LF AI & Data Foundation Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Meeting Minutes
October 5, 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: 7 voting members were eligible to vote and 9 voting members were in attendance. Quorum was met for this meeting.

TAC Voting Member	Voting Representative	10/5//2023
Quorum	**Attendance/No. Eligible Votes**	**7 of 9**
4paradigm	Zhongyi Tan	Zhongyi Tan
Amazon Web Services	TBD	
Baidu	Jun Zhang	
	Alternate: Daxiang Dong	
	Alternate: Yanjun Ma	
Ericsson	Rani Yadav-Ranjan	
Huawei	Howard (Huang Zhipeng)	
	Alternate: Charlotte (Xiaoman Hu)	
	Alternate: Leon (Hui Wang)	

IBM	Susan Malaika	Susan Malaika
	Alternate: Beat Buesser	Alternate: Beat Buesser
	Alternate: Alexandre Eichenberger	Alternate: Alexandre Eichenberger
Nokia	Michael Rooke	Michael Rooke
	Alternate: Jonne Soininen	
OPPO	Jimmy (Hongmin Xu)	
SAS	*Nancy Rausch	*Nancy Rausch
	Alternate: JP Trawinski	
ZTE	Wei Meng	
	Alternate: Liya Yuan	
Adversarial Robustness Too Project	Beat Buesser	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	Alexandre Eichenberger
	Alternate: Jim Spohrer	
	Alternate: Prasanth Pulavarthi	
	Alternate: Andreas Fehlner	

Pyro Project	Fritz Obermeyer	
OpenLineage	Julien Le Dem	
	Alternate: Mandy Chessell	Alternate: Mandy Chessel
	Alternate: Michael Robinson	Alternate: Michael Robinson
Marquez	Willy Lulciuc	Willy Lulciuc
	Alternate: TBD	
	Alternate: TBD	

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

Michael Dolan, SVP, GM of Projects, Linux Foundation
Lucy Hyde, Senior Program Manager, Linux Foundation
Nathan Southern, Project Coordinator, Linux Foundation
Reden Martinez, Project Coordinator, Linux Foundation

Invited Guests/Presenters

- Matt White, LF Contractor, Generative AI Commons
- Lianmin Zheng, UC Berkeley Student, LMSYS Project

Call to Order

Nancy Rausch (NR) called the meeting to order at 6:02 am Pacific and Reden Martinez (RM) 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
› Approval of Minutes from previous meetings
› Update on the Generative AI Commons
› LMSYS Project Review
› Open Discussion

Approval of Minutes

Nancy Rausch (NR)presented a resolution to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2023 TAC meeting.

Proposed Resolution:

That the minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council of the LF AI & Data Foundation are hereby approved.

Alexander Eichenberger made the first motion to approve the minutes, and Jerry Tan seconded the motion.

APPROVED - By vote of the TAC, the minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting of the Technical Advisory Council were approved.

Update on the Generative AI Commons

Nancy Rausch (NR) introduced Matt White (MW), who represented the Generative AI Commons. MW began by providing updates, starting with the committee's inception. He also presented the approved mission statement.

MW went on to share that the Generative AI Commons was launched on August 9th and officially unveiled at the Open Source Summit Europe 2023 on September 18th. To date, it has conducted five meetings (biweekly) and garnered participation from over 70 individuals representing more than 25 companies. The Committee has also elected a Chair and Vice-Chair and established four workstreams with team leads, with initial discussions revolving around the mission statement and workstreams.

MW also shared the committee's first project, RWKV.

RWKV originated as an EleutherAI community project backed by StabilityAI for training compute. RWKV-4-World, achieved through training on multiple datasets, provides support for 100+ world languages and excels in English zero-shot and in-context learning. The community's expansion is evident through 225+ RWKV-related projects on GitHub, featuring fast CPU (C++) and GPU (CUDA, Vulkan) support, all licensed under Apache 2.0. With over 9.9k stars and 600+ forks on GitHub, as well as a thriving Discord community boasting 1000+ members, RWKV continues to grow.

MW also presented the initial workstreams and outlined the process of the Generative AI Commons. Additionally, MW shared the next steps of the committee.

MW also announced the upcoming AI.Dev Generative AI & ML Summit, scheduled for December 12-13, 2023, in San Jose, California. MW encouraged anyone interested in participating as a sponsor or speaker to reach out. Below are the relevant details:
Call for Proposals:
- https://events.linuxfoundation.org/ai-dev-north-america/program/cfp/
- CFP Closes: Monday, October 23 at 9:00 AM PDT (UTC-7)

Sponsors:
- https://events.linuxfoundation.org/ai-dev-north-america/sponsor/

Register:
- https://events.linuxfoundation.org/ai-dev-north-america/

LMSYS Project Review

Nancy Rausch (NR) introduced Lianmin Zheng (LZ), a PhD student at the University of California, Berkeley. LZ was invited to present the Large Model Systems Organization, also known as LMSYS.

Lianmin Zheng (LZ) introduced the Large Model Systems Organization (LMSYS Org) as an open research initiative founded by students and faculty at UC Berkeley, in collaboration with UCSD and CMU. The organization's core mission is to democratize access to large-scale models through collaborative efforts, including the development of open models, datasets, systems, and evaluation tools. LMSYS Org's research spans both machine learning and systems, involving the training of large language models and their broad dissemination. Concurrently, they actively engage in the development of distributed systems geared towards accelerating the training and inference processes.

In addition, LMSYS Org undertakes various projects, such as Vicuna, a chatbot that impresses GPT-4, the LongChat series with extended context lengths, and FastChat-T5, a compact yet powerful chat assistant. They curate datasets like LMSYS-Chat-1M and Chatbot Arena

Conversations and provide evaluation platforms like Chatbot Arena and MT-Bench. Moreover, they offer FastChat, an open and scalable platform tailored for the training and evaluation of LLM-based chatbots.

Today, LMSYS Org is looking for options on how to collaborate with LF AI & Data.

Open Discussion

During the open discussion, Matt White (MW) asked about the purpose of FastChat, and Lianmin Zheng (LZ) explained that it currently has a research-oriented focus, featuring training and evaluation code and a distributed multi-model serving system for OpenAI APIs. MW also inquired about the organization's support needs, and LZ mentioned they are actively seeking more sponsors, with Kaggle, MBZUAI, AnyScale, and HuggingFace already sponsoring their initiatives.

Jerry Tan also expressed willingness to engage in a separate discussion to explore and better understand the potential support and collaboration opportunities.

No further topics were discussed.

Upcoming TAC Meetings
October 19 2023 - OVN projects: new project planned for Incubation
November 2, 2023 - MetisFL (tentative)

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 6:57 AM Pacific.

Chat Conversation:

21:41:50 From Matt White To Everyone:
    Slides from Generative AI Commons:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/13uaK0JGNrEWVLF1S8AR-4KyZGnbX0vACe1fbX30FI0Y/edit#slide=id.g287b3d3bf57_0_574
21:43:59 From Susan Malaika @IBM - Voting To Everyone:
    Reacted to "Slides from Generati..." with 👍
21:46:12 From Willy Lulciuc To Everyone:

Reacted to "Slides from Generati..." with 👍

21:56:40 From Susan Malaika @IBM - Voting To Everyone:

Thats a great suggestion - re: workstream collaboration