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Week-2 Assignment - Article Review

This article was published in the news section of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This is an update about one of their lab projects on Dark Web. MIT is a premier educational institute that is reputable and publishes high quality scientific research. This article is not a peer reviewed academic article but a generic update for the general audience on their portal.

The project is by the Lincoln Laboratory in MIT and it is a software working on both surface and dark webs to identify the participants of illegal marketplaces operating on the dark web. The challenge of identifying the real-world people behind the users who post on these sites is immense due to the short lifespan of these marketplaces and the fly by night nature of their operations. The software leverages the connections that sellers and buyers maintain across multiple layers of the web and automates the persona-linking process by training machine learning algorithms to compute the similarity between users on different forums.

The article is written in a clear and concise manner, making it easy to read and understand. The language is simple and straightforward, without too much technical jargon and long sentences. The information presented is relevant and credible, but it would be useful to include more references or sources to support the claims made. Additionally, the use of headings and subheadings would help to break up the text and make it easier to navigate. The presentation was excellent and holds the reader's attention.

From a content point of view, I would have liked the article to address some of the critical questions that are inevitably going to be asked, like concerns about privacy and the risk of false positives. The article claims they have achieved 95% accuracy but does not mention the methodology and sample size of their study.

This article is a great primer on the work in progress on uncovering the secrets of the dark web.

References:

Lincoln Laboratory, K. F. (2019, May 13). Artificial intelligence shines light on the dark web. MIT News | Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Retrieved February 4, 2023, from https://news.mit.edu/2019/lincoln-laboratory-artificial-intelligence-helping-investigators-fight-dark-web-crime-0513