

Title:

Meta Align: A Responsible Computing Investigation on Image Metadata Sharing

Abstract:

The amount of images that currently exist online are now on the order of trillions, and each contain potentially concerning metadata embedded into them. This includes, but is not limited to: GPS location data, time stamps, and device make and model. While image metadata may not seem important as the actual image itself, in aggregate this data has crucial privacy, autonomy, and consent concerns. We believe this data to be of interest to those working towards responsible technology, and have designed and implemented a prototype to give control of image metadata use to the individual. This report will analyze the different groups of people that are impacted by image metadata, conflicts in the space, and discuss the theoretical motivators for designing a more responsible system. It will also outline the technical choices, trade-offs, and limitations of our solution and other potential solutions.