

AI & Data Ethics Webinar (with Digitechz)

Date: April 15, 2022

Theme: Ethical AI in Finance

This 90-minute webinar, co-hosted by FEDTC and Digitechz, explored real-world ethical challenges facing AI systems in finance - from lending algorithms to fraud detection models. The session focused less on theoretical frameworks and more on implementation pitfalls and correction mechanisms.

Speakers from Digitechz, a well-regarded AI education provider, demonstrated how bias in training data could lead to disproportionate credit denials among minority applicants. Live coding demos were shown using real anonymized data to uncover hidden disparities in prediction models.

A moderated panel included discussions on:

- Regulatory frameworks like the EU AI Act and how they impact U.S. fintech.
- Building ethics into pipelines from data ingestion to model deployment.
- Career pathways for AI students interested in fintech ethics roles.

Key Takeaways:

- Transparent feature engineering is critical for auditability in finance models.
- Ethical oversight needs to start before model training - during dataset design.
- Tools like SHAP and Fairlearn were introduced as hands-on solutions for bias detection.