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reflection

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the science of making computer systems able to accomplish tasks that would otherwise require human intelligence. AI was created to have human intelligence, but remain neutral no matter the task or question. But is artificial intelligence as unbiased as it was meant to be? Or does it contain race, gender, or even age bias? This was the question that me and my group members set up to answer. We first decided on the prompts that we were going to use. And after deliberation, we decided to settle for the gender-neutral prompts: writer, firefighter, and engineer. We then generated hundreds of AI images from sites like Bing and Craiyon v3, and after classing them into distinct categories, we came to an answer: AI images AI-generating websites were biased in gender and age.

The most flagrant discovery that we made during this research was the age bias. In almost every AI-generated image, for both Bing and Craiyon v3, the people depicted in them were between 18 and 30 years old. Rare were the times when a middle-aged or older person was shown, and when they were, they were only males. It should also be noted that the entirety of

images containing female engineers portray them as between 18 and 30. And with the age bias also came unrealistic beauty standards. In the images created by Bing, every single individual was beautiful. They were all on the level of superstars. The women did not have a single imperfection and the men, especially firemen, were depicted to have Olympian bodies. Women were also surprisingly overrepresented, being the majority in the AI images but being the minority in the real world.

What I learned while doing this assignment was that even though AI is supposed to be equal, even inanimate things are not free from human bias. The bias the AI demonstrated in those images is from the biased information the humans made available to it. Solutions to this problem would be to either get rid of bias in humans, which is impossible or to regulate what information is fed to the AI, which sounds and can be disastrous. Anyone with the ability to interfere with what information is fed to the AI could easily make major changes to it, be it to make the AI more liberal, republican, or even racist and bigoted.

On the other hand, the new skill that I learned is the ability to make a lab report. This was my first real lab report, starting from scratch and about a topic I was not entirely familiar with. I also learned how to do pie charts and class the information collected for the report. And while I was capable of doing all of those things before, putting it into practice is a way to confirm those skills and to broaden my knowledge. I believe that all of these skills will come in handy later, as I highly doubt that this will be the last lab report that I will have to do in my university career.