

LF AI & Data Foundation Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Meeting Minutes June 1, 2023 (6:00am - 7:00am PST) via Zoom

TAC Meetings are bi-weekly and open to everyone in the LF AI & Data community.

Voting Notes

Under the original charter rules we need 50% attendance from the voting members (represented by premier members + graduate projects) to meet quorum. To ensure quorum is met more consistently, the TAC implemented the following attendance and voting eligibility rule effective Dec 1, 2022: Voting members of the TAC who miss 2 consecutive meetings will not be allowed to vote and must then attend 2 consecutive meetings before their voting privileges are reinstated.

With the new attendance and voting rule adopted by the TAC, the number of eligible voting members varies per week and is tracked [here](#). Please see meeting minutes on the [TAC Wiki](#) for details on attendance and voting eligibility on a per meeting basis.

Please see the [TAC Wiki](#) for more information about voting.

Please see current voting members, including alternates, on the [TAC Wiki](#).

Voting details for today's meeting: 6 voting members were eligible to vote and 7 voting members were in attendance. Quorum was met for this meeting.

TAC Voting Member	Voting Representative	6/1/2023
Quorum	Attendance/No. Eligible Votes	0.7
4paradigm	Zhongyi Tan	Jerry Tan
Baidu	Jun Zhang	
	Alternate: Daxiang Dong	
	Alternate: Yanjun Ma	
Ericsson	Rani Yadav-Ranjan	
Huawei	Howard (Huang Zhipeng)	Huan Zhipeng
	Alternate: Charlotte (Xiaoman Hu)	
	Alternate: Leon (Hui Wang)	
Nokia	Michael Rooke	Michael Rooke
	Alternate: Jonne Soininen	
OPPO	Jimmy (Hongmin Xu)	

SAS	*Nancy Rausch	Nancy Rausch
	Alternate: JP Trawinski	
ZTE	Wei Meng	Wei Meng
	Alternate: Liya Yuan	Liya Yuan
Adversarial Robustness Toolbox Project	Beat Buesser	
	Alternate: Kevin Eykholt	
Angel Project	Jun Yao	
Egeria Project	Mandy Chessell	Mandy Chessell
	Alternate: Nigel Jones	
	Alternate: David Radley	
	Alternate: Maryna Strelchuk	
	Alternate: Ljupcho Palashevski	
	Alternate: Chris Grote	
Flyte Project	Ketan Umare	
Horovod Project	Travis Addair	
Milvus Project	Xiaofan Luan	
	Alternate: Jun Gu	
ONNX Project	Alexandre Eichenberger	
	Alternate: Jim Spohrer	Jim Spohrer
	Alternate: Prasanth Pulavarthi	
	Alternate: Andreas Fehlner	Andreas Fehlner
Pyro Project	Fritz Obermeyer	

Note for Voting Members

Please ensure you attend the bi-weekly TAC meetings to maintain voting eligibility. If you have not already provided an alternate representative, please email Nancy Rausch (Nancy.Rausch@sas.com), TAC Chair AND operations@lfaidata.foundation to designate an alternate representative. It is critical to meet quorum during the meetings especially when there are voting items on the agenda.

LF Attendees

Ibrahim Haddad, Executive Director, LF AI & Data

Lucy Hyde, Program Manager, Linux Foundation
Reden Martinez, Project Coordinator, Linux Foundation

Invited Guests/Presenters

Jon Stine, Executive Director, Open Voice Network
Nathan Souther, Project Coordinator, Linux Foundation
Dr. Deborah Dahl, Senior Technical Advisor, Open Voice Network
Oita Coleman, Senior Advisor, Open Voice Network

Call to Order

Nancy Rausch (NR) called the meeting to order at 6:02 am Pacific and Lucy Hyde (LH) recorded the minutes.

NR reviewed the antitrust policy notice.

Agenda

Nancy Rausch (NR) reviewed the agenda for the meeting. There were no further changes or additional topics added.

- › Roll Call (1 mins)
- › Approval of Minutes from previous meetings (2 mins)
- › Vote on the Project Lifecycle document (2 mins)
- › Open Voice Network Presentation (25 mins)
- › Open Discussion

Approval of Minutes

Nancy Rausch (NR) presented a resolution to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2023 TAC meeting.

Proposed Resolution:

That the minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council of the LF AI & Data Foundation are hereby approved.

Mandy Chessell made the first motion to approve the minutes, and Wei Meng seconded the motion.

APPROVED - By vote of the TAC, the minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council were approved.

Nancy Rausch (NR) presented a resolution to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2023 TAC meeting.

Proposed Resolution:

That the minutes of the May 18, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council of the LF AI & Data Foundation are hereby approved.

Mandy Chessell made the first motion to approve the minutes, and Wei Meng seconded the motion.

APPROVED - By vote of the TAC, the minutes of the May 18, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council were approved.

Foundation Update

Ibrahim Haddad (IH), Executive Director of the LF AI & Data Foundation provided updates on the Foundation. IH discussed the [Project Lifecycle Document](#), highlighting revisions and suggestions.

Proposed Resolution:

That the LF AI & Data Foundation Project Lifecycle Document is hereby approved.

Jerry Tan made the first motion to approve the document, and Mandy Chessell seconded the document.

APPROVED - By vote of the TAC, the LF AI & Data Foundation Project Lifecycle Document is approved.

Open Voice Network Presentation

Nancy Rausch (NR) welcomed Jon Stine (JS), Executive Director of the Open Voice Network Foundation to the TAC Meeting. JS introduced his colleagues Oita Coleman (OC), Dr. Deborah Dahl, (DD) and Nathan Southern (NS).

John Stine (JS) represents the Open Voice Network together with Dr. Deborah Dahl (DD) and Oita (OC) Coleman. Open Voice Network is an open-source community focused on voice assistance and conversational AI. They emphasize their intersection with CHAT GPT and discuss their interest in collaboration with LFAI and Data. JS highlights their organization's background, including their founding in 2016 at MIT and their partnership with LF in 2020. JS

mentioned having several financially supporting enterprises and a pipeline of more sponsors, with Microsoft being the leading sponsor.

JS explains that they have a network of 47 friends, consisting of enterprises and developers working in the voice space, who support their mission. JS mentioned having active research and development teams across multiple nations and time zones. JS outlines the four leading thrusts of the Open Voice Network: interoperability, privacy and security, enabling voice assistance, and addressing ethical issues related to conversational AI.

JS mentioned working on various ideas, referred to as capsules, related to voice and conversational AI. JS acknowledged the value of voice as a rich data source. JS expresses their commitment to bringing core principles to the voice and conversational AI industry, including education, self-assessment, and ethical guidelines for synthetic voice.

JS mentioned an active industry group focused on voice and conversational AI in health, wellness, and life sciences, which will soon publish a whitepaper on the use of voice and conversational AI in remote patient care and other areas. They position themselves as working at the intersection of four communities: enterprise, voice assistance and channels (e.g., Alexa, Siri), generative AI (language models), and consumers.

JS explained that enterprises use voice AI in call centers and operations, while voice assistance and channels cater to customers. JS mentioned the growing demand for generative AI and the desire for brand connections. The team envisioned a diverse universe of language models, assistants, enterprises, and consumers, with billions of endpoints and a universal language interface to AI.

The team is anticipating a rapid growth of domain-specific language models created by organizations for accuracy and actionability. They highlight voice as the primary interface and predict a ubiquity of voice interfaces across various devices. JS also discussed the commoditization of voice assistance and the obsolescence of skills and actions in voice channels. They also emphasize the importance of addressing ethical questions and ensuring open, accessible, interoperable, and data-protected voice AI that earns users' trust.

Overall, the Open Voice Network aims to collaborate, provide guidance, and shape the future of voice assistance and conversational AI in a way that is open, ethical, and user-friendly.

Olita Coleman(OC) mentioned that they are actively developing a training course specifically focused on conversational AI ethics. This course will be offered through the Linux Foundation and builds upon the existing AI and Ethics Course. It expands the content to address the ethical

principles outlined in the Open Voice Network's whitepaper. The training course, expected to launch in July, will be available to individuals and organizations who want to educate their staff on ethical principles related to conversational AI. The course will be an introductory level and last approximately two to three hours. The Open Voice Network welcomes early reviewers for the course.

It's important to note that OC clarified that their work is not intended to introduce a new framework, as they acknowledge the existence of multiple frameworks in the field. In developing the ethical guidelines, they examined around 10 major frameworks and found alignment with some of them. The Open Voice Network's efforts aim to operationalize the principles and provide practical guidance rather than introducing a completely new and unique framework.

Open Discussion

Ibrahim Haddad (IH) requested JS to send him a note containing information about the top three projects, including RosaeNLG and Delta. IH intends to use this information to make an email introduction to the maintainers of these projects. The purpose is to assist in facilitating an introduction and arranging a call for a demo.

IH asked Susan Malaika (SM) if she had any recommendations for the project. SM agreed to share the project with the Trusted AI project Committee in order to gather feedback and suggestions.

JS confirmed that he would send the requested note from IH and expressed his intention to follow up with SM regarding the meeting with the Trusted AI project committee.

Nancy Rausch (NR) inquired whether the Open Voice Network team has made any efforts to engage with government agencies regarding the project.

JS explained that the Open Voice Network team has engaged with government agencies in various ways. They made a presentation in Brussels and had conversations with the Lead Technology Advisor of Ursula von der Leyen. They have also provided leadership and advisories on proposed European Union legislation, including submitting a proposal related to the application of GDPR to voice. Additionally, they had a brief conversation with individuals in Washington, although it led to a dead end due to their focus on education rather than lobbying or advocacy.

Oita Coleman (OC) added the Open Voice Network has actively engaged in providing input and reviewing matters related to commercial surveillance and data privacy. They responded to the

Federal Trade Commission's advance ruling earlier this year and submitted comments. They are exploring ways to contribute to the discussion on AI regulations in the EU, monitoring developments, and seeking opportunities to comment through their sponsors. While they are not engaged in lobbying, they aim to advocate and educate, carefully navigating the line between these activities. They also stay informed about significant events in the AI space, such as the Open AI CEO's testimony before Congress, and contribute where appropriate and relevant.

JS also added that the Open Voice Network has entered into a handshake agreement with the government of Estonia, known for its advanced digital governance, to showcase the interoperable standards developed by the network. The government of Estonia is in the process of implementing a conversational AI/voice assistant, called Bureau-Kratt, across all its agencies, ranging from healthcare to obtaining driver's licenses. Recognizing the need to connect with various voice platforms, they have approached the Open Voice Network to demonstrate interoperability. The Estonian Information Authority and Bureau-Kratt will be part of the first public demonstration of the interoperability specifications. The Open Voice Network is seeking participation from third parties, such as Delta and others, including voice assistant teams and service providers in sectors like restaurants and healthcare, to engage in the interoperability test.

Upcoming TAC Meetings

- June 15 – EthicalAI from Fujitsu, new Sandbox project proposal
- June 29 – Recommenders, new Sandbox project proposal

Please note the TAC is always open to agenda suggestions and guest presentations. If you have a topic you would like to request, please email tac-general@lists.lfaidata.foundation for review and coordination via the TAC Chair accordingly.

Closing

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by NR at 7:00 AM Pacific.

Chat:

21:14:17 From susan malaika (IBM, non-voting) to Everyone:

It is a wonderful document - I am sharing with colleagues - it provides a great way to think about open and inner source project life-cycles

21:15:05 From Ibrahim Haddad to Everyone:

Thank you Susan and it's great to see you on the call. It took a village :-)) Thanks to all the contributor

21:15:09 From LF AI & Data Zoom General to Everyone:

Hi Oita!!!

21:39:50 From LF AI & Data Zoom General to Everyone:

Oita I would be happy to be a reviewer of the course. I work with many University AI programs.

21:41:06 From Ibrahim Haddad to Everyone:

LF AI & Data -- Trusted AI Committee:

<https://lfaidata.foundation/blog/2021/02/08/lf-ai-data-announces-principles-for-trusted-ai/>

21:41:17 From Ahmed Abdelmonsef (IBM) to Everyone:

Oita, I will be happy to be early reviewer, I used to be Faculty SME for AI academic tracks.

21:41:29 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Reacted to "LF AI & Data -- Trus..." with ❤️

21:41:42 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Reacted to "LF AI & Data -- Trus..." with 👍

21:41:43 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Removed a ❤️ reaction from "LF AI & Data -- Trus..."

21:41:47 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Reacted to "Oita I would be happ..." with ❤️

21:41:51 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Reacted to "Oita, I will be happ..." with ❤️

21:42:11 From Nathan Southern to Everyone:

Reacted to "It is a wonderful do..." with ❤️

21:44:33 From susan malaika (IBM, non-voting) to Everyone:

Voice Network are on the next Trusted AI Committee call 😊 we are all looking forward to the session- I will share the recording from today's call with the members

21:44:45 From LF AI & Data Zoom General to Everyone:

Reacted to "Voice Network are on..." with 👍

21:54:55 From susan malaika (IBM, non-voting) to Everyone:

Any connections with <https://commonvoice.mozilla.org/en> ?

21:58:55 From susan malaika (IBM, non-voting) to Everyone:

Thank you Oita for response

21:59:08 From Oita Coleman to Everyone:

<https://bridge2ai.org/voice/>