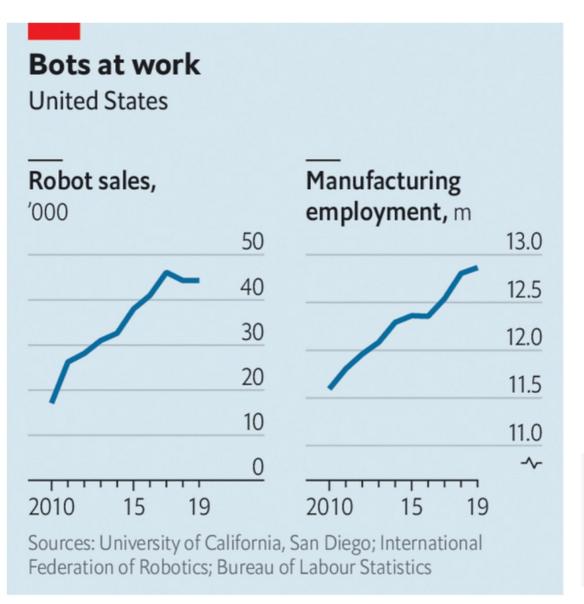
0407 | (Part 2) Covid has reset relations between people and robots

新冠疫情重塑了人与机器人之间的关系 (续上一篇精读)



The Economist

Even so , the rise of robots makes some people fear for their jobs and ask how they will *earn a living* ." It's a good question . I get it every week ," says Dr Christensen . He replies that jobs which robots undertake are usually dull , **repetitive** and **strenuous** - and , post - covid , such jobs are getting harder to fill . In many industries it is less a desire to reduce labour costs that is driving automation than the **sheer** difficulty of recruiting flesh-and-blood workers . Indeed , instead of destroying jobs , robots can create them by making businesses more efficient , allowing firms to expand . As Dr Christensen points out , for the past decade manufacturing employment in America has grown , even as the number of factory robots increased .

即便如此、机器人的兴盛仍让一些人担心自己工作不保,发问未来要如何谋生。"这是个好问题。我每周都会被问到。"克里斯滕森说。他的回答是,机器人承担的工作通常是枯燥、重复和艰苦的,而且在新冠疫情后,这类工作越来越难招到人。在许多行业,推动自动化首先不是为了降低劳动力成本,而是因为要招到有血有肉的工人实在太难了。事实上,机器人并不是在破坏就业机会,而是能通过提高效率让公司得以扩张,从而创造就业机会。正如克里斯滕森指出的,过去十年,在工厂机器人的数量增长的同时,美国制造业的就业人数也在增长。

There is a similar fear in health care that robots will destroy jobs . But this is a myth , Michelle Johnson told the meeting . Dr Johnson is the director of the Rehabilitation Robotics Lab at the University of Pennsylvania , and currently works in Botswana on ways to use robots to help people recover from illness and injury . Even in America , let alone Africa ," there are just not enough **clinicians** to do the job ," she adds .

在医疗保健领域,人们也有类似的担忧,担心机器人会摧毁工作岗位。但米歇尔·约翰逊(Michelle Johnson)在会上表示,这是一种普遍的误解。约翰逊是宾夕法尼亚大学康复机器人实验室(Rehabilitation Robotics Lab)的主任,目前正在博茨瓦纳研究如何利用机器人帮助人们从伤病中康复。且不说非洲,即便在美国,"也没有足够的临床医生来做这项工作。"她补充道。

Dr Johnson has a particular interest in helping people recover from **strokes**. This sometimes requires **intensive** therapy for long periods. But public health-care systems are often too **stretched** to *offer anything but* limited treatment. Robots can help here, and in some circumstances may be better, even, than human **physiotherapists**, since they are both tireless and reliable. They can exercise a person's **limbs** with consistent movements and take objective measurements of recovery. This, says Dr Johnson, allows a single **occupational** therapist, assisted by a **technician**, to look after, at the same time, half-a-dozen or so patients who would otherwise need one-to-one attention.

约翰逊对帮助中风患者康复尤其感兴趣。这有时需要长周期的强化治疗。但公共卫生体系往往忙不过来,只能提供有限的医治。机器人可以在这方面提供帮助,在某些情况下甚至可能比人类理疗师做得更好,因为它们不知疲倦又很可靠。它们可以用始终如一的动作锻炼人的四肢,并客观评价恢复情况。约翰逊说,有了它们,一名职业治疗师可以在一名技术人员的协助下同时照看五六个原本需要一对一照护的病人。

Robots that work with people in such ways do , though , require special training . And there is a long way to go to improve that , says Julie Shah , who leads the Interactive Robotics Group at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology . Most robots perform **narrowly defined** tasks , with mobile ones using their sensors to avoid **bumping** into people ." Robots need to see us as more than just an obstacle to **manoeuvre** around ," adds Dr Shah ." They need to work with us and **anticipate** what we need ."

不过,以这种方式与人合作的机器人需要经过特殊训练。麻省理工学院互动机器人小组(Interactive Robotics Group)的负责人朱莉沙阿(Julie Shah)表示,在这方面还需要大幅提升。大多数机器人执行的是非常明确具体的任务,其中四下移动的机器人通过配备的传感器来避免撞到人。"机器人不能只把我们看作是它移动过程中需要避开的障碍物,"沙阿补充说,"它们要能和我们一起工作,预测我们需要什么。"

Studying what happens in factories shows that the most successful applications employ robots programmed by an engineer who is working side-by-side with someone (a so-called 'domain expert') fully versed in the tasks at hand. To make that easier, she and her colleagues are developing Al systems which can school a robot using natural-language commands.

对工厂进展的研究表明,在最成功的应用中为机器人编程的工程师是和某个完全精通所经手的工作的人(也就是所谓的"领域专家")并肩工作的。为让利用机器人的过程变得更简单,她和她的同事正在开发可以使用自然语言指令训练机器人的人工智能系统。

Although all three experts believe robots will enhance human capability, one problem is that regulation **lags** technology. With covid -19,says Dr Johnson, some clinicians worried that even the spread of telemedicine might affect their **indemnity** insurance, let alone robots. And although a long road remains ahead for the development of autonomous **delivery vans and lorries**, Dr Christensen finds it "**ludicrous**" that a test **vehicle** driving across a state border in America may **thereafter** have to **comply** with a completely different set of regulations from those which **pertained** in the place **whence** it came. It seems an awful lot of meetings lie ahead for roboticists and regulators to determine how machines and people wil work together.

尽管三位专家都认为机器人将提高人类的能力,但有一个问题是监管总是滞后于技术。约翰逊说,在新冠肺炎上,一些临床医生担心即使是远程医疗的广泛使用也可能会影响他们能拿到多少损失补偿性保险,更不用说机器人了。虽然自动送货的厢式货车和卡车的发展仍然前路漫漫,但让克里斯腾森觉得"荒唐可笑"的是,一辆测试车穿越美国一个州界后,可能就得遵守一套跟出发地完全不同的法规。看起来,机器人专家和监管官员还要开很多很多的会来确定机器和人类将如何合作。■

(注:翻译来源:官网)

Notes

• repetitive /rɪˈpetɪtɪv/

adj. 重复的, 啰嗦的

名词: repetitiveness

反义词:

[n.] nonrepetitive

习惯用语:

repetitive strain injury (肢体的) 重复性劳损

His job consists of dull, repetitive work. 他干的是些单调重复的工作。

• **strenuous** /'strenjʊəs/

adj. 费力的; 须用力应付的

近义词:

[adj.] energetic, effortful

习惯用语:

strenuous exercise 剧烈运动

He made strenuous attempts to stop her. 他为阻止她付出了极大的努力。

• sheer /ʃɪə/

adj. 完全的;十足的;陡峭的;垂直的;极薄的,轻的,透明的 adv. 垂直地,陡峭地 vi. 避开,突然转向

习惯用语:

sheer nonsense 一派胡言

It is sheer madness to do it. 做这种事实在愚不可及。

• clinician /klɪˈnɪʃn/

n. 临床医生,临床教师

习惯用语:

nurse clinician 临床护士

Clinician and Nurse Clinician 临床医护

clinician detail 诊治者

The clinician may consider disopyramide, procainamide, or quinidine on an individual basis. 临床医师基于个体化考虑可能会选用双异丙吡胺、普鲁卡因胺或奎尼丁。

• stroke /strอชk/

n. 一击;一画,一笔;(游泳或划船的)划,划法;游法;钟的敲声;中风;轻抚 vt. 轻抚,抚摸

习惯用语:

one stroke 一行程; 一次行程

on the stroke 准时地

long stroke 长冲程

heat stroke 中暑

a stroke of luck 一次好运,幸运的机缘

He crouched down to stroke the dog. 他蹲下来抚摸他的狗。

She arrived on the stroke of six. 她六时整到达。

• intensive /ɪn'tensɪv/

adj. 加强的, 集中的, 密集的; 彻底的; 加强语气的

习惯用语:

intensive care 重病特别护理

intensive management 集约化经营;集约管理

intensive reading 精读;英语精读

I'll make an intensive study of a subject.

我将集中学一门课程。

• stretch /stret[/

vt. 伸展,张开 vi. 伸展 adj. 可伸缩的 n. 伸展,延伸

近义辨析:

extend: 指时间或空间的延长,也可指影响和使用范围等的扩大。

lengthen: 指把长度或期限拉长或延长, 其反义是shorten。

stretch: 指长度的延伸以及宽度的增加。

prolong: 通常指时间上延长得超过了一般或正常的限度。

习惯用语:

stretch oneself 伸懒腰;伸展身体;尽最大的努力

stretch out 伸手

at a stretch 一口气地,不休息地

on the stretch 紧张着

The runners rounded into the home stretch. 赛跑者拐弯进入了接近终点的一段距离。

• **physiotherapist** / fizio'θεrəpist/

n. 理疗家; 理疗医师; 物理治疗师

近义词:

[n.] physical therapist, healer

习惯用语:

Neurological Physiotherapist 神经理疗师

research physiotherapist 研究物理治疗师; 研究理疗师

Professionals like doctors, nurses, dieticians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists and clinical psychologists are working together at each centre to look after the various needs of the elderly. 中心内不但有医生和护士,还有其他专业人员,包括营养师、职业治疗师、物理治疗师和临床心理学家,以照顾长者多方面的需要。

• limb /lɪm/

n. 肢,臂;枝干;分支 vt. 切断...的手足;从...上截下树枝

近义辨析:

branch: 普通用词,泛指树木比bough小一些的大枝或小枝,也可用于引申意义。

limb: 多指主枝或大枝。

bough: 指主枝或粗大强壮的枝。

shoot: 指植物或灌木刚长出的新枝、嫩枝或嫩芽。

习惯用语:

out on a limb 孤立无援;处于危险的境地

upper limb 上肢;上翼;上边缘

artificial limb n. 假肢

We tear the enemies limb from limb. 我们猛击敌人。

occupational / okje persenel/

adj. 职业的,职业造成的 adv. 职业引起地

习惯用语:

occupational health 职业保健

occupational safety 职业安全

occupational disease 职业病

occupational therapist 职业疗法专家

Recent figures show other occupational cancer risks. 最近的统计数字显示了其他职业性癌症的危险性。

• technician /tek'nɪʃ(ə)n/

n. 技术人员, 专家; 技巧好的人

习惯用语:

laboratory technician 化验员;实验室技师

engineering technician 工程技术员

computer technician 计算机技术人员

skilled technician n. 技师

He works as a sound technician in a recording studio. 他在录音室做音效技师。

• narrowly /ˈnærəʊlɪ/

adv. 狭窄地; 勉强地; 严密地; 仔细地

习惯用语:

interpret narrowly 勉强地解释

One car narrowly missed hitting the other one.

一辆车差点儿和另一辆相撞。

• defined /dɪˈfaɪnd/

adj. 清晰的,轮廓分明的;有定义的,确定的 v. 给...下定义;使明确;使...的轮廓分明(define的过去分词)

近义词:

[adj.] characterized, characterised, circumscribed, delimited, distinct, definite 反义词:

[n.] undefined, vague, indistinct, indefinite

习惯用语:

be defined as 规定(被称为)

well defined 轮廓分明的; 意义明确的

defined area 划定地区

Leisure is usually defined in opposition to work. 休闲常被定义为工作的反面。

bump /bʌmp/

n. 肿块,隆起物;撞击 vi. 碰撞,撞击;颠簸而行 vt. 碰,撞;颠簸 adv. 突然地,猛烈地

近义辨析:

bump: 主要指具体东西的有力碰撞,也可指碰到困难或障碍。 clash: 指有力的或带有金属碰击声的打、敲或相互冲击。

collide: 多指带毁坏性的猛烈相撞,也可指严重的直接冲突。

conflict: 这个词以前可表具体东西的撞击,现在常指冲突或对立。

习惯用语:

bump into 无意中遇到、碰到

with a bump 意外地,突然

bump against 撞; 碰

bump up 突然增加;提升

The cart bumped along the rough road.

马车在不平的道路上颠簸前进。

• manoeuvre /mə'nuːvə/

n. 调动;演习;谨慎而熟练的动作 vt. & vi. (使某物)移动,运动 vt. 熟练而巧妙地引导 vi. 演习

近义词:

[n.] plan of action, operation, military operation, motion, movement, move, evasion [v.] act, move, control, command, go

习惯用语:

multiple manoeuvres 组合跳跃

on manoeuvres 演习

advanced manoeuvre 高级特技飞行

The clutter of ships had little room to manoeuvre. 船只橫七竖八地挤在一起,几乎没有多少移动的空间。

• anticipate /æn'tɪsɪpeɪt/

vt. 先于...行动; 预感, 期望

名词: anticipator

形容词: anticipatory

近义辨析:

hope: 指希望得到积极、有利的结果,所期待的可能实现,也可能不会实现。

anticipate: 指对未来的期望,一般是对好事的期待。

await: 书面用词,指对将要或预料要发生的事怍于期待状态。

习惯用语:

anticipated interest 预计利息

anticipated payment [会计] 预先付款,提前付款

Anticipating Life 洞悉生活

He tried to anticipate all my needs. 他设法将我需要的东西预先准备好。

• domain /də(ʊ)'meɪn/

n. 领域;产业;地产;[计]域名

习惯用语:

domain name 网域名称

time domain 时域,时间域

public domain 公共域;公有土地

cognitive domain 认知领域

This question comes into the domain of philosophy. 这一问题属于哲学范畴。

versed /va:st/

adj. 精通的;熟练的

习惯用语:

be versed in 精通于

He is well versed in history.

他精通历史。

• school /sku:l/

n. 学校; 学派; 学院; 鱼群 vt. 教育

近义辨析:

college: 多指大学内的学院,分科学院或科目较少的高等学校。

university: 主要指综合大学,一般由多个学院组成。当泛指大学时通常用college表示。

institute: 指设立有专门学科的学院,如外语学院、地质学院、建筑学院等。

school: 指大学所属的学院或系。

academy: 指(高等)专科院校或研究专门学术的学校。

习惯用语:

in school 在求学

at school 在学校;在上课;在求学

junior high school 初中

senior high school 高中

graduate school 研究所,研究院

vocational school n. 职业学校

• lag /læg/

n. **迟延**;防护套;囚犯;桶板;落后 vt. 押往监狱;落后于;加上外套 vi. **滞后**;缓缓而行;蹒跚 adj. 最后的

近义词:

[n.] delay, holdup, time interval, interval, slat, spline [v.] follow, confine, detain, flip, toss, sky, pitch

习惯用语:

lag behind 落后;拖欠

time lag 时间间隔; [物]时间滞差

shear lag 剪滞;剪力滞后

Let not a single classmate lag behind.

不要让一个同学掉队。

• indemnity /ɪn'demnɪtɪ/

n. 保障, 赔偿, 补偿; 赔款, 补偿金, 赔偿物

习惯用语:

claim indemnity 索赔

letter of indemnity 损害补偿保证书

insurance indemnity 保险赔偿

double indemnity 双倍赔偿

indemnity insurance 损失补偿保险

They paid an indemnity to the victim after the accident. 他们在事故后向受害者付了赔偿金。

• van /væn/

n. 先锋; 厢式货车; [计]增值网 vt. 用车搬运

习惯用语:

He braked hard and narrowly avoided a parked van. 他使劲踩刹车,险些撞上一辆停着的面包车。

• lorry /'lpri/

n. (英) 卡车; 货车; 运料车

习惯用语:

lorry driver 卡车司机

lorry crane 货车吊机;机动式起重吊车

The lopsided load on the lorry looked dangerous. 货车上倾斜的货物,看样子很危险。

• ludicrous /'luːdɪkrəs/

adj. 荒唐可笑的,滑稽可笑的

习惯用语:

blind imitation with ludicrous effection 东施效颦

ludicrous speed 惊人的飞速; 滑稽的速度;

Grandad looks absolutely ludicrous in old sunhat. 外公戴着一顶老式遮阳帽显得滑稽可笑。

vehicle /'viːɪk(ə)l/

n. 交通工具, 车辆; 传播媒介, 手段

习惯用语:

motor vehicle 汽车;机动车辆

electric vehicle 电动车辆

vehicle maintenance 汽车维护,车辆保养

launch vehicle 运载火箭

Old-fashioned gypsy caravans are painted wooden vehicles. 旧时的吉普赛大篷车是涂了颜色的木质车辆。

• thereafter /ðeər'ɑ:ftə/

adv. 此后; 在那之后

习惯用语:

shortly thereafter 此后不久

soon thereafter 不久以后

Thereafter we heard no more of this suggestion.

此后这个建议不再有人提起了。

• comply /kəm'plaɪ/

vi. 答应; 遵守; 顺从, 遵从

近义词: [v.] obey

近义辨析:

agree: 普通用词,侧重指对某事同其他人有相同的意见或想法。

consent: 指同意别人的请求、建议或满足他人的愿望,着重意愿或感情,常和to连用。 approve: 侧重对认为正确或满意的事表示赞同或批准。作不及物动词用时,常与of连用。

comply: 指答应某人已经提出或可能要求做的某事,与with连用。

subscribe: 指完全地赞成已阐明的立场。多用于比较愿意支持一种立场或为一种立场所辨护的情

况。

习惯用语:

comply with 照做,遵守

You must comply with the library rules. 遵守图书馆的规则。

• pertain /pəˈteɪn/

vi. 适合;属于;关于

习惯用语:

pertain to 关于;从属于;适合

His remark did not pertain to the question.

他的话同这个问题不相干。

• whence /wens/

n. 根源 adv. 从何处 pron. 何处 conj. 由此

习惯用语:

country whence consigned 进口国家

place whence consigned 起运地

whence come all things 似万物之宗

He knows neither his whence nor his whither.

他不知道从哪里来, 到哪里去。

• 长难句分析1:

Studying what happens in factories shows that the most successful applications employ robots programmed by an engineer who is working side-by-side with someone (a so-called ' **domain** expert ') fully **versed** in the tasks *at hand*.

本句中动名词 Studying what happens in factories 作主语, show 为谓语动词,后面跟宾语从句。who is working side-by-side with someone (a so-called 'domain expert ') 是 an engineer 的定语

翻译:对工厂进展的研究表明,在最成功的应用中为机器人编程的工程师是和某个完全精通所经手的工作的人(也就是所谓的"领域专家")并肩工作的。

• 长难句分析2:

And although a long road remains ahead for the development of autonomous **delivery vans and**lorries, Dr Christensen finds it "ludicrous" that a test vehicle driving across a state border in

America may thereafter have to comply with a completely different set of regulations from those which pertained in the place whence it came.

本句为让步状语从句,引导词为 although ,主句为Dr Christensen finds …; find it + adj +that 意思: 发现某事是……的,it是形式宾语,真正的宾语是后边的that从句。宾语从句中,driving across a state border in America是a test vehicle 的后置定语,have to comply with … 是动词,which pertained in the place whence it came 是 those 的定语从句。

翻译:虽然自动送货的厢式货车和卡车的发展仍然前路漫漫,但让克里斯腾森觉得"荒唐可笑"的是,一辆测试车穿越美国一个州界后,可能就得遵守一套跟出发地完全不同的法规。