Meeting notes 10/3

- Framing vs Epistemological Bias article

- Biased vs not biased, not direction of bias

- Very transparent about how we decide an article is biased

Politifacts, different fact checkers feed into each other

- look into where people get their news???

News from comedy —> big problem

**Satire news**, obviously biased

Exposure bias through satire

**Conflation of entertainment and news**

News based or entertainment based? New filter?

Level of bias, then use manual keywords to put liberal or conservative lean (T shape)

Get user info? The user’s political leanings

- transparency is an engineering requirement

- Public opinion/user testing as a measure of success

- Compare to competing technologies...?

**- find more dataset candidates**

- successfully explain our algorithm/approach s.t. 3/4 people are satisfied with the explanation

- We shouldn’t just throw up numbers

- notion of the axes that we want to address

- Proposals for models

- Use funding for paying for user testing?

- spherical bias coordinates

- **truth, bias, extremism** are our axes

- Extremity of topic vs. language

Do people consume news through opinion pieces?

Keep the axes simple! (Authoritarian libertarian economic liberal economic conservative) —> MAPS to lib/conservative 2d spectrum 1

Start with the more complicated one and translate it to the 2d

- wordsmithing

Ways people get their news:

- reddit

- Podcasts

- Notifications from news apps

- Facebook

- Twitter

Truth axes:

True <—> misleading <—> false

Up/down vague <—> fully defined definition

Left/right subjective <—> objective

Abortion is about a woman’s right to choose

President Obama was the president of the United States (fully defined, objective)

President Trump caused more people to die from COVID-19 due to inaction

Did President Trump denounce white supremacy during the debate?

Tell the user if something is vague? Would that be useful for them?

Definition of point on the line (discrete point vs interval)

How can we tackle a problem that humans can’t do themselves?

Omission as misleading

Our system will be inherently biased

What is our bias towards?

- Our personal political biases will come through

- We do not have the full gambit of perspectives on our team

Twitter/facebook: Amoral because they do whatever gets them the most views, we will need to make judgement calls

Liberal conservative: biased towards an American view of the political spectrum

Axes, approach to labeling etc.

Create product goals/success factors document

Known, trusted sources

Facilitators of the user’s journey to find the truth, recommend reliable sources

What kind of stuff can we definitively say is true?

Could we unintentionally promote agendas?

**Triangle —> can vague things be labeled as true?**

Maybe not misleading in the center, just undefined

Worst comes to worst, we get rid of the truth spectrum —> if we can’t do it helpfully, we shouldn’t do it at all

Still have two major questions:

- what are people doing now?

- How do people consume news?

Pros and cons for our axes

Define success factors

More investigative work

Propose models