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Thailand develops speech-recognition AI technology for screening depression

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Thai-language speech recognition AI technology with the accuracy of a native speaker



A team led by Dr Ekapol Chuangsuwanich of Chula Computer Engineering, Chulalongkorn University in Thailand has developed "Gowajee" a Thai speech-recognition artificial intelligence (AI) technology that understands and executes commands in the Thai language more naturally and accurately. Actual usage has shown only a 9% incidence of linguistic inaccuracy compared to 15% for other language-recognition AIs.

The AI-based technology has 3 main features: Automated Speech Recognition (ASR); Text-to-Speech (TTS); and Automatic Speaker Verification (ASV).

Gowajee has been used for screening patients with depression. Though the emotional contexts proved challenging, Gowajee performed well in decoding emotional cues.

The AI technology can also be used in many other contexts such as dental clinics, detection of stroke risk in patients with slurred speech, life coaching, and aids for the hard of hearing.

Data safety is another advantage of Gowajee as all the data is stored on the user's database ensuring its safety, which is useful for organisations like banks which need high data security.