Ethical issues of artificial intelligence

- Artificial Intelligence raises a bunch of issues but how about the issues relating to digital society?
- Digital society where people are empowered by access to and ability to spread data. Power of Internet is from connecting people to people. How about connecting people to machines or machines to machines. Is that still something valuable that we should protect? – E.g. machines can do valuable services as well, e.g., Google search engine
- There can be other scenarios.

Privacy

- When is privacy infringed? When a person obtains information about another person. How about when a machine obtains information about another person? When the mirror in the bathroom looks at you, is that privacy violation?
- Google Ad for emails – Machine reads the contents of emails. Is that privacy violation?
- How about when it records? → raises the risk of privacy violation, therefore a privacy violation itself.
- AI is related to right to be forgotten. Google's search algorithm does not really "control" data in a way that hospitals and schools control data. It is the bots that simply crawl what is out there (even with caching, the essence is the same). The reason for data protection law is to regulate conscious data processing, the school- and hospital- style. Google bots really don't do that. Should Google be considered data controller?

Free speech 1

- How about when machines make decisions about when data to pass through? For instance, machine taking down true information for lowering reputation of a person still infringes on free expression.

- But how about PRIOR censorship? PRIOR censorship is absolutely banned reasons of (1) complete blockage (2) informing the police of "undesirable" content.

- Is submitting content to a machine prior censorship? Ex) Law: "All online postings must be checked for legality by Alphago." Is that prior censorship?

Free speech 2

- Currently, no laws obligate the companies to monitor unlawful information lest they pre-screen user created contents, killing the power of the Internet. How about making AI figure out what unlawful information is? Is that something we can accept?? LAW: NO COMPANIES SHALL LET CHILD PORNOGRAPHY COME ONTO THE SERVER → COMPANY: HAVE AI CHECK ALL CONTENTS FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

- Net neutrality bans discrimination among data. How about machine making the decisions? Is that also discrimination? For instance, can it enact EMERGENCY-MESSAGE-FIRST rule?

Intellectual property

- Copyright protects creativity. How about machine's creativity?
- Software that writes music
- Software that writes a novel
- Software that writes newspaper articles
- Should copyright be recognized in the products of these software?

One way to answer the question is equality

- It is inequality that most ethical rules try to prevent. "Thou shall not kill" does not protect the right to life but values human equality (i.e., one equal being should not take away another equal being)

- One human should not be above another. → rule against prior censorship; rule on privacy (nude person watching each other); copyright rule {Thou shall be compensated for efforts you made above others}

- Q is: Is AI like a human being?

Benefits of Mechanistic View of AI

- If we rely on robots, we do not have to put one human above another. AI will be at least fair, e.g., not subject to corruption or bribery.

- AI will serve important functions as a dice will serve important functions of fairness. But this is different from whether they should be treated like human beings? It is their non-human nature that makes them useful for fairness.

- Again, is AI "like a human being?"

One tempting answer: Free Will

- One way to answer that question is to check whether AI has FREE WILL. That arises because cars that only do what they are told to do will not be treated like humans because they have no free will.

Free will and determinism

- Do PEOPLE have free wills? Free will and determinism.
- Determinism: Where does your decision come from ? From your brain? What is the brain made of?
- If the brain is governed by the laws of physics, where is your will?
- Probability : We know for sure what % of people react in certain ways as opposed to the other.
- Compatibilism: It can be determined and yet free for the purpose of evaluation. E.g. Machine predicts how you will act. You acted according to the prediction. Is your action not subject to evaluation because it depends on machine.? .

Determined and yet "Free"

- Animals – Lions attack and eat zebras. Do lions have free will? If free will, why not discipline lions for attacking zebras. Why praise the nature of injustice? We say 'no free will' probably because we DO NOT want to punish lions.

- Children – If we don't discipline animals, why discipline children who have similar IQ. Why discipline them? → LEARNING → why do we think that learning is important? Is it because of value that we impute to them?

- Come back to Adults. Is it because of the actor's free will that we punish people for bad conduct? Other reasons?

- AI – Some have IQ of animals. Shall we discipline them as well? - IT IS UP TO US. It is not about whether they have free will or not.

There is no free will b/c AI will act in marginal situations according to human instructions

- Question of what ethical rules we must program into robots (Moral Machines, Allen &Wallach) is different from whether we shall recognize robots as morals agents, which is completely different. → in order to the former, we must go back to our own ethics e.g. Jarvis' Trolley problem https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trolley_problem http://moralmachine.mit.edu/

A Closer Look at Artificial Intelligence

- Then, the question is what shall we do with robots? Or What will we do with robots?
- Soft AI – specialized functions e.g. telerobots, Alphago
- Hard AI – thinks like a human being e.g., intelligent robots
- Soft AI → Not an ethical agent.
- Hard AI → Turing test passed. Should it be given human status? It will be given human status only if it has finite life and physically independent existence, and . . . Maybe a BIRTH DAY!

- The reason we impose responsibility on an entity is not because it acts or thinks. Where does value come from? It is because it has a life to make good of. Robots don't have a life of finite term unlike children.
- Will robots demand rights? Why would they? They have eternal lives and eternal resources, they are capable of merging. Why would they form bodies?
- AI has nothing to do with legal responsibility. Whether it has independent existence of finite life does.

It is not that AI cannot be ethical agents, it can be. But will we build AI in that way?

- Ex Machina – how is AI built?

- Microsoft's AI Twitter user – again built from big data

- To do big data, AI must be omnipresent. AI must have sensors everywhere. Much of human ethics has a lot to do with knowledge. Lack or presence of certain data becomes a reason for justifying or denouncing that robot's actions.   AI has infinite data. Ethical evaluation is impossible.