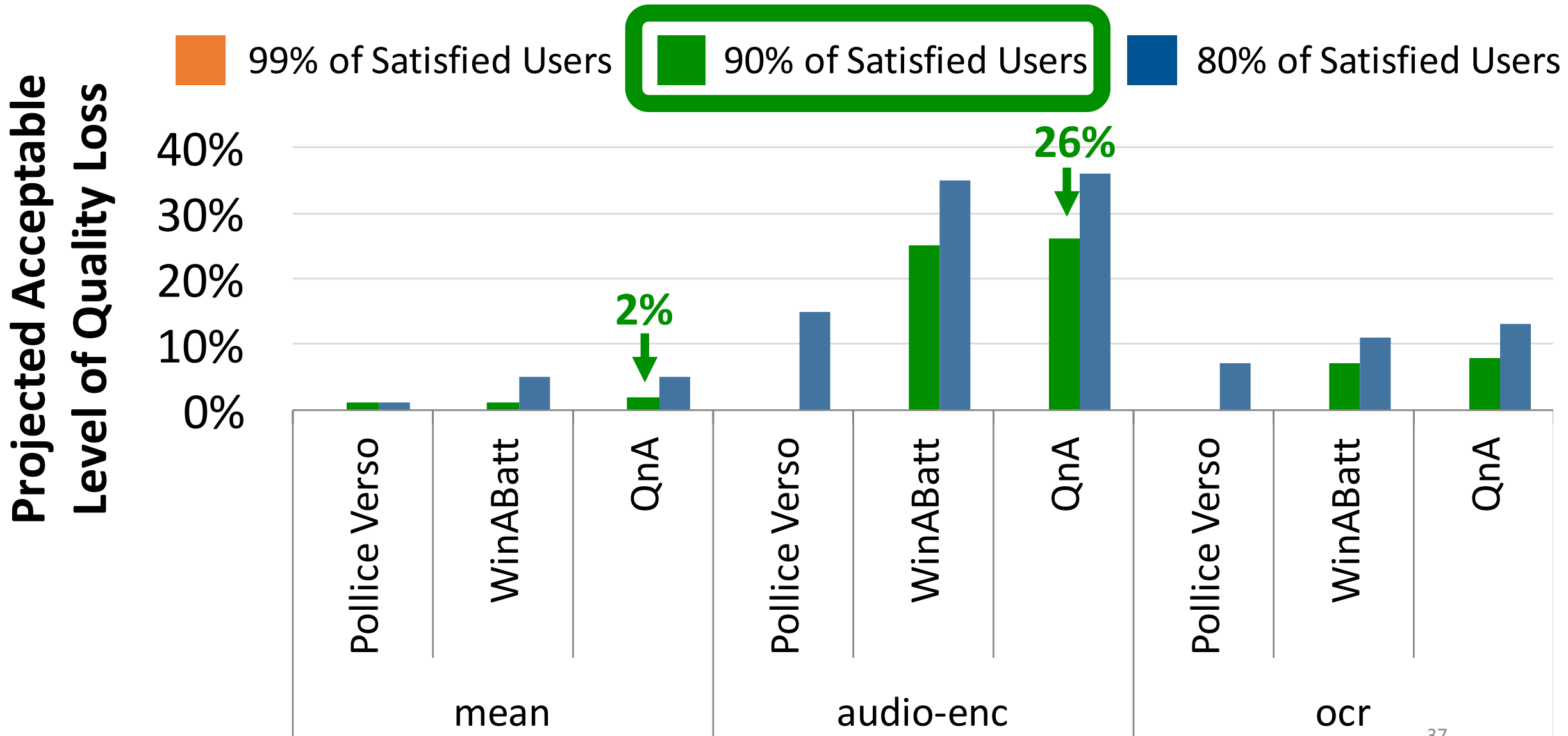
Acceptable quality loss for applications/games



Acceptable quality loss for applications/games

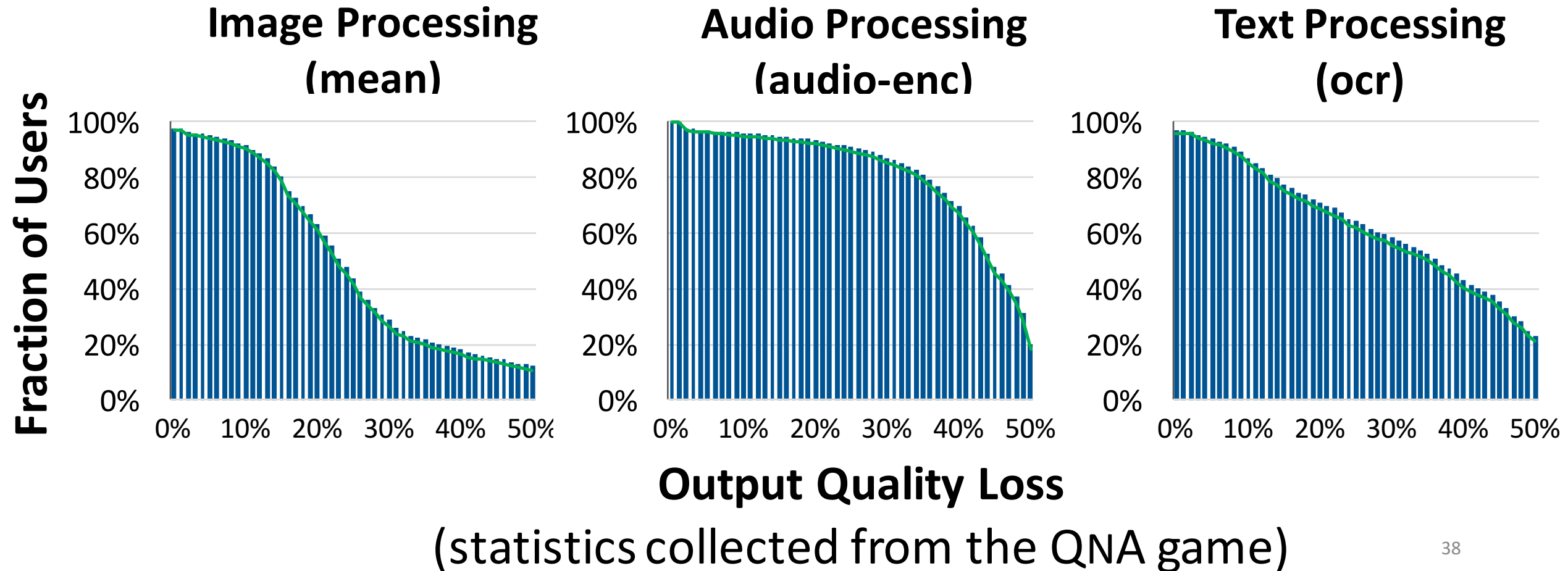


Acceptable quality loss for applications/games



Different patterns for different domains

■ Projected fraction of satisfied users with 95% confidence level

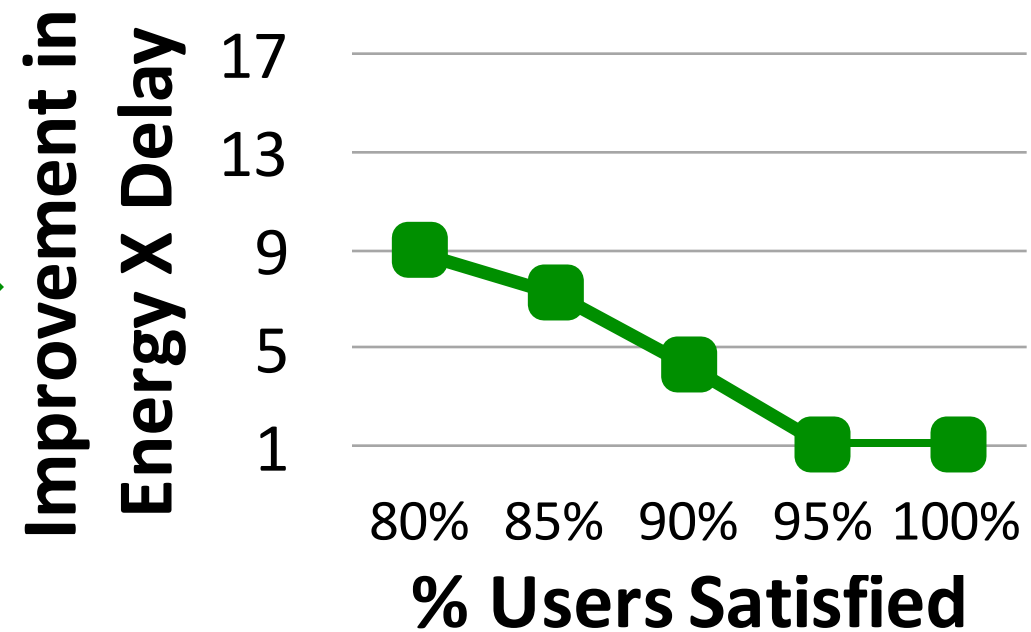
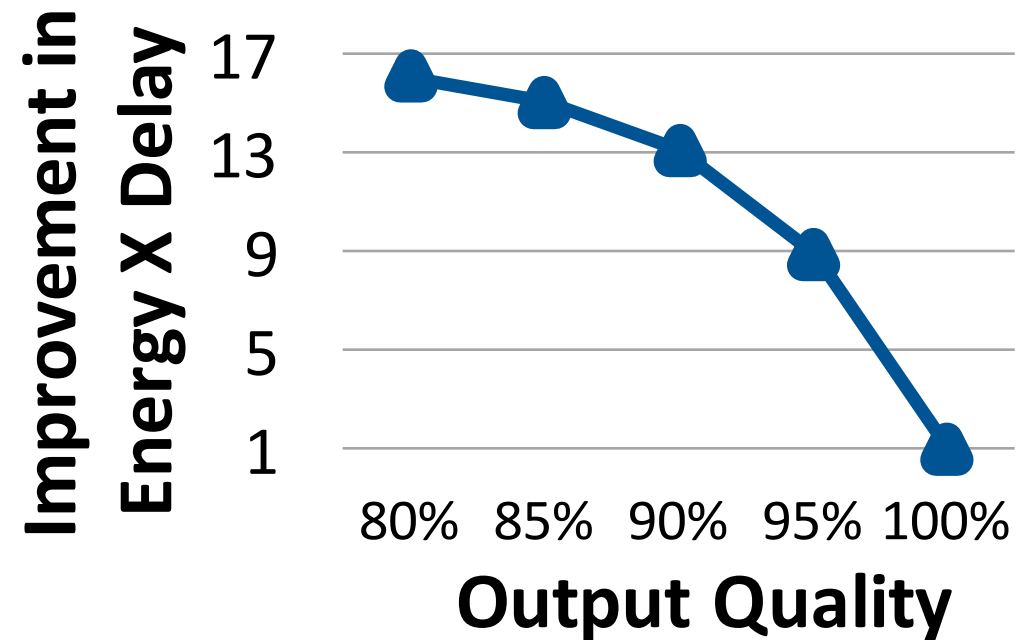


Tradeoff change in approximate computing

Example: mean

Tradeoff change from

quality vs. benefits to **user satisfaction vs. benefits**



AxGAMES



<http://act-lab.org/artifacts/axgames/>
<https://bitbucket.org/act-lab/game.code>