

Stanford eCorner Disability Inclusivity in AI Data 12-10-2022

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Microsoft Chief Accessibility Officer Jenny Lay-Flurrie emphasizes the importance of ethically gathering inclusive data for artificial intelligence projects, which she says must include people with disabilities. She cites the Speech Accessibility Project, a collaboration between five of the world's largest tech companies and the University of Illinois to gather data to improve AI speech recognition for people with a range of diverse speech patterns and disabilities.



Transcript

- I think we all know that artificial intelligence 00:00:05,310 is based on data.. It's based on a lot of data, billions of data points that then give you the ability to have machine learning and intelligence coming out of it.. It's gotta be ethically done, it's got to be thoughtful, it's got to be inclusive.. It's also got to include data that's come from people with disabilities in that mass, 'cause if it doesn't, you don't have an end result that's gonna actually empower the full diversity of human.. So this week we just announced a great collaboration, which we've been working on for some time with four other tech companies, small ones, Apple, Google, Amazon, Meta, small ones to work with the University of Illinois with the right security privacy, gather that data working on impacted voice, so speech recognition so that we can accelerate and advance quickly the technology that's available to people who need that.. The fact that you've got five huge companies working together to accelerate a technology area, to really lean into AI potential that get, yeah, that gets me up in the morning.. (laughs)..