CSC373 Fall'23
Embedded Ethics Module: Post-Assignment

Due Date: 11:59pm ET on Dec 6

Instructions

1. Typed assignments are preferred (e.g., PDFs created using LaTeX or Word), especially if your handwriting is possibly illegible or if you do not have access to a good quality scanner. Either way, you need to submit a single PDF named "ethics-post.pdf" on MarkUS at https://markus.teach.cs.toronto.edu/csc373-2023-09

2. Each question will be graded on a binary scale. You will receive 1 point for any reasonable answer, and 0 points otherwise.

3. You will receive 20% of the points for any question if you leave it blank (or cross off any written solution) and write "I do not know how to approach this problem." If you leave it blank but do not write this or a similar statement, you will receive 10%.

BACKSTORY

Imagine that after graduation, you end up working as a software engineer for a healthcare startup. The main product of your startup is an algorithm that reads doctors' clinical notes in free-form text and predicts if the patient has an early-stage cancer.

Q1 [1 Points] Stakeholders

Identify five stakeholders in this setting. For each stakeholder, note whether you believe they are primary or secondary. Use your imagination and try to identify stakeholders that one might miss at the first glance.

Q2 [1 Points] Ethical Issues

List three potential ethical concerns that might arise when an algorithm for this problem is deployed in the real world. You can make any reasonable assumption about how the algorithm works. You do not necessarily have to restrict yourself to the type of concerns we discussed in the module (i.e., related to fairness or distributive justice).

Q3 [1 Points] Communication

Pick one of the potential ethical concerns you identified in Q2. Phrase a question that you would ask your supervisor to help determine if this ethical concern is indeed present in your company's algorithm. Alternatively, phrase a suggestion that you would provide your supervisor to help address this concern.