Lecture 9-1: Trust, Opaque Algorithms, Transparency, Explanations

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October 6, 2020

Administrative

Assignment 1

Available: October 13

Deadline: October 28

Grades available: Around November 7 (before final exam)

Assignment 2

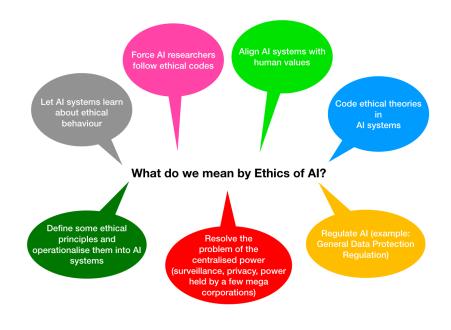
Available: November 1

Deadline: November 14

Administrative

Tomorrow's lecture include a mini-lecture on how to write an effective paper for this course .

NO office hours tomorrow (I will be in an online conference).



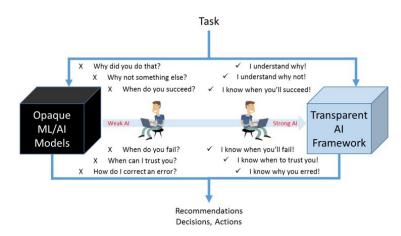
Defining some ethical principles and operationalizing them into Al systems

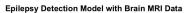
This week: transparency and explainability

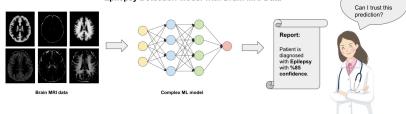
Governments and private actors are using some **truly opaque** Al algorithms to resolve critical decision-making problems.

- Hiring employees
- Assigning loans and credit scores
- Medical diagnosis
- Criminal recidivism

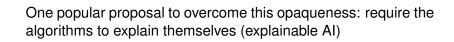
These algorithms are truly opaque: it is difficult for humans to understand why an algorithmic outcome is achieved.







But why?!

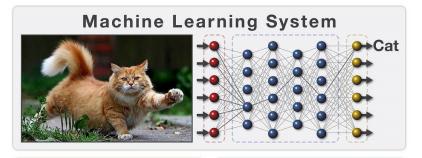


- To increase the societal acceptance of prediction-based decisions
- To establish trust in the results of these decisions
- To make these algorithms accountable to the public
- To prevent the sources of algorithmic discrimination and unfairness To legitimize the incorporation of the AI algorithms in several decision contexts
- Legal right to explanation for those affected by algorithmic decisions
- To facilitate a fruitful conversation among different stakeholders concerning the justification of using these algorithms for decision making

But what is "an explanation"

and

explainable for whom?



This is a cat.

Current Explanation

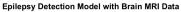
This is a cat:

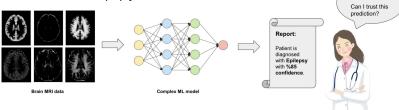
- It has fur, whiskers, and claws.
- . It has this feature:



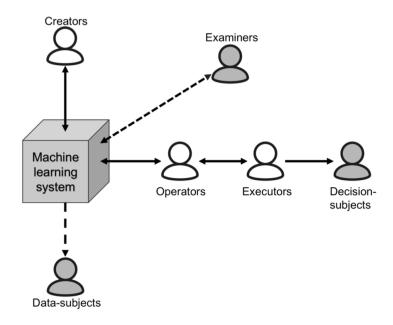


XAI Explanation



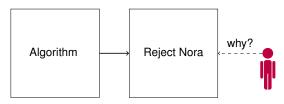


But why?!

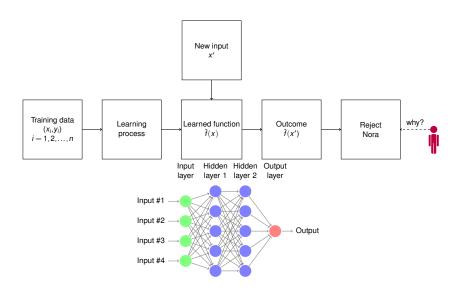


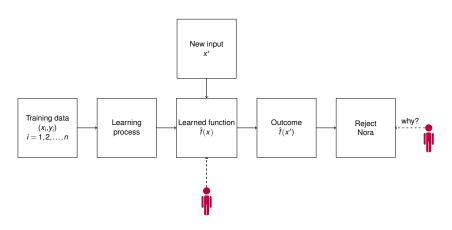
A machine-learning algorithm sifts through several job applications to recommend a hire for company X.

Nora, a competent candidate, applies for the job. Her application gets rejected by the algorithmic decision. Nora wants to know why she is rejected: she searches for an explanation.



How nice would it be if the algorithm were able to explain its decision?





What kinds of explanations do you seek?

