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Today's View

Mandarin Corner: Adaptive learning

Adaptive learning, one of the most promising flexible learning methodologies, enables tutors to know students' exact weaknesses and helps them to improve, based on timely feedback. It leverages advanced technologies to change from teacher-centered approach to student-centered approach to help students improve their efficiency. It's more like providing a personalized trainer to every individual at a mass scale, so that students can learn at their own pace.

According to a report by **Grand View Research**, the global smart education and learning market size is expected to reach USD 423 billion by 2025. In China, Shanghai based **Yixue Squirrel AI Learning** has successfully developed China's first AI adaptive learning engine based on advanced algorithms with complete proprietary intellectual property rights. It provides students with an AI-powered adaptive learning system which ingests and parses all middle school textbooks into a cross-disciplinary knowledge graph with 30,000 academic concepts.

Its intelligent adaptive teaching engine uses many algorithms such as the genetic algorithm, neural network technology, machine learning, graph theory, probabilistic graph model, logistic regression model, knowledge space theory, information theory, and data mining and so on. Through these algorithms, the system plans the best learning path to maximize the learning efficiency, recommends the most suitable learning content based on the

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Mobile wallets search for new ways to ease KYC pain

Mobile wallet firms are trying to put in place customer identification processes to adhere to the August 31 deadline when the full Know Your Customer (KYC) mandate kicks in. This is the last date that the Reserve Bank of India has set to capture the complete details of wallet customers.

In Short
- **Digital KYC** allows for user on-boarding in a couple of minutes, but once the process goes physical, it may take a few days
- **Even for** video KYC, multiple concerns regarding internet connectivity and customer awareness remain

- ₹250 Cost of KYC for each customer
- ₹2,500 or Cost of KYC that Paytm has estimated for its 10 crore user base
- 50% Amount of identification work that is expected to be cut via video KYC

Source – The Economic Times

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individual preferences, learning habits and dynamically evaluate students' ability level in real time.

Squirrel AI Learning is also China's first AI Company to apply AI adaptive learning technology to K12 education. Recently, Squirrel AI Learning has established a joint Lab for AI Intelligent adaptive education with the **Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Science.**

Based in Beijing, **TAL Educational group (TAL)** carries out R&D on personalized learning and identifies ways to leverage AI to increase the quality of distance education. It experiments with giving each teacher an 'emotional score' measuring the engagement of students in distant classrooms to improve instructor's performance. TAL's adaptive learning platform uses big data analysis to measure student levels of proficiency and then to prescribe the most useful learning activities. This adaptive technology enables a truly personalized learning.

With increased technological advancements, we believe that adaptive learning has the potential to spur new exemplars in the education industry by making the learning experience more personal and customized.

Today's News

RBI to examine concerns over data localization rule: Government

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will examine concerns around its strict data localisation rules that require storing of customer data exclusively in India without creating mirror sites overseas, the government said. The RBI in April last year asked payment firms to ensure their data are stored exclusively on local servers, setting a tight six-month deadline for compliance.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal held extensive consultations with the tech industry and e-commerce companies, a statement by his ministry said. "All the companies who were represented in this meeting put forth their concerns related to RBI data storage requirements and processing related guidelines issued by the RBI. Deputy Governor of RBI, BP Kanungo, assured the industry representatives that the RBI will look into this," it said.

Source – The Economic Times　　READ MORE

Cognizant to acquire Zenith Technologies for IoT strength

Cognizant said it would acquire Zenith Technologies for an undisclosed value to strengthen its internet of things (IoT) capabilities and gain life sciences domain expertise. This is the first acquisition announced by the IT services major after Brian Humphries took charge as the chief executive officer. Zenith Technologies, an Ireland headquartered life sciences manufacturing technology Services Company, specializes in implementing digital technologies to manage, control and optimize drug and medical device production for operational efficiency and regulatory compliance.

Source – The Economic Times　　READ MORE

This News Letter has been prepared with the assistance of G Balakrishna and Hema Kumar

Truecaller users to get a voice call feature soon

Truecaller will soon launch a voice calling feature in its app, the company announced. The feature is going to be for Android users first. The in-app voice over Internet protocol (VoIP)-based feature would let users make free, high quality, low latency and quick to connect audio calls through Wi-Fi or mobile data connectivity.

Truecaller's VoIP calling feature is now being rolled out in a staged manner and will soon be made available to all app users on the Android platform. The call directory app crossed 100 million daily users mark in India in February. The company attracts over 60% of its global user base from India alone.

Source – Mint

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Nvidia boosts self-driving AI business with Volvo trucks deal

Sweden's AB Volvo is joining forces with Nvidia Corp to develop artificial intelligence (AI) used in self-driving trucks, in a boost for the U.S. chipmaker that was dropped by Tesla Inc last year. The agreement announced by Nvidia and Volvo, after Daimler AG, is a long-term partnership spanning several years.

Work will begin immediately in Santa Clara, California, and Gothenburg, Sweden. Volvo, which last year demonstrated its first cabin-less autonomous truck, Vera, said the partnership would develop a flexible, scalable self-driving system, which is planned to be used first in pilot schemes before commercial deployment.

Source – Reuters

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Public cloud services revenue in India to grow 24% in 2019: Gartner

The public cloud services revenue in India is projected to total $2.4 billion in 2019, an increase of 24.3 per cent from 2018, according to a study by Gartner. Although India's revenue represents 1.2 per cent of the global public cloud services total in 2019, India ranks among the nine countries whose growth rate will be higher than the global average growth rate (16 per cent). India is also on pace to record the third-highest growth rate in 2019, after China (33 per cent) and Indonesia (29 per cent), taking into consideration the fact that their revenue base is much smaller than those of mature markets, it said.

"The shift from 'cloud first' to a 'cloud only' model is pushing organisations in India to increase their spending on public cloud services, to advance their digital business initiatives," said Sid Nag, research vice-president at Gartner. "Disinvestments in new data centres are also one of the early signs of this move."

Source – BusinessLine

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Dunzo bets on its B2B offering for future expansion

Dunzo is betting on its newly launched business-to-business (B2B) offering to scale up transactions to 25 million monthly over the next year, the Google-backed hyper-local delivery startup's chief executive said. It clocked one million transactions a month in October.

The company also aims to strengthen product search on the app by partnering with various merchants. The aim is to expand coverage of physical retail stores on the app, as it moves toward strengthening product search, where users search for a particular product or products. This currently constitutes 25-30% of Dunzo's usage, says Kabeer Biswas, co-founder and CEO, adding that it speeds up the transaction process on the app, rather than directing users towards a store that lists those products.

Source – The Economic Times

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Postman secures $50M funding led by CRV, Nexus Venture Partners

Bengaluru-based API development environment provider Postman has secured $50 million in fresh funding led by Silicon Valley-based investor CRV along with participation from Nexus Venture Partners. The deal will see Devdutt Yellurkar, General Partner at CRV, join the board of directors at Postman.

The company, which claims it has over 7 million users on its platform across 300,000 companies, plans to utilise the fresh funding to accelerate its product development roadmap, sign up more enterprise customers and build better customer support for its global clients in the coming months. The latest round brings the total capital raised by Postman to $58 million, with the company having raised $7 million in its Series A round led by Nexus Venture Partners in October 2016 and $1 million in seed funding from the same investor in May 2015.

Source – The Economic Times

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India has propelled innovative ideas: WhatsApp

India has propelled innovative ideas that impact society and the economy, messaging platform WhatsApp said. India has proven ability to propel innovative ideas that are making significant impact on the society and the economy. "We at WhatsApp are proud to have a role in helping the next generation of innovators use technology to help improve lives in India and around the world," Abhijit Bose, Head of WhatsApp India, said here.

Invest India, a government initiative, and WhatsApp announced the winners of the Startup India-WhatsApp Grand Challenge in which five start-ups were awarded around Rs 35 lakh each.

Source – BusinessLine

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Bajaj Auto in talks to back cycle-rental Co. Yulu

Bajaj Auto is in advanced discussions to pick up a stake in Bengaluru-based bicycle and low-speed electric scooter rental startup Yulu as part of its ongoing funding round of over $15-20 million, according to two sources familiar with the matter. The Pune-based two-wheeler manufacturer is in talks to invest $6-8 million in the current round as it looks to ride on the fast growing urban mobility space.

"Bajaj is currently doing due diligence on the company and the deal may close in the coming weeks," said one of the sources mentioned earlier.

Source – The Economic Times

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