

SI618 Lab7

Ruge Xu (rugexu)

Question 1

This article talked about the fact that artificial intelligence cannot work without human labor participation. It mentions that the humans behind AI curtain could be everyone around us, and these people spend hours each week involved in the screening of trending topics on Facebook, the processing of Amazon Prime orders, and the immediate response to consumer activity. This form of work that combines AI with human labor flow creates new types of labor markets, but also new challenges. There is little transparency in the training, work environment, or protocols for editorial decisions of those involved in the loop, leaving room for speculation by the general public. The fact that there is human labor in this loop should be known, because this labor needs to be recognized. After all, without them the network would become a swampy pool of spam.

Question 2

In my opinion, the most important thing when selecting a crowd-worker for AI is whether this person is biased and whether he or she can always be serious about doing this repetitive work. If a worker is ideologically biased, such as a sexist or racist, then the decisions he or she makes will also be biased. This runs counter to our aim of getting an unbiased algorithm. Also, someone who can keep repeating and carefully completing tedious tasks ensures the validity of the decisions they make, allowing for maximum AI progress.

Yangqin Yan (yyangqin)

Question 1

In the field of AI, much of the work requires the participation of humans. New jobs are created by this and all of us are qualified to do the work called crowdsourcing. People will do the crowdwork to provide labels for AI to train. However, the public knows little about the process of crowdsourcing, training of the workers or work environments. This article appeal to pay attention to the work of crowdsourcing since it is important for the effectiveness of AI. As a consumer, we also have the right to know what the crowdsourcing really is about.

Question 2

I think one possible issue is that the accuracy and quantity of the work the a crowd-worker does can not be guaranteed. For example, sometimes the worker may misjudge some questions carelessly, but he or she did not realize it. Besides, knowledge is updating and changing rapidly. Maybe some knowledge is well believed previously, but it can be overturned and corrected. Then the work related to that knowledge done by crowd-workers before the it is corrected will be biased and useless.