HEFCS 7212 – Human and Ethical Factors in Computer Science

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Workshop Week 1-5 Free writing
Instruction:
You can choose to answer ONE of the topics below.

*Please write for **15 minutes** about these topics. The key is not to stop and think...just keep writing!*

Please reflect on these ideas from material Week One to Five. What did you take away, what did you find interesting and how do you feel these topics relate to you?

1. Role of ethics in IT.
2. Discuss the concept of human factors in the workplace. Describe the ideal workspace for you and explain why. Suggest digital solutions that could improve the workspace.
3. How the theory (virtue ethics, consequentialist ethics, and duty-based ethics) relates to your own ways of thinking.
4. Reflect on how the ACS's Code of Ethics aligns with your personal beliefs and principles about ethics.
5. Think of the real-life examples of bias (conscious or unconscious) issues around software and prediction systems.
6. Discuss how ethics could be applied in data science and artificial intelligence.
7. How an algorithm is defined and why algorithm can be ethically challenging?

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Topic 7.

An algorithm is a kind of method that ~~can is~~ consists of maths or statistics ~~correct~~ formulars, it's it can be coded in different ~~form~~ coding languages. To be honest, there is no ~~right~~ ethical comments of algorithms, but the use of the algorithms.

An algorithm is defined by it's using and how to use it. For example there could be searching algorithms, we could search for unlimited information through these algorithms.

However, the computer could give us some illegal or harmful information if we don't set the condition of our searching correctly. While these scenarios happens we should put some strict rules to limit the ~~out~~ outcome of searching, and then it comes to the ethical problem of the algorithms. As the fact, the algorithms of searching just play a role of data or information collector in this process, they ~~cot~~ could not tell you what's wrong like a real human being. But we ~~ca~~could adjust the algorithms with ethical principles, to make ~~it~~ them never represent the harmful results to the operator. So does a searching algorithm is unethical? Obviously no.

As a conclusion, the algorithms are just the coding rules with mathematical or statistical support. It could make logical ~~deci~~ decisions but non ethical. What could we do is to convert the ethical issues scenarios to logical decisions. It would be challenging while some simple logical decisions could not ~~repr~~ show the whole picture of ethical rules.