Project PROMETHEUS

Using machine learning to re-image the relationship between scientific research and its distribution.

All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.

- Arthur Schopenhauer

How does Project Prometheus wade through the myre of uncertainty to truth?
THE VISION
Providing users with science based responses to queries. Not simply with answers to questions, but through a conversation that leads to a deeper understanding of a topic or idea.

HOW PROJECT PROMETHEUS WORKS

Stage 1: Data Assembly
To begin, data is grabbed from an existing body of academic sources. The goal of this first stage is to create a 'shortlist' of sources to perform an analysis on. Items here are sorted by relevance to the original query.

Stage 2: Data Analysis
Once the 'shortlist' is assembled, sources can be sorted based on a relevance or sameness score. The more a claim is represented in the shortlist the more prominent it will be in the graph of sources.

Stage 3: Textualization
The final and most difficult step in this process is actually providing the questioner with a digestible response. Here, a tool similar to GPT3 would be used to produce the final product.
Project prometheus itself is simply a tool for making academic research more accessible. This fits the definition of flourishing outlined through aspects of community outlined in VanderWeele “On the Promotion of Human Flourishing”. At a base level this technology simply provides people with a deeper understanding of an academic or scientific conversation. However, the true impact on human flourishing that this design incites is how it would change is that of how academic research is conducted. Altering the distribution system of academic information is simply one way to change the system of scientific and academic work conducted. Let me explain how. The standard outlet one must go through to publish scientific information is through a journal. Journals serve a very important role in our current information distribution system, they ensure credibility of the sources. While there still are cases of false finding being published, generally journals do a good job of ensuring that only robust data and conclusions get published. However, this system isn’t perfect, journals have operating costs and have to make money which is an issue because this ultimately affects the research and science that is being conducted. Journals have a greater desire to publish studies that find where the hypotheses are found to be true rather than false, research which is negative conclusive draws less readers. However, both affirmative and negative studies are just as important to building robust scientific dialogues and here is where Project Prometheus inserts itself. Project Prometheus divides the roles served by journals, distribution and credibility. By cross-referencing results with previously conducted research Project Prometheus replicates the bruder of credibility which journals provide. This would shift the emphasis of research away from ‘interesting’ and ‘clickable’ conclusions to making scientific literature more representative of truths. This upstream effect combined with the ability to provide individuals with the means to verify information, is flourishing.