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ECS 089: Ethics in an Age of Technology

Quiz 7

November 13, 2024

1) In 2003, Nick Bostrom imagined a superintelligent robot, programmed with the seemingly innocuous goal of manufacturing:

- a. **Paper clips**
- b. Scissors
- c. Pencils
- d. iPhones

2) According to the article, research suggests that YouTube has been helping to:

- a. Sell more Google Pixel phones
- b. Teach ethics to CS students
- c. **Polarize and radicalize people**
- d. Educate young people to the need to vote

3) One of these principles is NOT part of Stuart Russell's three "principles of beneficial machines,":

- a. **The machine must not harm a human or allow a human to come to harm**
- b. The machine's only objective is to maximize the realization of human preferences.
- c. The machine is initially uncertain about what those preferences are.
- d. The ultimate source of information about human preferences is human behavior.

a) is in fact one of Asimov's three laws of robotics.

4) In standard inverse reinforcement learning, a machine tries to

- a. Adapt its database to its reward function
- b. **Learn the reward function that a human is pursuing**
- c. Teach a human that he/she is expected to pursue
- d. Teach ethics to programmers

5) The author of the article mentions an issue in Stuart Russell's principles that Stuart Russell himself did NOT consider:

- a. Our behavior is so far from being rational that it could be very hard to reconstruct our true underlying preferences
- b. Human preferences change
- c. **What about the preferences of bad people?**