

CSC311: Embedded Ethics Homework

In “[Beyond Engagement: Aligning Algorithmic Recommendations With Prosocial Goals](#)”, Jonathan Stray suggests that recommender systems might be improved by (1) shifting from engagement metrics to ‘well-being metrics’, (2) giving users greater control over their feeds, and (3) paying users for better data.

Pick one of these suggestions. In a couple of paragraphs (250-300 words), argue whether you think this suggestion helps to address some of the ethical problems around influencing others discussed in lecture. (Your answer could be yes, no, or even more nuanced than that.) In other words, does a recommender system that implements this suggestion influence its users in a more or less ethical way? Bring one of the concepts of *manipulation* or *echo chamber* into your answer.

Your assignment will be graded in the following way:

Check+: The assignment meets the required word count in a non-repetitive way, successfully uses one of the two concepts, and gives a coherent argument for a position.

Check: The assignment meets the required word count in a non-repetitive way, but it is difficult to determine its argument or position, or it fails to use one of the concepts successfully.

Check-: The assignment is incomplete; it either does not meet the required word count, or is significantly off topic, or is not comprehensible.

A check+ or check will be sufficient to get full credit.

(link to the Stray article: <https://partnershiponai.org/beyond-engagement-aligning-algorithmic-recommendations-with-prosocial-goals/>)