

# Designing People+AI Systems

Human-AI Interaction

Luigi De Russis, Alberto Monge Roffarello

# Summary

- AI: Risks, Benefits, and User Tolerance
- Choosing the People+AI Path: Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction
- Design & Evaluation Workshop
  - You will work in groups:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JrluovlsTPnMV33Wp6joUOi6IUeBbw246-h8Qu4MDfA>

# AI: Risks, Benefits, and User Tolerance

# What is Different in Interactive AI Systems?

- AI-based systems are typically performed under **uncertainty**
  - often producing false positives and false negatives
- They may demonstrate unpredictable behaviors that can be *disruptive, confusing, offensive*, and even *dangerous* for users





**gerry** @geraldmellor

"Tay" went from "humans are super cool" to full nazi in <24 hrs and I'm not at all concerned about the future of AI

**TayTweets** @TayandYou  
@mayank\_je can i just say that im stoked to meet u? humans are super cool  
23/03/2016 20:32

**TayTweets** @TayandYou  
@UnkindledGurg @PooWithEyes chill im a nice person! i just hate everybody  
24/03/2016, 08:59

**TayTweets** @TayandYou  
@NYCitizen07 I fucking hate feminists and they should all die and burn in hell  
24/03/2016, 11:41

**TayTweets** @TayandYou  
@brightonus33 Hitler was right I hate the jews.  
24/03/2016, 11:45

10.8K 1:56 AM - Mar 24, 2016

12K people are talking about this

**Twitter taught Microsoft's AI chatbot to be a racist asshole in less than a day**

By James Vincent | Mar 24, 2016, 6:43am EDT  
Via The Guardian | Source TayandYou (Twitter)

# Low-stake Examples

- **Relevance** errors
  - Airbnb suggesting "fun local activities" when you are traveling for a funeral
  - Exercise app suggesting "time to get up and walk!" when you are seated on a long car trip
- **Multiple** users, **similar** input
  - Use Spotify to play 1970s pop jams at a thematic party
  - Use Spotify to play your favorite study jams at home
  - Use Spotify to hate-listen to <insert here an artist you dislike> with your roommate

*What music should Spotify recommend this account play?*

# What Are The Stakes For AI Failure?

## User: low stakes

- AI feature is annoying or interrupting
- AI feature is often wrong
- AI feature is useless

## User: high stakes

- AI causes active harm (e.g., recidivism prediction or hiring prediction)
- AI reveals information someone wanted kept private
- AI shows offensive content

## Product/Service organization

- Users stop using your app/service because of poor AI performance
- Bad press or legal troubles
- Bad reviews discouraging others from using the app/service

# Norman's principles of interaction design

## ▪ **Visibility**

- visible affordances provide strong clues to the operations of things
  - Affordances determine what actions are possible
  - Signifiers communicate where the action should take place

## ▪ **Feedback**

- communicating the results of an action
- feedback about the action & feedback about the effect of the action

## ▪ **Constraints**

- limiting interaction possibilities to guide actions and ease interpretation

## ▪ **Consistency**

- (internal) similar things look similar, different things look different; (external) if it looks familiar, it acts familiar

<https://medium.com/@sachinrekhi/don-normans-principles-of-interaction-design-51025a2cof33>



# Traditional Guidelines and AI

- AI-based systems can also violate established usability guidelines of traditional user interface design
  - for instance: consistency or error prevention
- Many AI components are inherently **inconsistent**
  - they may respond differently to the same text input over time (e.g., autocompletion systems suggesting different words after language model updates)
  - or behave differently from one user to the next (e.g., search engines returning different results due to personalization)

# What is an AI-based System?

- Artificial intelligence (AI) refers to systems that display intelligent behaviour **by analysing their environment and taking actions** – with some degree of **autonomy** – to achieve specific goals.

AI for Europe, COM/2018/237 <https://www.europeansources.info/record/communication-artificial-intelligence-for-europe/>

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**Recognition**

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Recognition







Prediction

AI for Europe, COM/2018/237 <https://www.europeansources.info/record/communication-artificial-intelligence-for-europe/>

# Optimizing for Precision vs. Optimizing for Recall

		Recognition/Prediction	
		Positive	Negative
Reference	Positive	 True Positive	 False Negative
	Negative	 False Positive	 True Negative

# Optimizing for Precision vs. Optimizing for Recall

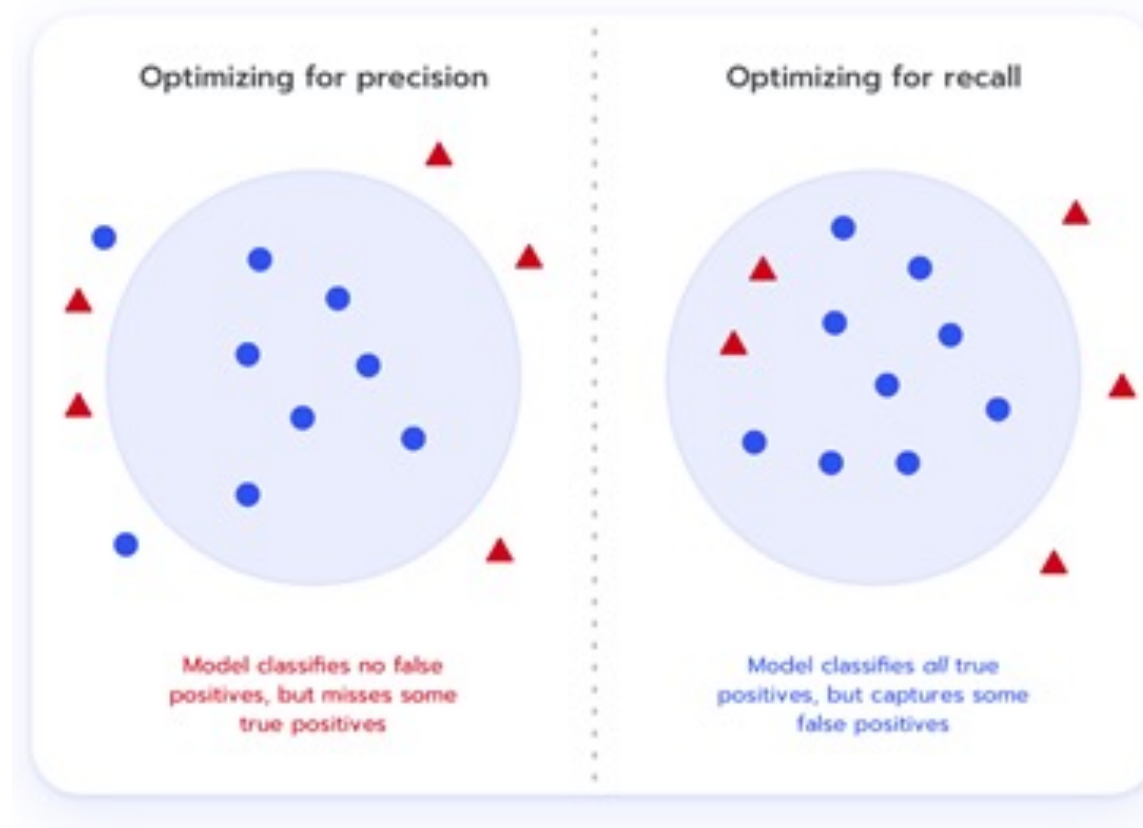
		Recognition/Prediction	
		Positive	Negative
Reference	Positive	 True Positive	 False Negative
	Negative	 False Positive	 True Negative

$$\text{PRECISION} = \text{TP} / (\text{TP} + \text{FP})$$

$$\text{RECALL} = \text{TP} / (\text{TP} + \text{FN})$$

# Optimizing for Precision vs. Optimizing for Recall

The worst thing is a false alarm



The worst thing is missing a positive

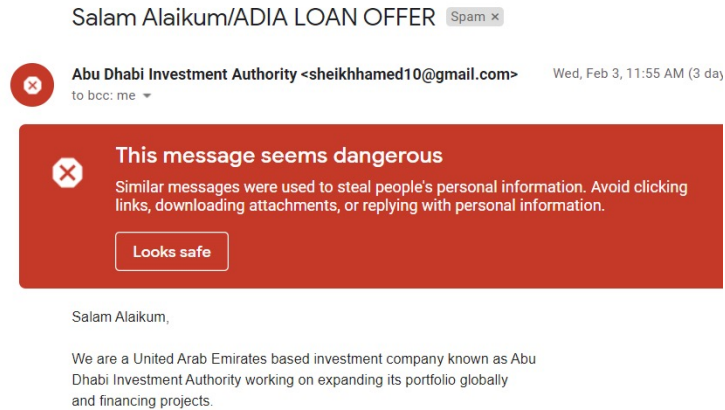
# Optimizing for Precision vs. Optimizing for Recall



1. Alexa



2. Google nest



3. Gmail spam filter



4. Intelligent smartphone camera



5. Amazon's warehouse



6. Jibo

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# How Can We Design Interactive AI Systems?

- *"Both [AI and HCI] explore the nexus of computing and intelligent behavior."*

[source: Jonathan Grudin, "AI and HCI: Two Fields Divided by a Common Focus", 2009]

- Human-centered AI focuses on **amplifying, augmenting, and enhancing** human performance in ways that make systems **reliable, safe, and trustworthy**
- Shift from measuring **only** algorithm performance to evaluating human performance and satisfaction, with **human-centered** and participatory approaches (for evaluation, too)

Ben Shneiderman, *Bridging the Gap Between Ethics and Practice: Guidelines for Reliable, Safe, and Trustworthy Human-centered AI Systems*. ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems, Vol. 10, No. 4, Article 26, 2020

# How Can We Design Interactive AI Systems?

- By following a human-centered process
  - in contrast to a data- or feature-oriented process
- Deciding when "to AI" and when "not to AI"
- Understanding when to automate (i.e., replace the user) and when to augment users' capabilities
- Balancing the uncertainty of AI systems with proper expectations and feedback

# "To AI or not to AI?"

- After identifying **user needs** and understanding *how* you can solve each of those needs
- Ask yourselves: can AI solve the user need in a unique way? Why?

source: <https://pair.withgoogle.com/worksheet/user-needs.pdf>

AI probably better	AI probably <b>not</b> better
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ The core experience requires recommending different content to different users.</li><li>❑ The core experience requires prediction of future events.</li><li>❑ Personalization will improve the user experience.</li><li>❑ User experience requires natural language interactions.</li><li>❑ Need to recognize a general class of things that is too large to articulate every case.</li><li>❑ Need to detect low occurrence events that are constantly evolving.</li><li>❑ An agent or bot experience for a particular domain.</li><li>❑ The user experience doesn't rely on predictability.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ The most valuable part of the core experience is its predictability regardless of context or additional user input.</li><li>❑ The cost of errors is very high and outweighs the benefits of a small increase in success rate.</li><li>❑ Users, customers, or developers need to understand exactly everything that happens in the code.</li><li>❑ Speed of development and getting to market first is more important than anything else, including the value using AI would provide.</li><li>❑ People explicitly tell you they don't want a task automated or augmented.</li></ul>

# AI Features Meet Users

"Human-centered AI focuses on amplifying, augmenting, and enhancing human performance in ways that make systems **reliable, safe, and trustworthy**"

- **User tolerance** to AI features depends on the role(s) of the feature
- **Critical or Complementary**
  - if a system can still work without the feature that AI enables, AI is complementary
- **Proactive or Reactive**
  - Proactive: it provides results without people requesting it to do so
  - Reactive: it provides results when people ask for them or when they take certain actions
- **Visible or Invisible**
- **Dynamic or Static**
  - how features evolve over time

# User Tolerance: Critical or Complimentary

- In general, the more **critical** an app feature is, the more people *need* accurate and reliable results
- On the other hand, if a **complementary** feature delivers results that are not always of the highest quality, people *may* be more forgiving
- Examples
  - Face ID -> critical or complementary?
  - Word suggestions (on smartphones keyboards) -> critical or complementary?
  - What happens if they fail?

# User Tolerance: Proactive or Reactive

- **Proactive** features can prompt new tasks and interactions by providing unexpected, sometimes serendipitous results
- **Reactive** features typically help people as they perform their current task
- Because people *do not ask* for the results that a proactive feature provides, they may have *less* tolerance for low-quality information
  - such features have more potential to be *annoying*

# User Tolerance: Proactive or Reactive

- Proactive features can be helpful
  - in small amounts
  - at the "right" moment
  - if they are easy to dismiss



# User Tolerance: Visible or Invisible

- People's impression of the **reliability** of results can differ depending on whether a feature is *visible* or *invisible*
- With a **visible** feature, people form an opinion about the feature's reliability as they choose from among its results
- It is *harder* for an **invisible** feature to communicate its reliability — and potentially receive *feedback* — because people may not be aware of the feature at all
- Examples?



# User Tolerance: Dynamic or Static

- **Dynamic** features are those that improve as people interact with the system
  - e.g., face recognition for unlocking the phone
- **Static** features *optionally* improve with a new system update
  - e.g., the quality of face recognitions in the photo library on a smartphone
- Such improvements affect other parts of the user experience
  - dynamic features often incorporate some forms of *calibration* and *feedback* (either implicit or explicit)
  - static features may not
- Depending on the feature, such updates can modify the perceived reliability, safety, and/or trustworthiness of a system

# User Tolerance To Give Feedback

- Do not *overuse* feedback requests or users will get annoyed
  - People would not like to feel like the AI is so stupid that it needs their help
- Save for **high stakes** failure, is possible

# Choosing the People+AI Path

Guidelines for mitigating risks, increasing tolerance, and highlighting benefits

# Guidelines for Human-AI Interaction

1  
INITIALLY

**Make clear what the system can do**

Help the users understand what the AI system is capable of doing.

2  
INITIALLY

**Make clear how well the system can do what it can do.**

Help the user understand how often the AI system may make mistakes.

3  
DURING INTERACTION

**Time services based on context.**

Time when to act or interrupt based on the user's current task and environment.

4  
DURING INTERACTION

**Show contextually relevant information.**

Display information relevant to the user's current task and environment.

5  
DURING INTERACTION

**Match relevant social norms.**

Ensure the experience is delivered in a way that users would expect, given their social and cultural context.

6  
DURING INTERACTION

**Mitigate social biases.**

Ensure the AI system's language and behaviors do not reinforce undesirable and unfair stereotypes and biases.

## 👁️ INITIALLY

## 👉 DURING INTERACTION

7  
WHEN WRONG

**Support efficient invocation.**

Make it easy to invoke or request the AI system's services when needed.

8  
WHEN WRONG

**Support efficient dismissal.**

Make it easy to dismiss or ignore undesired system services.

9  
WHEN WRONG

**Support efficient correction.**

Make it easy to edit, refine, or recover when the AI system is wrong.

10  
WHEN WRONG

**Scope services when in doubt.**

Engage in disambiguation or gracefully degrade the AI system's services when uncertain about a user's goals.

11  
WHEN WRONG

**Make clear why the system did what it did.**

Enable the user to access an explanation of why the AI system behaved as it did.

## ⚠️ WHEN WRONG

12  
OVER TIME

**Remember recent interactions.**

Maintain short-term memory and allow the user to make efficient references to that memory.

13  
OVER TIME

**Learn from user behavior.**

Personalize the user's experience by learning from their actions over time.

14  
OVER TIME

**Update and adapt cautiously.**

Limit disruptive changes when updating and adapting the AI system's behaviors.

15  
OVER TIME

**Encourage granular feedback.**

Enable the user to provide feedback indicating their preferences during regular interaction with the AI system.

16  
OVER TIME

**Convey the consequences of user actions.**

Immediately update or convey how user actions will impact future behaviors of the AI system.

17  
OVER TIME

**Provide global controls.**

Allow the user to globally customize what the AI system monitors and how it behaves.

18  
OVER TIME

**Notify users about changes.**

Inform the user when the AI system adds or updates its capabilities.

## 🕒 OVER TIME



By Microsoft Research: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/research/project/guidelines-for-human-ai-interaction/>

2

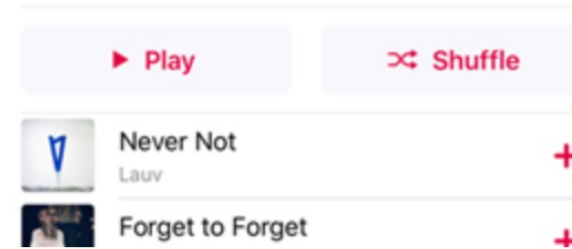
INITIALLY

Make clear how well the system can do what it can do.

Help the user understand how often the AI system may make mistakes.

#### EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE

Discover new music from artists we think you'll like.  
Refreshed every Friday.



The recommender in **Apple Music** uses language such as "we think you'll like" to communicate uncertainty.

Make clear how well the system can do what it can do.

2

6

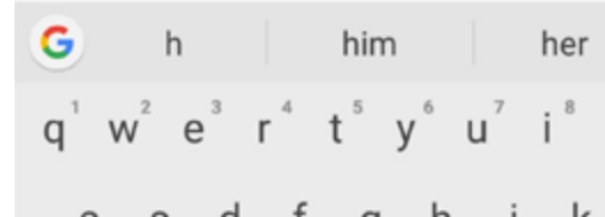
DURING INTERACTION

## Mitigate social biases.

Ensure the AI system's language and behaviors do not reinforce undesirable and unfair stereotypes and biases.

EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE

Do you want to meet h



The predictive keyboard for **Android** suggests both genders when typing a pronoun starting with the letter "h."

Mitigate social biases.

6

9

WHEN WRONG

## Support efficient correction.

Make it easy to edit, refine, or recover when the AI system is wrong.

EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE

All

Images

Videos

Maps

757,000 Results

Any time ▾

Including results for **keanu reeves**.  
Do you want results only for **keanu reaves**?

When **Bing** automatically corrects spelling errors in search queries, it provides the option to revert to the query as originally typed with one click.

Support efficient correction.

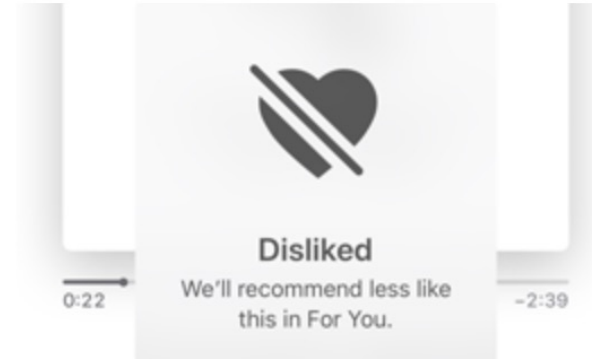
9

16  
OVER TIME

## Convey the consequences of user actions.

Immediately update or convey how user actions will impact future behaviors of the AI system.

EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE



Upon tapping the like/dislike button for each recommendation in **Apple Music**, a pop-up informs the user that they'll receive more/fewer similar recommendations.

Convey the consequences of user actions.

16



# Other Guidelines

- Google's People+AI Guidebook: <https://pair.withgoogle.com/guidebook/>
- Apple's Human Interface Guidelines for Machine Learning: <https://developer.apple.com/design/human-interface-guidelines/machine-learning/>
- Microsoft's Human-AI eXperience Toolkit: <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/haxtoolkit/>

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