

About the ABOUT ML Project

ABOUT ML (Annotation and Benchmarking on Understanding and Transparency of Machine learning Lifecycles) is a multi-year, multi-stakeholder initiative led by PAI. This initiative aims to bring together a diverse range of perspectives to develop, test, and implement machine learning system documentation practices at scale.

The initiative is an ongoing, iterative process designed to co-evolve with the rapidly advancing field of AI development and deployment. In recognition that documentation is both an artifact and a process, ABOUT ML is structured into an artifact workstream and a process workstream. In 2020, ABOUT ML will produce one resource for each workstream ... [The workstreams are documented as goals in this StratML rendition.]

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Partnership on AI (PAI)

Stakeholder(s):

ABOUT ML Steering Committee :

The ABOUT ML Steering Committee is comprised of around 30 experts, researchers and practitioners recruited from a diverse set of PAI Partner organizations. The Steering Committee guides the process of updating ABOUT ML drafts based on the public comments submitted and new developments in research and practice. They vote to approve new releases by “rough consensus” commonly used by other multi-stakeholder working groups. They convene 1-3 times a year, depending on the volume of proposed changes and velocity of change of research and practice. To allow for as many diverse perspectives as possible, PAI limits participation in the Steering Committee to up to 2 people per organization, with 1 vote per organization. As needed, PAI will periodically reopen applications to the Steering Committee and recruit more members.

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AML Contributors :

Our goal for 2020 is to design testable pilots in a multi stakeholder manner. To make this process more tractable, we've broken this into two different workstreams... we invite you to share your thoughts, comments, and feedback on any that you are interested in.

Vision

Responsible AI

Mission

To develop, test, and implement machine learning system documentation practices at scale

Values

Responsibility: An ongoing multistakeholder initiative to enable responsible AI by increasing transparency and accountability with machine learning system documentation.

Documentation: Documentation for machine learning systems can contribute to responsible AI development by bringing more transparency into “black box” models and by bridging the gap between increasingly pervasive AI ethics principles and day-to-day operations and practice. Documentation can shape practice because by asking the right question at the right time in the AI development process, teams will become more likely to identify potential issues and take appropriate mitigating actions.

Transparency

Accountability

1. Database

Create a database of documentation questions.

Artifact Workstream: A database of documentation questions, adapted by the domain of the machine learning application

1.1. Examples

Gather feedback on deployed examples.

See <https://www.partnershiponai.org/about-ml/#:~:text=About%20the%20Project,stakeholder%20initiative%20led%20by%20PAI.>

1.2. Questions

Gather questions in a database.

Provide input at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HYIWBos7AXxV4TRvWkK_EF6iFFWNjk8NEevlh1JC9Bk/edit#gid=845089852

2. Process

Solve the challenge of how documentation can be created at scale within an organization.

Question database for comments — https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HYIWBos7AXxV4TRvWkK_EF6iFFWNjk8NEevlh1JC9Bk/edit#gid=845089852

2.1. Guidance

Develop a guide to initiating and scaling a documentation pilot.

Process Workstream: A research-based guide to initiating and scaling a documentation pilot.

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3. Future Work

3.1. Pilots

Design ABOUT ML pilots.

3.2. Testing

Run and test pilots.

3.3. Implementation & Scaling

Implement and scale what works.

Administrative Information

Start Date:

End Date:

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