Translating 'Responsibility' in AI and NLP
(2) ⸜

* Required

Welcome to our survey on Responsible AI and Responsible Natural Language Processing (NLP), in which we seek to better understand and map how individuals and groups at the University of Edinburgh understand the concept of "responsibility" in relation to AI and NLP.

The estimated time for this survey is 10-15 minutes. The following pages provide participant information and a consent declaration - please read these carefully and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your time!

title and detail the nature of your complaint.

Updated information If the research project changes in any way, an updated Participant Information Sheet will be made available on http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/research/study-updates.

1. By proceeding with the study, I agree to all of the following statements:

- I have read and understood the above information.
- I understand that my participation is voluntary, and I can withdraw at any time.
- I consent to my anonymised data being used in academic publications and presentations.
- I allow my data to be used in future ethically approved research.

*

( ) I agree, take me to the survey

Background information

Please tell us a bit about you.

2. Are you: *

( ) Staff

( ) Postgraduate Research Student

( ) Postgraduate Taught Student

( ) Undergraduate

3. What's your age range? *

( ) 18-29

( ) 30-44

( ) 45-60

( ) 60+

4. What's your gender? *

◯ Male

◯ Female

◯ Non-binary

◯ Other

◯ Prefer not to say

5. Which School are you primarily associated with? *

◯ Biological Sciences

◯ Business

◯ Centre for Open Learning

◯ Chemistry

◯ Edinburgh College of Art

◯ Divinity

◯ Economics

◯ Education and Sport

◯ Engineering

◯ GeoSciences

◯ Health in Social Science

◯ History, Classics and Archaeology

◯ Informatics

◯ Law

◯ Literatures, Languages and Cultures

◯ Mathematics

◯ Medicine

◯ Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences

◯ Physics and Astronomy

◯ Political Science

◯ Veterinary Studies

◯ Other (e.g. Information Services, Library)

6. How long have you been affiliated with Edinburgh University? *

◯ less than 1 year

◯ less than 5 years

◯ more than 5 years

Responsible AI

This section includes several questions about the topic of "Responsible AI", and how concepts of responsibility shape your work or study on AI-related topics.

For the purposes of this survey, we use a broad definition of AI from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which is "A machine-based system that infers, from the input, how to generate outputs such as predictions, content, or decisions that can influence environments." [Source: https://mneguidelines.oecd.org/RBC-and-artificial-intelligence.pdf]

7. What three words or terms do you most associate with "*Responsible* AI"?

8. What uses of AI do you consider to be "irresponsible"? Please list up to three.

9. How relevant is the topic of "Responsible AI" to your day-to-day work, research or study at the University of Edinburgh? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being not relevant at all and 5 being very relevant. *

○ 1 (not relevant at all)

○ 2

○ 3

○ 4

○ 5 (very relevant)

○ Not sure

10. If the topic of "Responsible AI" is relevant to your work, research or study to any extent, in what way is it relevant? (please specify briefly in a sentence)

11. How accountable should the following groups be for "responsible AI"?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = this group is not at all accountable and 5 = this group is fully accountable
*

	1 (not accountable at all)	2	3
AI app developers	◯	◯	◯
AI model developers	◯	◯	◯
Executives of AI companies	◯	◯	◯
Policymakers	◯	◯	◯
End-users of AI products	◯	◯	◯
Data scrapers	◯	◯	◯
Academic institutions	◯	◯	◯
Law enforcement	◯	◯	◯
Public bodies (e.g the NHS, Ministry of Justice)	◯	◯	◯
Shareholders of AI companies	◯	◯	◯
Military institutions	◯	◯	◯

institutions

Domain experts (e.g. doctors, recruiters)	◯	◯	◯
Civil society organisations	◯	◯	◯
Industry regulators (e.g. Professional Conduct Authorities)	◯	◯	◯
User Experience (UX) experts	◯	◯	◯
General public	◯	◯	◯
AI researchers	◯	◯	◯

12. Are there other groups not listed above that you think should be accountable for "Responsible AI"? If so, please note them below and note in what way you perceive them to bear responsibility.

13. Which of the following frameworks relating to
responsible AI are you familiar with? *

	I've never heard of this before	I've heard of this but not familiar with it	I'm f
The Edinburgh Declaration on Responsible AI	◯	◯	
The EU AI Act	◯	◯	
UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence	◯	◯	
Council of Europe Treaty on AI and Human Rights	◯	◯	
Montreal Declaration for a Responsible Development of Artificial Intelligence	◯	◯	
OECD AI Principles	◯	◯	
The UK AI Regulation Whitepaper	◯	◯	
Hiroshima AI Process	◯	◯	
US Executive Order on AI	◯	◯	

Natural Language Processing

For this section, we use the following definition of Natural Language Processing (NLP), adapted from Oxford Languages.

NLP: The application of AI techniques to the analysis and synthesis of natural language and speech.

14. How relevant is the topic of "Responsible Natural Language Processing" to your day-to-day work or research? Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being not relevant at all and 5 being very relevant. *

    ◯ 1 (not relevant at all)

    ◯ 2

    ◯ 3

    ◯ 4

    ◯ 5 (very relevant)

    ◯ Not sure

Questions about Responsible NLP

15. What 3 words or terms do you most associate with "*Responsible* NLP"? (These might be the same, or different, to the terms you associate with "*Responsible* AI")

16. What uses of NLP do you consider to be "*Irresponsible*"? Please list up to three.

17. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about Large Language Models (LLMs)? *

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	A
The development of ChatGPT 3.5 (the first public version) was responsible	◯	◯	◯	
The release of ChatGPT 3.5 was responsible	◯	◯	◯	
LLM providers are responsible for what people do with their products, even if they misuse them	◯	◯	◯	
LLM providers should only be held responsible for the performance of their models against industry benchmarks	◯	◯	◯	
LLM biases only reflect biases that already exist in the data	◯	◯	◯	
Reinforcement learning from human feedback and supervised finetuning are sufficient methods for ensuring the safety of LLMs	◯	◯	◯	

All LLMs should be open-source	◯	◯	◯
LLM accuracy is more important than fairness	◯	◯	◯
LLM transparency is more important than accuracy	◯	◯	◯
Only users should be responsible for the use of LLMs	◯	◯	◯

18. To what extent does the approach of each organisation align with your understanding of "responsible NLP" (with respect to their development or deployment of NLP technologies)?

Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = not at all aligned and 5 = completely aligned *

	1 (not all aligned)	2	3
Amazon	◯	◯	◯
Cohere	◯	◯	◯
Google DeepMind	◯	◯	◯
Police Scotland	◯	◯	◯
Public Health Scotland	◯	◯	◯
School of Informatics	◯	◯	◯

19.   ed with either of the NLP CDT programmes
      e.g. student, supervisor, member of the
      n etc.) *

UK Defence
Science and
Technology
Laboratory

UK Department
for Science,
Innovation and   esponsible NLP CDT (2024-2028)
Technology

                  2019, 20, 21, 22, or 23)

University of
Edinburgh

○   Neither

Open ended questions for NLP CDT staff and students only

You are being asked these three questions because you have indicated that you are affiliated with either the CDT in NLP (2019-2023) or the CDT in Designing Responsible NLP (2024-2028). We see your input as extremely valuable to this study and would value hearing your perspectives in the questions below.

20. How does the theme of "responsible NLP" feature (or not) in your own work? Please be as brief or as specific as you would like. *

21. To what extent do you think your perceptions of
    "responsible NLP" are shaped or influenced by the
    following groups and institutions?
    Please answer on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 = no influence
    and 5 = maximum influence
    *

	1 (no influence at all)	2	3
The CDT programme and environment (e.g. other staff or students)	◯	◯	◯
Research teams and projects you are part of within the university	◯	◯	◯
Academic communities, conferences and networks beyond the university	◯	◯	◯
Contacts in industry and employment and internship opportunities	◯	◯	◯
Products or services currently offered by companies that impact your work	◯	◯	◯
UK governmental or public bodies	◯	◯	◯
The European	◯	◯	◯

Union	○	○	○
International organisations	○	○	○

22. Can you elaborate on how your approach to "responsible NLP" is shaped (or not) by any or all of the following:

a. The CDT environment (e.g. other staff or students), by research teams and projects you are part of within the university, or broader academic communities, conferences and networks?

b. your contacts in industry, employment and internship opportunities, and the products or services currently offered by companies that impact your work or research?

c. existing or forthcoming regulations, policies or ethical frameworks, such as those listed in Question 13? Examples include: Hiroshima AI Process, AI Act, OECD AI Principles.

Can you provide any examples?

The Edinburgh Declaration on AI

For this final section (also for NLP CDT staff and students only), we want to understand how well your views on "Responsible AI" are reflected in the Edinburgh Declaration on Responsible AI.

The Declaration was drafted in 2023 by researchers in the UKRI Trustworthy Autonomous Systems (TAS) programme who work on Responsibility in the context of design, development, procurement, use, governance and regulation of AI and autonomous systems. The full declaration is available here: https://medium.com/@svallor_10030/edinburgh-declaration-on-responsibility-for-responsible-ai-1a98ed2e328b1 (but you do not have to have read the document in order to answer the questions below.)

Please indicate how much each principle included in the declaration reflects your current view on "responsible AI".

23. **Principle 1: Responsibility must be accepted, not just described or ascribed.** Academic research and analysis on responsibility must be paired with"bold and ongoing commercial and public commitments to *accept* responsibility" for the power and consequences of AI systems. *

	1 (Does not reflect my view)	2	3
To what extent does this principle reflect your current view on Responsible AI?	◯	◯	◯

24. **Principle 2: We should view responsibility as relational, rather than a property of a single agent, system or individual**

The point of responsibility is to make ongoing efforts to protect the human relationships affected by AI-driven systems and decisions, rather than to achieve a technical or regulatory status or make a particular commitment. *

	1 (Does not reflect my view)	2	3
To what extent does this principle reflect your current view on Responsible AI?	◯	◯	◯

25. **Principle 3: Responsibility is more about attending to vulnerability than assigning blame**
Responsible AI is not just about finding and sanctioning 'bad actors', but ensuring that those who create and deploy AI systems are *required* to demonstrate due care for the interests of those that the AI system makes vulnerable. *

	1 (Does not reflect my view)	2	3
To what extent does this principle reflect your current view on Responsible AI?	◯	◯	◯

26. **Principle 4: It's more important to create sustainable responsible AI than to innovate AI at pace.**
Resource limitations and costs must be balanced against the need to accelerate research in critical areas, with the goal that AII innovation should take us - collectively - much farther, not simply faster. *

	1 (Does not reflect my view)	2	3
To what extent does this principle reflect your current view on Responsible AI?	◯	◯	◯

27. What else do you think should be considered, or is missing?

[   ]

Final thoughts and opportunity to enter a prize draw

28. Do you have any other comments on the topic of "Responsible AI" or "Responsible NLP" you would like to share, or any other insights you feel are relevant?

29. How would you rate this survey?

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

30. What improvements on this survey would you suggest for future research into attitudes towards responsible AI and NLP at the University of Edinburgh? For example, did you find any of the questions unclear, irrelevant or overly time-consuming?

31. Would you like to enter the prize draw to win a £50 Love2Shop voucher? *

○ Yes

○ No

32. Would you like to receive a copy of the findings of this
    study, once they are publicly available, and do you
    consent to us retaining your email address for this
    purpose only? *

    ◯ Yes

    ◯ No

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