



From Innovation to Responsibility:

The Ethical Dimensions of Artificial Intelligence

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping our world, impacting various aspects of our lives, from self-driving cars, smart shopping recommendations, facial recognition software to new applications unleashed by Generative AI. AI is becoming part of most of the Digital technologies around us. However, as AI technology continues to progress, it becomes imperative to consider the ethical dimensions it presents.

AI ethics, a burgeoning field of study, examines the ethical issues that arise from the development and utilization of AI. Bias, privacy concerns, and questions of autonomy are among the key ethical challenges inherent in AI systems.

AI ethics is a field of study that examines the ethical issues raised by the development and use of AI. Some of the main ethical issues that arise in AI include:

- **Bias:** AI systems can be biased, which can lead to discrimination. For example, a facial recognition system that is trained on a dataset of mostly white faces may be less accurate at identifying people of colour. It is imperative to recognize and mitigate these biases to ensure fairness and equal treatment for all individuals in AI applications.
- **Privacy:** AI systems can collect and store a lot of personal data. This data can be used to track people's



When self-driving vehicle is in an accident, who is at fault and how do you determine liability etc.?

movements, monitor their online activity, and even predict their behaviour. What prevents the personal data from being misused?

- **Autonomy:** AI systems are becoming increasingly autonomous. This raises the question of who is responsible for the actions of these systems, for example when self-driving vehicle is in an accident, who is at fault and how do you determine liability etc.? Same is true when one uses autonomous systems in smart manufacturing and other industries.

- **Social Impact and Inequality:** Examining the broader societal impact of AI on various aspects such as socioeconomic disparities, power dynamics, inclusivity etc.

Above are just a few of the ethical issues that arise in AI.



The Importance of Prioritizing Ethics in AI:

As AI continues to advance, it is essential for organizations, regardless of size or industry, to actively consider the ethical implications. While governments, large organizations, and international forums like AI4People project, Moral Machine Learning etc. have initiated discussions, projects on AI/Digital ethics, the smaller and mid-sized organizations should not overlook these concerns. Taking proactive steps, such as engaging in internal governance discussions, updating policies, and creating new ones tailored to AI ethics, as well as promoting education and awareness among employees, allows organizations to transition from passive observers to active participants in shaping industry-wide AI ethics policies. I believe this is something that boards, leaders should care about as they examine Ethics policies holistically.

