Facebook is Creating an AI Assistant For Minecraft

This makes it easier for an AI to accomplish their task. The Facebook team believes that even if their AI system does not succeed in a lot of tasks, it can still be useful. "We believe that we can build a useful assistant without having to be able to succeed in every single request," they say.

It is still difficult. Understanding the language of everyday life is one of the challenges. The Facebook team imagines the following request:

PLAYER: Build an impressive 15-block tower and then put a huge smiley on top. Okay

This seemingly easy task requires a surprising amount of information. The person who assists needs to understand the concept of a tower and the steps to construct it. They should also know that 15 blocks are a measurement of the tower's height, and what "15" signifies. The assistant must also know the term smiley and how to build it, and what it means to put it on top.

However, the possibilities for an AI to learn are huge. If Facebook can elicit enough human assistance it could ask humans to assist it in learning.

And Facebook is committing itself to the challenge of developing the AI to improve itself. Ayaka nihei One of the most common criticisms about AI systems is their inability to master new tasks beyond those they've been trained for and for which data has been collected and processed. But the researchers think the Minecraft environment is a perfect environment to develop this type of learning.

It's an interesting piece of work that sketches out an ambitious goal for Facebook. It's early days. This work is described by the team as a "call for arms".

However, an early version of the assistant is available for ordinary users to begin experimenting with. It is available to download here.