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CS-370-H5862 Current/Emerging Trends in CS

8-1 Discussion: Reflection

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**Reflection**

Hi peers! My module one short paper was about kitchen solutions that utilize artificial intelligence. The problem I outlined is the various problems that come to planning meals that can take a considerable amount of time to solve such as food allergies, what a person has on hand, how much time they can put into making a meal, and what they currently own to prepare a meal such as kitchen implements. The solution I came up with used an Ai paired with both a robotic arm and electronic eye to assist in the kitchen with planning and stocking a pantry. Outside of the arm and eye these could be paired with a Google Home or Amazon Alexa already in some people’s houses. The ethical concerns with this planned solution I discovered were getting injured by a robotic arm, someone hijacking the AI, or being recorded by a home assistant device.

I thought when writing this I had a clear understanding of what would be required to complete a home kitchen assistant. After completing this class, I understand more thoroughly how difficult it would be to get an AI to understand voice instructions or identify the shapes and cuts of different vegetables would be. Additionally, how crazy expensive implementing all of this would be, affording a $50 Google Home or Amazon Alexa is one thing, but a robotic arm that’s not a child’s toy is like $1000 or more. So if anything from this class I’ve learned that using multiple different AI’s recognize the shapes of different containers or vegetables would be feasible but trusting another AI to wield a knife to cut said vegetables could be a little unethical. So, if any changes would be made it would be to maybe not include the robotic arm, same that for down the pipeline.

Addressing the ethical concerns especially with recording with a home assistant are a bit more difficult to tackle. The robotic arm would be safter to wrangle if you could keep it in a container, sort of like a box with a door that only operates when the door is closed. Not any real way to get around someone getting injured using a robotic arm with a sharp edge somewhere. It’s going to happen eventually. Maybe only offering it to commercial use or requiring instructional class before sales are made. The recording is entirely up to Google or Amazon as the solution I came up with interfaces with their home assistant. Though the interface on the AI’s end could use Google/Amazon’s already established voice recognition an agreement would need to be made before storing anyone’s voice bio metric I would assume.

**Response:**

In your responses, consider alternative solutions to the problem your classmate presented. Is there a better way to address the ethical concerns? Please make sure that your response is more than a critique; it must add new knowledge and ideas to the discussion.

Hey Stu! When I was little and didn’t live so close to the city, we had a pool, but my family lived pretty deep in the woods so people falling in wasn’t so much a concern, animals getting in always sucked though. I liked your approach with a device that is connected via network though if network is down, I think a backup maybe sim card or something could come in handy. Also, maybe a solar panel on the device to keep it charged. Another thing I was thinking of is when bugs are in/out of the pool so a way to change the sensitivity would be nice, so an alert doesn’t go off every time a June bug decides to go for a plunge. I think your idea of removing use tracking works great for your updated proposed solution. Alternatively giving users an option to turn on and off tracking would be good too if you wanted to make anything back on using user data.

Hi Dalan! Cool solution to a current problem within healthcare though I agree, is an ethical nightmare. Especially considering any kind of outside tampering with this AI or unauthorized access. Maybe something linked a bit smaller with family medical history or with DNA results to propose solutions to underlying medical problems first instead of tackling the whole big picture first. Do you think would be a cost difference between seeing an AI family practitioner vs seeing a flesh and blood one? Would this potentially devalue the work a doctor has already put into a degree? I think your solution solves a lot of these problems, with potentially a partner to a nurse or a doctor instead of an AI to replace them all together.