Unite! Summer School
TU Darmstadt September 2021

UNITE!
University Network for
Innovation, Technology
and Engineering

The AI's have it?
Reflections on the History, Present, and Future of AI-Human Relationships

A Cooperation between the Technical University of Darmstadt,
Department of History (Martina Heßler), and the University of Lisbon,
Centro de Filosofia das Ciências (Alexander Gerner).

It seems as if long-standing visions and dreams, and human fears are coming true in the context of recent AI developments, especially machine learning. A few decades ago, it was debates on thinking and intelligence. Nowadays, concepts, such as autonomy, creativity, responsibility, or emotions, which were once considered to be genuinely and exclusively human capabilities, are being questioned, changed, and defended in the context of current AI developments: Can machines do all of this? What does it mean for the concept of creativity when algorithms "learn" about and construct images? To which extent are algorithms "autonomous"? Which concept of autonomy are we referring to? What does this mean for human self-understanding? How do AI's influence human behavior and action? Should there be an ethical stance towards machines and normative or predictive AI programming?

If you are interested in reflecting on such questions, join our Unite-online-Summer School! With its focus on human-machine relationships, this Summer School addresses fundamental contemporary challenges arising from AI.

This person does not exist!
Photo credit: https://thispersondoesnotexist.com/

Imagined by a GAN (generative adversarial network)
StyleGAN2 (Dec 2019) - Karras et al. and Nvidia
Don't panic. Learn how it works [1] [2] [3]
Help this AI continue to dream | Contact me
Code for training your own [original] [simple] [light]
Art • Cats • Horses • Chemicals
Another   ×

Who Can Participate?
Master students and PhD students of engineering science, computer science, history, STS, philosophy, and the arts are invited to participate.

How to Participate?
Contributions to the Summer School can be, e.g., the discussion of theoretical approaches, programming examples, empirical investigations of new practices or reflections on literature, music, games, theatre, cinema, and art. Participants should give a presentation, e.g., a lecture, a poster, an intervention, a performance, or a science slam. Should you like to participate without giving a presentation, reading texts and active participation are expected.
The standard number of ECTS points for the summer school is 5 - if required, other amounts can be arranged.

How to Apply?
Please send a short letter of motivation, a proposal for your presentation (1-2 pages), and a short CV to hessler@pg.tu-darmstadt.de by May 15, 2021.

Time and Place
The Summer School will be held online from September 20-24, 2021. It is open to all Unite universities.

More information about the Summer School can be found here:
www.geschichte.tu-darmstadt.de/summerschool_ai

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