

AI Accountability

The rapid adoption of AI by organizations and individuals outpaces careful consideration concerning the impact. We face significant gaps in expertise, oversight, policy, and transparency in the use of AI (i.e., accountability gap). The use of AI often feels like assembling a plane as it accelerates takeoff; however, halting progress is impractical.

AI accountability is a maturity model to help organizations and individuals advance their approach to AI. It starts simple and builds an accounting of information to enable progressively more informed decisions:

- 1. Where and What:** Gather accounting of the places you are using AI and the specific AI systems you are using.
- 2. Why:** Articulate the benefits and weaknesses of your AI use. For example, using an AI for reviewing resumes may help you deal with an onslaught of applicants; however, it may cause you to miss unconventional candidates.
- 3. Risk:** Identify potential adverse events and their likelihood resulting from your particular use of AI. For example, if your AI is biased, what reputational risk does this create?
- 4. Mitigation:** For likely and damaging adverse events, determine mechanisms for reducing the likelihood or severity.
- 5. Principles:** Determine individual or organization principles on limiting the negative consequences of using AI.
- 6. Audit:** Assess the level of principle compliance.
- 7. Enforcement:** Require/police adherence to your AI principles.
- 8. Assessment:** Assess and (possibly) adjust your core AI principles.