GenderSpeak

Focus on Artificial Intelligence and Gender

Volume V of GenderSpeak dwells on the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Gender. From the lack of gender divsersity in the AI workspace to how AI can work in detecting unfair discrimination on the basis of gender/race to the under-representation of women in AI, all this and much more in this edition of AI and Gender.

Gender Diversity Crisis in Artificial Intelligence: Research insights

Based on a large-scale analysis of gender diversity in AI using publications from arXiv, a repository with more than 1.5 million pre-prints that is used extensively by the AI community, Nesta an innovation firm from UK published a research on gender diversity in the AI research workforce. The research found severe gender diversity gap in AI research with only around 14% of the authors being women. The research also found that women researchers from the Netherlands, Norway and Denmark are more likely to publish AI papers as opposed to women researchers in Japan and Singapore.

AI can help detect discrimination

Researchers at Penn State and Columbia University have developed an AI tool that can help detect unfair discrimination done on the basis of race or gender. The tool works for protected attributes such as race or gender that is done by either human decision makers or AI systems. The researchers maintained that machine learning algorithms function on existing historical data, which can be biased, and therefore may end up providing recommendations based on desirable historical data. Hence if an organisation has a history of not hiring women for a particular role, then the algorithm will never throw up other alternatives.

Listen In

PAC speaks to Prof Milind Tambe, from Harvard University and Founding Co-director, USC Center for AI in Society [CAIS], University of Southern California on Artificial Intelligence for social good. We ask him on everything from bias and gender issues in AI. Listen in!