AI:10

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WHAT'S HOT

DELOITTE LAUNCHES NEW ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH CENTER TO HELP ADVANCE FEDERAL WORK

HEADLINE NEWS IN A FLASH

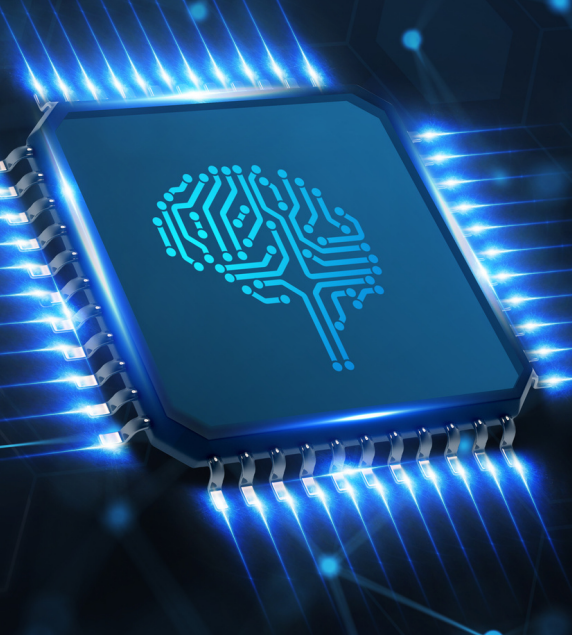**UNIVERSITAT INNSBRUCK: AI MEETS QUANTUM PHYSICS**

SPECIAL AI FEATURES

AI FOR +VE CHANGE: R&D AND COMMERCIALISATION

SECTOR FOCUS

3 TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE MAKING EDUCATION MORE ACCESSIBLE

DELOITTE LAUNCHES NEW ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH CENTER TO HELP ADVANCE FEDERAL WORK

As the federal government explores how to adopt artificial intelligence (AI) into its civilian and defense functions, Deloitte has debuted a new center to research the best applications of the emerging technologies for federal agencies. The Deloitte AI Institute for Government (DAIIG), from the consulting firm's government and public services practice, aims to serve as a hub of research and insight on how AI can be applied across government, tapping federal, state and local leaders for their insights alongside private sector experts and academia.

The DAIIG is, in effect, the public sector arm of the Deloitte AI Institute, which launched last June and explores the applications of the technology across multiple industries. Ed Van Buren, principal with Deloitte Consulting LLP and executive director of DAIIG, said in an interview that the center's goal is both to develop strategies and case studies to help bring AI, and related technologies like machine learning (ML) and robotic process automation (RPA), to the forefront of government operations.

The firm is pitching this service to contractors looking to do AI-related business with the federal government, as a conduit to the federal, state and local procurement officials. The center could also assess the biggest AI needs of government clients and identify companies with those tools, Van Buren said.

Deloitte said this is a "substantial" multiyear investment, but declined to specify costs. The center is composed of seven full time employees and a class of 16 fellows from across the firm who all serve federal clients directly, as well as other Deloitte employees and collaborators who will volunteer for targeted projects. While much of the firm's work has been remote through the pandemic, the center will have space in Deloitte's Rosslyn offices.

The DAIIG also plans to build its network of AI experts by supporting existing AI communities of practice in government, such as trade associations, through events and tapping academic institutions. Through those networks, the company said it can explore other pressing issues around the ethical use of AI and building the talent recruiting pools needed to implement and develop the technology. Van Buren said the center comes at a time where not only awareness of AI, but also an appetite for new solutions following the coronavirus pandemic, has grown in government circles. ∎

SOURCE: WASHINGTON BUSINESS JOURNAL

MANAGE TO ANALYZE SEED QUALITY FROM IMAGES AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A group of Brazilian researchers developed an artificial intelligence-based methodology to automate and streamline seed quality analysis from images, which is currently done manually.

The group of scientists, belonging to the University of Sao Paulo (USP), used a light-based technology such as that implemented in plant and cosmetics analysis to acquire images of seeds. They then resorted to machine learning to automate the imaging process,minimizing some of the difficulties of conventional methods. For example, for many species, optical imaging technology can be applied to a whole batch of seeds rather than just samples, as is currently the case. In addition, the technique is non-invasive and does not destroy the products analyzed or generate waste.

They explained, light-based techniques consisted of chlorophyll fluorescence and multispectral imaging. Among the plants that are relevant both as crops and as experimental models, the researchers chose tomatoes and carrots produced in different countries and seasons and subjected to different storage conditions. This scientific achievement represents an interesting advance in safety and logistics for the whole agribusiness, as it streamlines mandatory procedures that are usually a bottleneck in supply chains.

In Argentina there is already a very interesting antecedent that is worth knowing and following closely. It is the startup Zoom Agri, which uses image processing and artificial intelligence to identify varieties of barley. The tool is revolutionizing the brewing industry, which must necessarily analyze every raw material item it receives, transforming a three-day process into a three-minute process. The difference with the Brazilian experience, as explained to Clarí Rural one of the founders of Zoom Agri, Fernando Martíez de Hoz, is that the local company does not use multispectral images but RGB images, which are commercially more scalable for having a lower cost.

"We work with neural networks of seizure, a software that tries to emulate the way thehuman brain works. We present him with an input and tell him what it is, and the software, after seeing this example many times learns to identify it," explains Martíez de Hoz, detailing: "Now what we do is determine the varietal purity of a barley sample, something super important for the brewing industry because it takes a minimum of 95 percent varietal purity for barley to germinate evenly during the malt production process."

Today, in its third year of life, the tool developed by the company already analyzes approximately 70 percent of Argentine beer barley and is also present in thirteen other countries speeding up and making more precise the traceability of barley grains. Meanwhile, from Zoom Agri they already have their efforts put into other uses, such as determining the physical quality of soybeans, maize and wheat.

With plant genetics advancing at full speed and increasingly demanding markets regarding food quality and production, the potential of society images-artificial intelligence in the global agro-industrial chain is enormous. And in that wave, innovating and exporting knowledge, he surfs an Argentine startup.∎

Source: CE NoticiasFinancieras

EGYPTIAN GOVT SIGNS MOU WITH THALES TO DEVELOP AI – POWERED APPLICATIONS

The Egyptian ICT ministry has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Thales for cooperation on developing artificial intelligence (AI) applications in different areas, and on building capacity and promoting innovation and research in AI. Several joint projects will be carried out to augment the AI industry in Egypt, under the framework of the national AI strategy. The parties will develop AI for areas such as smart cities, transportation, digital government and smart infrastructure.

They will collaborate to foster innovation, build local capacity and promote entrepreneurship in AI by supporting start–ups and organising hackathons. They will conduct joint research on AI ethics, and work on a common stance on AI–related topics by holding public awareness campaigns and programmes to educate people on topics related to the opportunities and risks posed by AI and data privacy. ∎

SOURCE: TELECOMPAPER AFRICA

Carnegie Mellon University in Qatar's (CMU-Q) Gianni Di Caro is using artificial intelligence and a fleet of autonomous marine robots to better explore the marine environment around Qatar. Di Caro, who is leading a team of researchers, is an associate teaching professor at CMU-Q, a Qatar Foundation partner university.

To better understand marine environments, researchers create information maps of data like depth, water quality, and salinity. This information is critical for a country like Qatar, which balances offshore oil and gas operations with the preservation and sustainability of a fragile marine ecosystem. Typically, information maps are created by sending, every few months, a single, big, manually operated boat to sample data at pre-defined points, one at-a-time. This method has serious drawbacks, including the fact that sampling is sequential and static. In fact, it doesn't adaptively select where to sample based on gathered evidence, since data processing is done offline.

CARNEGIE MELLON USES AI AND ROBOTS TO EXPLORE QATAR'S WATERS

Di Caro's team has rethought the process: "We are using AI to coordinate a fleet of unmanned and relatively small aerial and marine robots to gather data over a large area. Using this swarm approach allows sampling data from different locations at the same time and continually and automatically adapting the mission to freshly gathered data, resulting in more accurate maps."

The project is called Teams of Aquatic/Aerial Robots for Marine Environment Monitoring, or TARMEM, and is funded by a grant to CMU-Q from the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF). Led by Di Caro, the team also includes Italian investigators Filippo Arrichiello from the University of Cassino and Southern Lazio, and Enrico Simetti from the University of Genova. ∎

SOURCE: AL BAWABA NEWS

SCRYPT AI USES MACHINE LEARNING AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO PROCESS OVER $1B IN INVOICES

Scrypt AI, a machine learning and artificial intelligence-driven Treasury Management-as-a-Service platform startup, has announced that its Integrated Payables and Receivables platform has now processed thousands of invoices worth over $1B to its clients, saving its clients 10 to 15 times the former cost of manual accounts payable workflows.

Scrypt AI has operationalized an end-to-end AI data capture platform for high-volume, high-accuracy document processing and document discovery. Scrypt AI's intelligent invoice coding solution utilizes machine learning and AI automation to add and manage invoice payments within most popular enterprise resource planning software platforms-- solving a critical challenge within the payables component of treasury management. Whether businesses receive invoices digitally or in the mail, Scrypt AI can help them automate payables at a time when they need it most. Scrypt AI easily integrates with existing ERP systems, such as property management software Yardi's Voyager, and can automatically identify and match an invoice to the appropriate payment account.

Scrypt AI received its seed investment from leading fintech investors and its strategic partner, CheckAlt, a leading treasury solutions provider. The company has recently hired a business-side executive team composed of fintech and startup industry veterans to position the company for rapid growth.∎

SOURCE: PR NEWSWIRE

Scientists at the University of Innsbruck have married two future technologies in a recent research paper.

The researchers led by Hans Briegel were able to show how quantum computers can improve the performance of deep reinforcement learning methods, especially in large and complex environments.

Quantum computers can solve certain tasks much faster than normal computing machines. With first quantum computers expected to be ready for the market soon, many research groups are exploring possible applications. One area that is particularly exciting is the combination of two future technologies: Artificial Intelligence and quantum algorithms. One of the varieties of machine learning is reinforcement learning, in which an agent learns to solve a task through trial and error. The agent is nor directly told which action is best in which situation. Rather, it receives rewards at certain points in time and learns on its own the best strategy to collect them. By combining this method with deep learning approaches, such agents are also able to operate with very large and unstructured data. Deep reinforcement learning is used, for example, in the computer programs that first beat world champions at the Asian board game of Go. Now, a team led by quantum physicist Hans Briegel has investigated for the first time whether and how quantum algorithms can further improve the learning performance of this class of AI algorithms.∎

UNIVERSITAT INNSBRUCK: AI MEETS QUANTUM PHYSICS

SOURCE: ENP NEWSWIRE

ACCENTURE AND RIPJAR HELP SHELL TRANSFORM RISK SCREENING BY APPLYING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ACROSS ITS GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN

Shell is leveraging Accenture' industry experience and risk expertise to configure Ripjar' AI technology for analysis of its supply chain. The insights will provide additional accuracy and efficiency in screening for risks across Shell' third-party supply chain transactions. The AI technology embedded in the system could also reduce data-reporting errors by over 80%, when compared to third-party legacy systems.

By integrating this tool on Shell' cloud-based infrastructure on Microsoft Azure, Accenture will also ensure Shell is positioned to scale the solution, creating cost efficiencies. Additionally, the solution optimizes accessibility, providing self-service capabilities to Shell employees globally as they conduct due diligence on third-party vendors.

"In a proactive move to tackle the growing challenges associated with criminal activity, security and fraud in today' global business landscape, Shell is reinforcing its risk management capabilities across the supply chain," said Adam Markson, a managing director and lead for Risk and Compliance at Accenture. "Together, we are taking a time-consuming, manual process and applying state-of-the-art automation with more insights into data to not only improve accuracy, but also give management complete audit capabilities and accountability over the entire screening process. Indeed, Accenture was selected for its deep industry expertise and track record of implementing the next generation of compliance capabilities and enabling transformational change."∎

Source: M2 Presswir
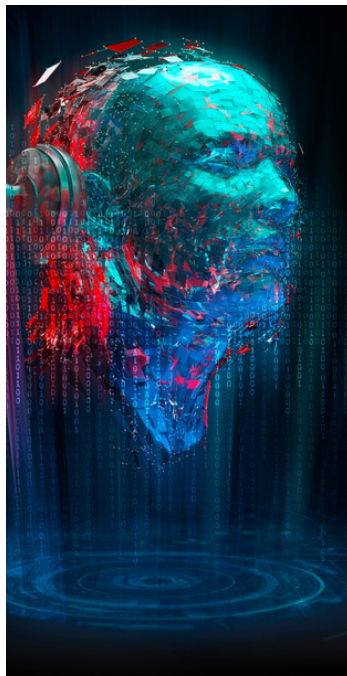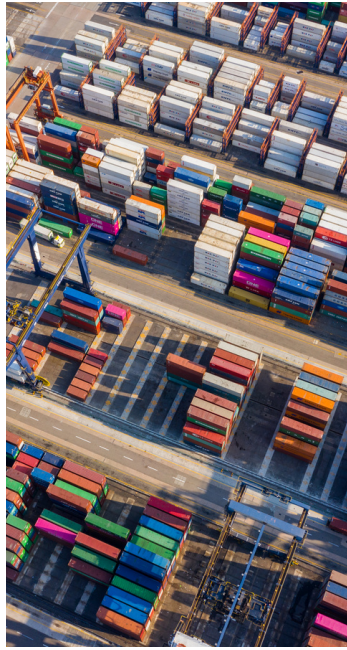
FAKE NEWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA BARRIER HAMPERING CLIMATE FIGHT

While technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) could help the world deal with dangerous climate and environmental change, fake news on social media about global warming and biodiversity loss has emerged as a barrier in the climate change mitigation efforts, a group of scientists has warned.

The report, published in Ambio, a journal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, concludes that inequality and environmental challenges are deeply linked. Reducing inequality will increase trust within societies.

Trust is essential for governments to make long-term decisions, the report argues. Social media and access to reliable knowledge is also highlighted as a barrier to progress.

"As the pressure of human activities accelerates on Earth, so too does the hope that technologies such as artificial intelligence will be able to help us deal with dangerous climate and environmental change," said Co-author Victor Galaz, Deputy Director of the Stockholm Resilience Centre. "That will only happen however, if we act forcefully in ways that redirects the direction of technological change towards planetary stewardship and responsible innovation."

Human actions are threatening the resilience and stability of Earth's biosphere -- the wafer-thin veil around Earth where life thrives, according to the report published for the first Nobel Prize Summit, a digital gathering to be held in April to discuss the state of the planet in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic.∎

Source: Indo-Asian News Service

3 TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE MAKING EDUCATION MORE ACCESSIBLE

- Educational technology has become increasingly important after the COVID-19 pandemic closed classrooms across the world.

- AR, VR and AI technologies are improving accessibility for pupils with learning difficulties or disabilities.

- 'Edtech' also makes learning less location-dependent, while offline services can help learners with no access to the internet.

Educational technology - or "edtech" - entered public consciousness over the past year as the COVID-19 pandemic moved learners young and old out of the classroom and into the virtual world of remote education. One of its key benefits is improved accessibility to education – both in terms of helping pupils with learning difficulties or disabilities and in making learning less location-dependent. Here are three technologies that are changing the way we learn.

1. Augmented and virtual reality

The key benefits of AR and VR technologies to education are making learning interactive and thereby more engaging – they can even add gaming elements to textbook material.

Curiscope's Virtuali-tee is a t-shirt and app that enables users to learn about the human body. One person puts on the t-shirt while the other uses an AR app on a smartphone to virtually reveal – and explore – the various layers inside the body.

The technology can also have benefits for neurodiverse learners. Floreo is a telehealth platform that uses VR headsets to deliver social and behavioural therapy in schools and other settings.

2. Artificial intelligence

AI technology can benefit learners by enabling them to learn outside the classroom with virtual feedback, making learning more engaging and tailoring material to suit the individual. For example, Sparx Maths uses statistics and machine learning – a simple form of AI – to support teachers in providing personalized math homework.

The UK company claims that using the programme four hours a week, on average, can increase a pupil's GCSE maths exam result by a grade. Sparx can also help disadvantaged children progress at the same rate as their more advantaged counterparts, reducing the attainment gap.

Meanwhile, KidSense.AI uses deep learning technology to offer a sophisticated automatic speech recognition system for children. Trained using children's voice samples, KidSense powers the Roybi Robot – an AI-driven smart toy that teaches languages and basic skills in science, technology, engineering and math.

3. Wireless technology

While edtech can prove an invaluable teaching tool, particularly in the virtual classroom, it can be rendered redundant in countries or regions with limited or no internet access.

Zaya's ClassCloud is a plug-and-play device that can support up to 40 laptops or tablets in the classroom over Wi-Fi and provides the same standard of user experience whether it is connected to the internet or not. It has been used to improve access to high-quality education in rural locations in India.

Wireless technology can also enable users to download material on to a device in the learning environment and take it home with them, meaning educational providers can loan out devices to people who may not otherwise have access to them.

The offline learning app Kolibri, meanwhile, enables content to be seeded onto devices in areas where there is an internet connection – such as a school or a factory – and share it with others over an offline local network.

Education for all

Edtech's greatest promise is to widen access to education for everyone, no matter where they are in the world – something which has become an increasing priority during the pandemic. ∎

Source: WEF

AI FOR +VE CHANGE
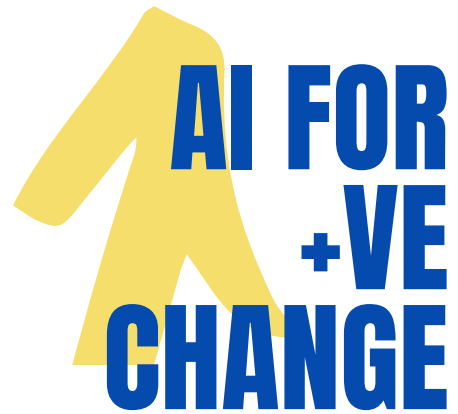
UIP is an AI-as-a-Service (AIaaS) platform for educators in Universities to convert their areas of expertise into prototypes, curriculum, industry-friendly collaboration models and develop new areas of research with AI-enabled engine. From prototyping stage, UIP helps to expand and develop the research and prototypes into fully-ready, AI-based expert systems for industry adoption and commercialisation.

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3 — Conversion Of Research Into AI

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6 — AI & Cryptos

7 — Board Effectiveness Reviews Using AI

8 — Healthcare & AI

9 — AI & Governments

10 — Supply Chain & AI

11 — SDG Measurement Using AI

12 — AI's Role in Governance, Risk & Compliance (GRC)

13 — Diversity & Board Performance

14 — The Future of Education

15 — The Future of Cooperatives

THREE WAYS YOU CAN BUILD & OWN AI WITHOUT CODING

➔ You have an idea

Yes - this idea must originate from a pressing need, pain point or an opportunity that is associated with your current operations and/or industry dynamics.

There must be a ready demand for that idea to be transformed into a system - otherwise it has to be incubated or "cook" to be ready for the market.

➔ From idea to system prototype and business plan

We design algorithms and build the business case around the system with our vast expertise in any discipline.

8 core deliverables will be rendered:
1. Mock-up Reports 2. Technological Blueprint 3. Roadmap 4. Prototype 5. Case Studies 6. 1-min Demo Video 7. Press Release 8. Pitch Deck

➔ We both ….

jointly own the IP in accordance to a pre-agreed ratio where MyFinB funds the full capex while you cover the costs of the prototype

We commercialise and launch them to the market based on the pre-agreed specifications and after the full system development is completed by MyFinB. Roles and responsibilities would have been detailed out, and a long-term partnership is forged.

BUILD INNOVATION WITH US

MyFinB is an award-winning, high growth AI start-up with core operations in KL/SG and serving more than 30 markets globally.

We specialise in Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Generation & Understanding (NLGU). Our AI-powered solutions translates structured data (financial statements, bank statements, incorporation info) and unstructured data (publications, social media, journals and video images) into decisioning reports.

MyFinB uses its proprietary NLGU and Cognitive Analytics capabilities to serve 10 core segments: Financial institutions, Enterprises / SMEs, Accounting and Auditing Firms / Consultants, Government Agencies, Credit bureaus, Stock Exchanges, Insurers, Trade Associations and Business chambers, Universities and Investment Promotion Agencies.
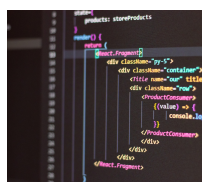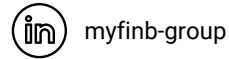
We manage a "digital factory" model where we help organisations build in-house capabilities via the Digital AI Labs (DIAL) programme. DIAL is a scheme of arrangement that helps organisations build and own A.I. expert systems – to solve a specific issue with a commercial goal in mind.

MyFinB's DIAL Programme offers a unique AI-as-a-Service (AIaaS) platform to overcome the barriers of adopting AI Systems. DIAL targets people without the knowledge of coding and programming to build their own expert systems for their organisations.

"Now everyone can build and own ai without coding."

TO FIND OUT MORE, PLEASE EMAIL: CEAI@MYFINB.COM

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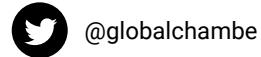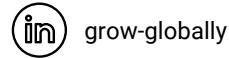
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