

Question:

What are some potential solutions to the challenges posed by foundation models?

Answer:

Here are some potential solutions to the challenges posed by foundation models:

1. **Transparency and openness.** Make the training datasets, models, and algorithms open and accessible to researchers. This will enable reproducibility, accountability, and progress. For example, releasing pretrained models (e.g. BERT, GPT-3) has accelerated NLP research.
2. **Interdisciplinary collaboration.** Problems like bias, privacy, and job displacement require collaboration between ML researchers, social scientists, legal experts, and policymakers. For example, the AI Now Institute and the Partnership on AI bring together experts from different fields.
3. **Model documentation.** Standardize model documentation, Similar to safety data sheets for materials. This can help application developers understand a model's capabilities and limitations before adapting it for their use case.
4. **Targeted data curation.** Carefully curate data for specific demographic groups to address data scarcity and build fairer models. This could involve collecting new data or rebalancing existing datasets.
5. **Adversarial evaluation.** Evaluate models against adversaries trying to fool them. This can reveal model vulnerabilities and increase robustness before deployment. Approaches like Constitutional AI aim to make models more robust to distribution shifts and adversarial examples.
6. **Policy and governance.** Develop policies and governance practices to ensure models are developed and applied responsibly. This could include ethics committees, laws around AI risk, and publication standards for AI research. Policymakers will need to keep up with the rapid progress of foundation models.
7. **Safety practices.** Follow recommended practices around AI safety such as Constitutional AI. These aim to align models with human values and make them more robust and interpretable. Safety practices will need to evolve alongside foundation models.