ZEERAK TALAT | 20.02.2020 | FREE SPEECH REGULATION AND THE POLITICS OF HATE
UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

POINTS OF FAILURE: THE PROMISE OF ABUSIVE LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES

IMAGINATIONS

- Designer
  - Address marginalization processes as they occur online
  - Address complex and nuanced issues (e.g. stereotyping, vilification)
  - Identify multiple forms of abuse
  - Encode subjectivity into data
  - Encode ideological positions into data
- Model
  - Operate on the assumption of pre-existing equality
  - Identify correlations between tokens and labels
  - Unable to distinguish forms
  - Objective functions don’t reward subjectivity
  - Encode simplified ideological positions into models

MODELING NORMATIVITY

- Modeling normative values
- The God trick

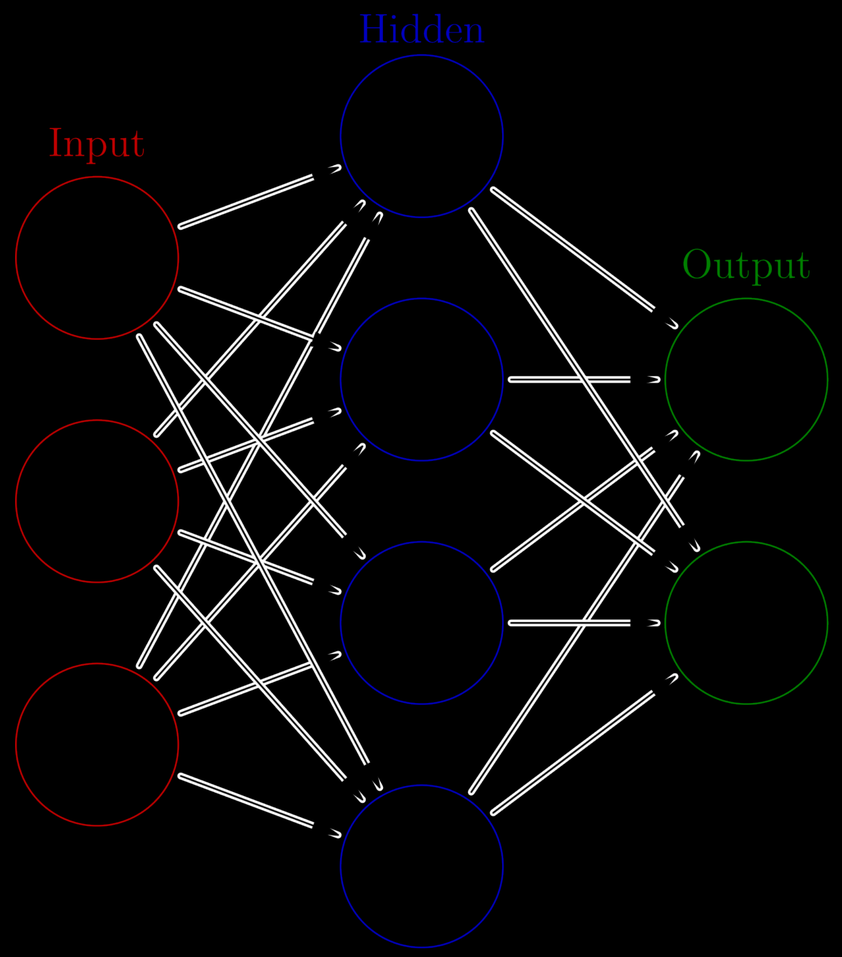
DESIGNING NORMATIVITY

- Data sources
- Context
- Label Selection
- Annotation guidelines
- Annotation processes

1. uses a sexist or racial slur.
2. attacks a minority.
3. seeks to silence a minority.
4. criticizes a minority (without a well founded argument).
5. promotes, but does not directly use, hate speech or violent crime.
6. criticizes a minority and uses a straw man argument.
7. blatantly misrepresents truth or seeks to distort views on a minority with unfounded claims.
8. shows support of problematic hash tags. E.g. “#BanIslam”, “#whoriental”, “#whitegenocide”
9. negatively stereotypes a minority.
10. defends xenophobia or sexism.
11. contains a screen name that is offensive, as per the previous criteria, the tweet is ambiguous (at best), and the tweet is on a topic that satisfies any of the above criteria.

MODELING NORMATIVITY

- Linear
- Non-linear
- Word Embeddings
- Contextual embeddings



REMEDIES

- Deciding on norms
  - Individual
  - Community
    - Should any community be imposed norms?
- Bias mitigation methods
- New metaphors