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A Plea for User-Centred RL

Much RL research naturally focusses on the methods and algorithms themselves, as this is ultimately the core of our field. As such, the whole picture of a system including its design, development and deployment cycle with advantages and disadvantages is - however understandably - left out of scope of the typical research paper. In this talk, I will go over what this might obfuscate, and what consequences this has for the evaluation and applicability of RL in practice, using practical examples. Subsequently, I will make a plea for starting at the end, i.e., how a system is used in practice, the requirements that entails, and the way we might more fairly report results.