Google AI Code of Conduct (Case Study)

- Is this code of conduct something you agree with?
  - Some things should apply to the whole company, not just the AI research group
    - E.g. there should be rules on gathering information on people, incorporate privacy design principles
  - Some parts are meaningless e.g. not violating social norms. What does that mean?
  - Good that they have a list of things they won’t pursue
  - Good that they actually have a code of conduct specific to AI research
  - Lacks tangibility, is this a public relations stunt
  - Who decides good or bad? Google? Society?
  - Safety for lawyers to say that they did or did not violate the code of conduct (vagueness helps here)

- Did Google violate their own code of conduct?
  - Yes (but some of these pre-date the code of conduct)
  - Examples from class:
    - Google collected data on children and was fined
    - Had a covert military contract (Project Maven)
    - Restricted Google search in China (Or is this respecting international norms?)
    - Smart speakers recording background conversations
    - Gender bias in search engine
    - Google using dominance to close out other search engines in EU [this is not specific to AI]
    - Be socially beneficial (broken multiple times)
How can Google be held accountable?
  - Its employees can hold Google accountable
  - Have the government set up laws that are enforced or take over the business as a public sector company
  - Govt audits e.g SEC. Where do you get the auditors?