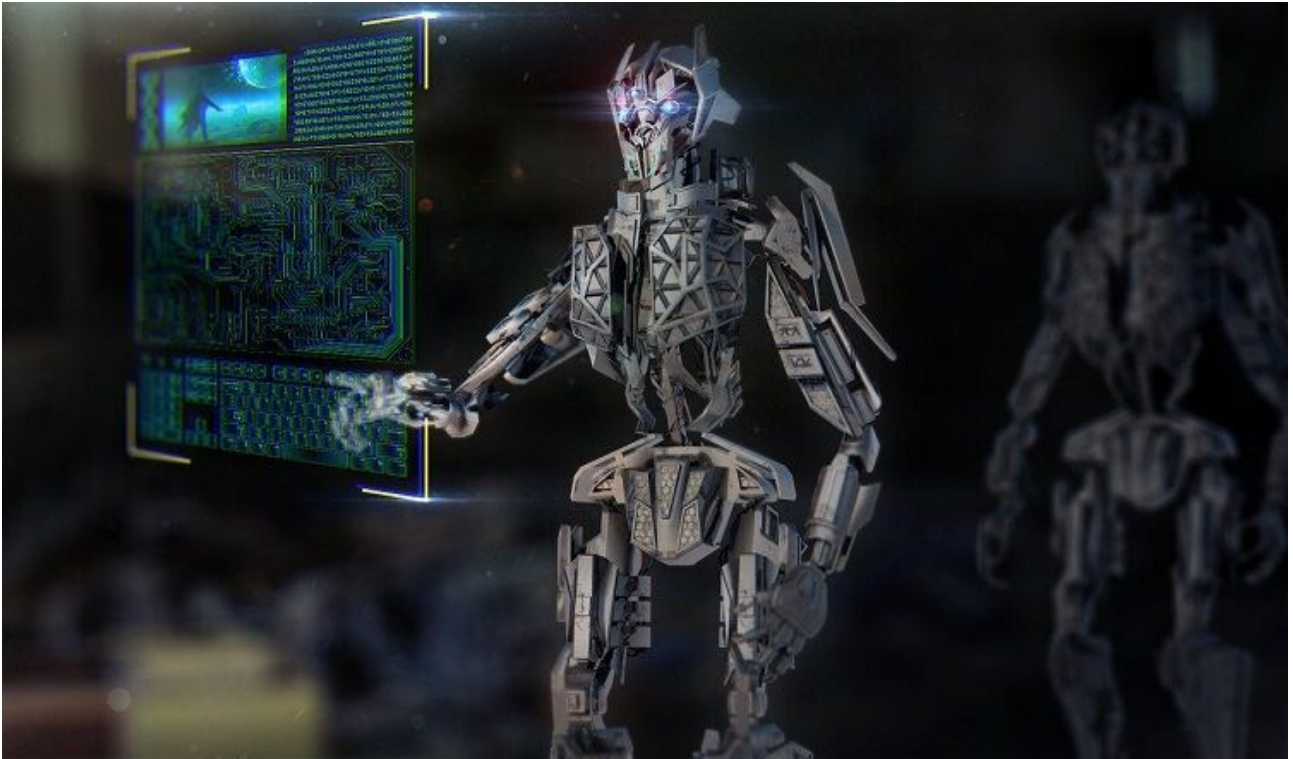# Artificial intelligence course creates AI teaching assistant

来源: Science Daily   话题: 科技   难度: 123   词数: 342

Professor Ashok Goel of Georgia Tech developed an artificially intelligent teaching assistant to help handle the enormous number of student questions in the online class, Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence. This online course is a core requirement of Georgia Tech's online Master of Science in Computer Science program. Professor Goel already had eight teaching assistants, but that wasn't enough to deal with the overwhelming number of daily questions from students.

Many students drop out of online courses because of the lack of teaching support. When students feel isolated or confused and reach out with questions that go unanswered, their motivation to continue begins to fade. Professor Goel decided to do something to remedy this situation and his solution was to create a virtual assistant named Jill Watson, which is based on the IBM Watson platform.

Goel and his team developed several versions of Jill Watson before

releasing her to the online forums. At first, the virtual assistant wasn't too great. But Goel and his team sourced the online discussion forum to find all the 40,000 questions that had ever been asked since the class was launched. Then they began to feed Jill with the questions and answers. After some adjustments and sufficient time, Jill was able to answer the students' questions correctly 97% of the time. The virtual assistant became so advanced and realistic that the students didn't know she was a computer. The students, who were studying artificial intelligence, were interacting with the virtual assistant and couldn't tell it apart from a real human being. Goel didn't inform them about Jill's true identity until April 26. The students were actually very positive about the experience.

The goal of Professor Goel's virtual assistant next year is to take over answering 40% of all the questions posed by students on the online forum. The name Jill Watson will, of course, change to something else next semester. Professor God has a much rosier outlook on the future of artificial intelligence than, say, Elon Musk, Stephen Hawking, Bill Gates or Steve Wozniak.

答题:

1.What do we learn about Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence?

    A. It is a robot that can answer students'questions.

    B. It is a course designed for students to learn online.

    C. It is a high-tech device that revolutionizes teaching.

    D. It is a computer program that aids student learning.

2.What problem did Professor Goel meet with?

    A. His students were unsatisfied with the assistants.

    B. His course was too difficult for the students.

    C. Students' questions were too many to handle.

    D. Too many students dropped out of his course.

3.What do we learn about Jill Watson?

    A. She turned out to be a great success.

    B. She got along pretty well with students.

    C. She was unwelcome to students at first.

    D. She was released online as an experiment.

4.How did the students feel about Jill Watson?

    A. They thought she was a bit too artificial.

    B. They found her not as capable as expected.

    C. They could not nut admire her knowledge.

    D. They could not tell her from a real person.

5.What does Professor Goel plan to do next with Jill Watson?

    A. Launch different versions of her online.

    B. Feed her with new questions and answers.

    C. Assign her to answer more of students'questions.

D. Encourage students to interact with her more freely.

拓展:

重点词汇 Vocabulary

fade */feɪd/*
v. 渐弱

When students feel isolated or confused and reach out with questions that go unanswered, their motivation to continue begins to fade.

launch */lɔːn(t)ʃ/*
v. 开始

But Goel and his team sourced the online discussion forum to find all the 40,000 questions that had ever been asked since the class was launched.

40,000

overwhelming */əʊvəˈwɛlmɪŋ/*
adj.（数量上）压倒性的

Professor Goel already had eight teaching assistants, but that wasn't enough to deal with the overwhelming number of daily questions from students.

词组搭配 Phrase&Collocation

1. have a much rosier outlook on   对...有更乐观的看法
Professor God has a much rosier outlook on the future of artificial intelligence than, say, Elon Musk, Stephen Hawking, Bill Gates or Steve Wozniak.

•   •   •

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2. drop out of 退出，不参与

Many students drop out of online courses because of the lack of teaching support.

句子讲析 Sentence Spotlight

Professor Ashok Goel of Georgia Tech developed an artificially intelligent teaching assistant to help handle the enormous number of student questions in the online class, Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence.

佐治亚理工学院的阿什克·戈埃尔教授开发了一种人工智能教学助手，来帮助处理在线课程"基于知识的人工智能"中大量的学生问题。

讲析:

（1）句子主干为Professor Ashok Goel of Georgia Tech developed an assistant

（2）to help handle the enormous number of student questions in the online class是目的状语从句，修饰assistant

（3）Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence是the online class的同位语，前者是后者的课程名称

知识万花筒 Knowledge Bank

1. teaching assistant：教学助理

2. online course：在线课程；网络课程

3. master of science：科学硕士；理科硕士

4. IBM Watson platform：IBM沃森平台，Watson是IBM推出的认知计算平台，它利用自然语言处理和机器学习技术来挖掘大量非结构化数据内含的重要价值。Watson的名字取自IBM创始人托马斯·约翰·沃森，可谓"一站成名"。Watson的技术核心在于其认知计算功能，它有如下三个特点：对自然语言的识别、对非结构化数据的处理和机器学习。

5. Stephen Hawking：史蒂芬·霍金，英国剑桥大学应用数学与理论物理学系物理学家，出生于英国牛津，毕业于剑桥大学，是继爱因斯坦之后最杰出的理论物理学

家和当代最伟大的科学家，人类历史上最伟大的人物之一，被誉为"宇宙之王"。曾为荣誉卢卡斯数学教授。2015年7月20日，霍金启动了人类历史上规模最大的外星智慧生命的搜索行动。次年1月，霍金获得卢德奖。2018年3月14日，霍金去世，享年76岁。

6. Steve Wozniak：史蒂夫·沃兹尼亚克，斯蒂夫·盖瑞·沃兹尼亚克，出生于加利福尼亚州圣何塞市，加州大学伯克利分校毕业，美国电脑工程师，曾与史蒂夫·乔布斯合伙创立苹果电脑（今之苹果公司）。沃兹尼亚克在1970年代中期创造出苹果一号（Apple I）和苹果二号（Apple II），苹果二号风靡普及后成为1970年代及1980年代初期销量最佳的个人电脑。2018年4月，宣布退出Facebook。

7. Bill Gates：比尔盖茨，比尔·盖茨，出生于美国华盛顿州，著名企业家、慈善家，微软公司创始人，曾连续13年荣登福布斯全球富翁榜榜首。他早年肄业于哈佛大学，1975年与好友共同创立微软公司，曾任微软董事长、CEO和首席软件设计师，是公司最大的个人股东。功成名就后，他与妻子成立比尔和梅琳达·盖茨基金会，并捐献出580亿美元个人财产，该基金会为全球艾滋病防治做出了巨大贡献。

8. Professor Ashok Goel of Georgia Tech：佐治亚理工学院的阿什克·戈埃尔教授，2017年作为人工智能理论的专家戈埃尔教授为自己的课堂创造了一名人工智能助手叫做"吉尔华生"，用以解决课堂上学生提出的各种问题，在改进之后取得了令人满意的效果。他认为人工智能在教育方面是一个新兴的趋势，并且他的团队一直在不停的开发和校正。

9. Jill Watson：吉尔·华生是戈埃尔创造的AI，是佐治亚理工学院的线上资讯平台。它是一个由微软的Outlook设立的，工具化的讯息版；问题与主题在左侧的板块，每一个都领向一条位于右侧的对话板块。吉尔同时帮助戈埃尔现实课堂里的五十位学生，以及数目更多的线上学生。因为据Class-Central.com显示，在2015年，超过3.5亿的学生报名参加了大学程度的MOOC（大型开放式网络课程massive open online coursesas），意味着她在教育领域有很大的发展前景。

写译:

请根据提示翻译下列句子。

1. In order to tell (辨别) the bees apart from other animals, he painted some bees with little spots of color.

请根据提示翻译下列句子。

2. 还剩下一点面包。我们可以用它来喂鸭子。（feed...with）

写译: