

News Item

Discussing the Ethics, Challenges, and Best Practices of Machine Learning in Journalism | Medium

By Marianne Bouchart June 26, 2018

> Machine learning is a subset of AI and one of the biggest technology revolutions hitting the news industry right now. Many journalists are getting excited about it because of the amount of work they could get done using machine learning algorithms (to scrape, analyse or track data for example). They enable them to do tasks they couldn't before, but it also raises a lot of questions about ethics and the 'reliance on robots'.



BuzzFeed's 'Hidden Spy Planes'

<u>Peter Aldhous</u> is the brain behind BuzzFeed News's machine learning project '<u>Hidden Spy Planes</u>'. The investigation revealed how US airspace is buzzing with surveillance aircraft operated for law enforcement and the military, from planes tracking drug traffickers to those testing new spying technology. <u>Simon Rogers</u> is data editor for Google (who's also been contributing to some great work on machine learning, including ProPublica's <u>Documenting Hate</u> project which provides trustworthy facts on the details and frequency of hate crimes).

We asked both of them to sit down for a chat on <u>the Data Journalism Awards Slack</u> <u>team</u>.

Source: <u>Discussing the ethics, challenges, and best practices of machine learning in</u> <u>journalism Medium</u>