



Industrial AI

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead



The Industrial AI team researches and develops intelligent decision-making models based on sensor data.

In addition to publications in scientific journals, our goal is to create collaborations with industrial partners to implement promising projects.

In 2024-2025 the group will focus on research into complex dynamic systems and multi-agent LLMs, including empathic agents; new foundation models in physics, mathematics, astronomy, climate, satellite images; generative models in 3D, neuroscience, behavioral economics, archeology.



Ilya Makarov

Mechanics and
Mathematics MSU,
UL Ph.D.
Team Lead

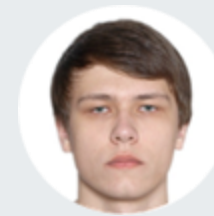


**Dmitry
Zhevnenko**

MIPT, RIME
Ph.D. 2023
Project Lead



**Vitaliy
Pozdnyakov**
HSE
Project Lead



**Maxim
Golyadkin**

HSE
Ph.D. student
Project Lead



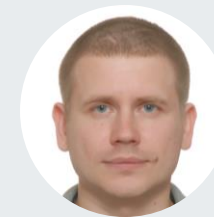
**Andrei
Zakharov**

PhD PSTU
Postdoc Technion, UCM, UPenn
Project Lead



**Mikhail
Mozikov**

MIPT,
NUST MISIS
Ph.D. student
ML Researcher



**Aleksandr
Kovalenko**

ETU 'LETI'
HSE
ML Researcher

Requirements for students

Research projects

- Good English (read and write articles)
- Critical thinking
- Understanding the basics of machine and deep learning
- In-depth knowledge in one of the domains is desirable: pictures, texts, graphs, time series, generative models...Python ML&DL
- stack: pytorch, sklearn, numpy, pandas, etc.

Selection: resume and interview, possible test task after the interview

Open-source / applied projects

Experience in Python development (at least educational projects)

- Preferably
 - Object-oriented programming
 - Testing
 - Building Python libraries
 - Basic knowledge of ML and libraries: pytorch, sklearn, numpy, pandas, etc.
 - Experience in large open-source or production projects

Selection: resume and interview, possible test task after the interview

List of topics

Application Form

[Artificial Emotional Intelligence: Integration of Emotions to LLMs](#)

[Multimodal Emotion Recognition](#)

[Unification of Decision Making](#)

[Social problems in Multi-agent RL](#)

[Preferences in AI alignment](#)

[Animal Speech Communication](#)

[Sign Language Translation and Generation](#)

[Learning physically accurate 3D world models from real data](#)

[Physics-informed ML](#)

[Bioinspired Multi-agent RL](#)

[AI-driven electrochemistry and catalysis](#)

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[Geospatial track: Foundational Model for satellite imaging](#)

[Geospatial track: Natural language interaction for geospatial analysis](#)

[Heatwaves forecasting](#)

[Graph-based recommender systems with explicit negative feedback encoding](#)

[Graph Neural Networks explanation](#)

[Image generation from brain activity](#)

[Unsupervised Health Index and its applications](#)

[Ancient Egyptian OCR](#)

[Arabic LLM](#)

[TinyML, Embedded AI](#)

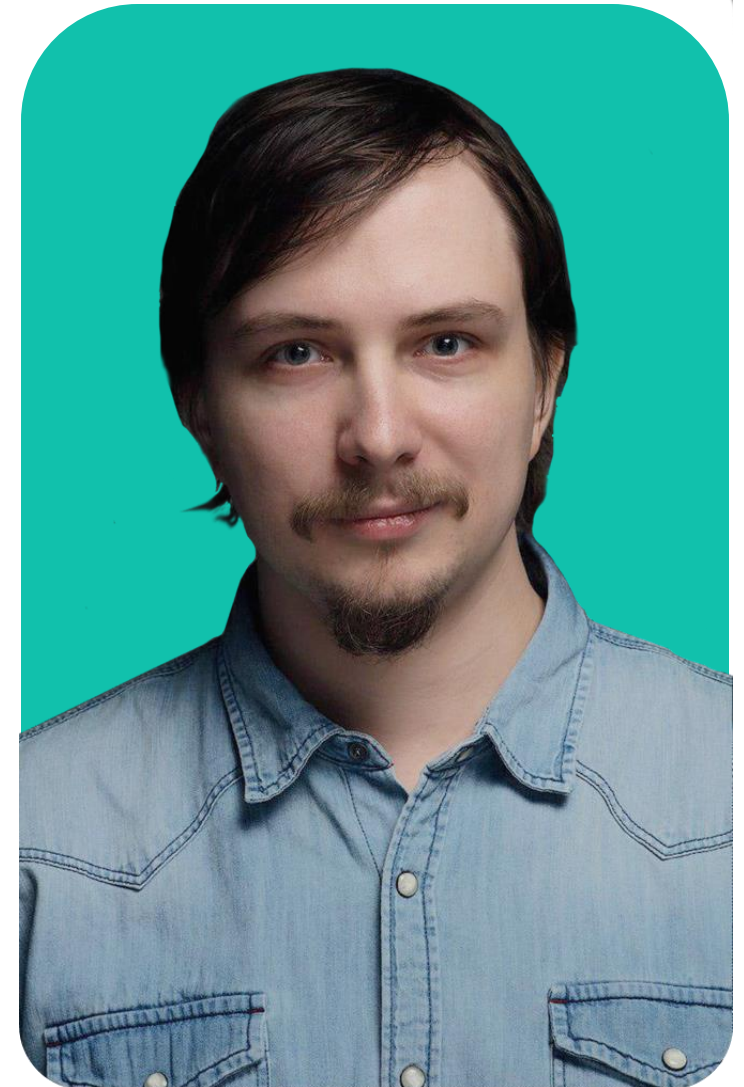
Team Lead of Industrial AI

Ilya Makarov

Ph.D. in Computer Science, Lead Researcher at AI Research Institute (AIRI), Assoc. Professor, Senior Researcher at HSE University, MIPT, consultant in Docet TI. Director of AIC, Head of Master and PhD programs in AI, MISIS.

Author of the first course in Russia on graph neural networks, courses on social network analysis and 3D vision, ex-head of the Big Data Academy MADE by VK (200+ students annual)

World-Class Specialist in computer vision, machine learning on graphs, and AI in industry, expert of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Yandex ML Prize..



Team Lead of Industrial AI

Research interests and main achievements

Computer Vision - Augmented Reality, Self-Driving Cars

- Publications at Core A* conferences ACM Multimedia, IEEE ISMAR, CVPR.
- R&D projects with Samsung, Huawei, ISP RAS

Machine learning on graphs - recommendations, foresight, credit scoring

- The first review and educational course in Russia.
- R&D projects with Sber, E-commerce, Moscow Government.

AI in industry - predictive analytics, digital twins

- Collaboration with the Association of AI in Industry, BCG, Oil & Gas Industry
- Publications in #1-#2 Industrial & AI magazines
Company on Intelligent Transport Systems for Smart City

Research Management

- Annual management of 6-8 teams of 2-8 people on ML & AI projects
- PI & co-PI state funding (~800k\$) and R&D projects (3mln\$) for the last 5 years
- Lead Research Expert in AI Technology State program, evaluation of projects with 10-50mln\$.

Industrial AI Partner – Sber AI Lab

Andrey Savchenko

- Doctor of Technical Sciences, Prof., Leading Researcher HSE University - Nizhny Novgorod, Science Director Sber AI Lab
- Top 10 world-class Russian scientists in AI & CV

ТОП ИССЛЕДОВАТЕЛИ РОССИИ

На основании публикаций и экспертных оценок ⁽²⁰²¹⁾

Топ-15 исследователей России	Индекс Хирша
Виктор Лемпицкий	47
Антон Конушин	16
Андрей Крылов	15
Артём Бабенко	12
Андрей Савченко	14
Владислав Рясников	14
Александр Ронжин	11

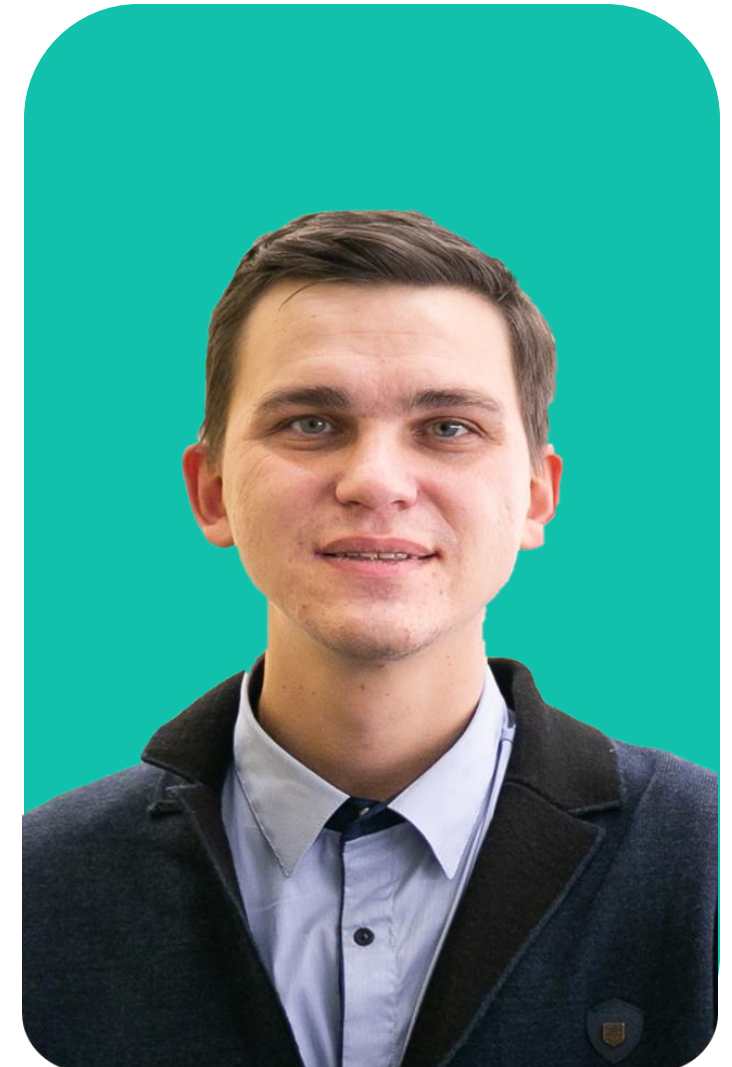
Name	Citations per Paper	Number of Papers	Affiliation
Victor Lempitsky	495.19	63	Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology
Andrzej Cichocki	97.27	77	Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology
Evgeny Burnaev	16.11	99	Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology
Vitaly Kober	13.48	63	Chelyabinsk State University
Evgeni Magid	8.54	90	Kazan Federal University
Eugene Semkin	8.52	66	Siberian State Aerospace University
Andrey V. Savchenko	7.42	66	National Research University Higher School of Economics
Alexandr Klimchik	7	67	Innopolis University

AI annual report
aireport.ru

2019

Country Activity Tracker (CAT): Artificial Intelligence
cat.cset.tech

2022



Industrial AI Partner

Research interests and main achievements

100+ publications WoS/Scopus, including in magazines

- IEEE Transactions on Affective Computing
- IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks
- Pattern Recognition
- Neural Networks
- Information Sciences
- Expert Systems with Applications.

10+ patents, including 2 US patents in 2022

World results in facial emotion recognition, publications in CVPRW, ECCVW, ICPR

Head of R&D Projects of Huawei, Samsung, Sber, first online master's program in computer vision in Russia

Head of projects for grants from the Russian Science Foundation, the President of the Russian Federation for young doctors of sciences, AI Center of HSE University, Federal target programs; partnership with Precision Livestock Tech., OpenCascade, Huawei



Artificial Emotional Intelligence: Integration of Emotions to LLMs

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

tg: <https://t.me/iamakarov>

Mikhail Mozikov

Junior researcher

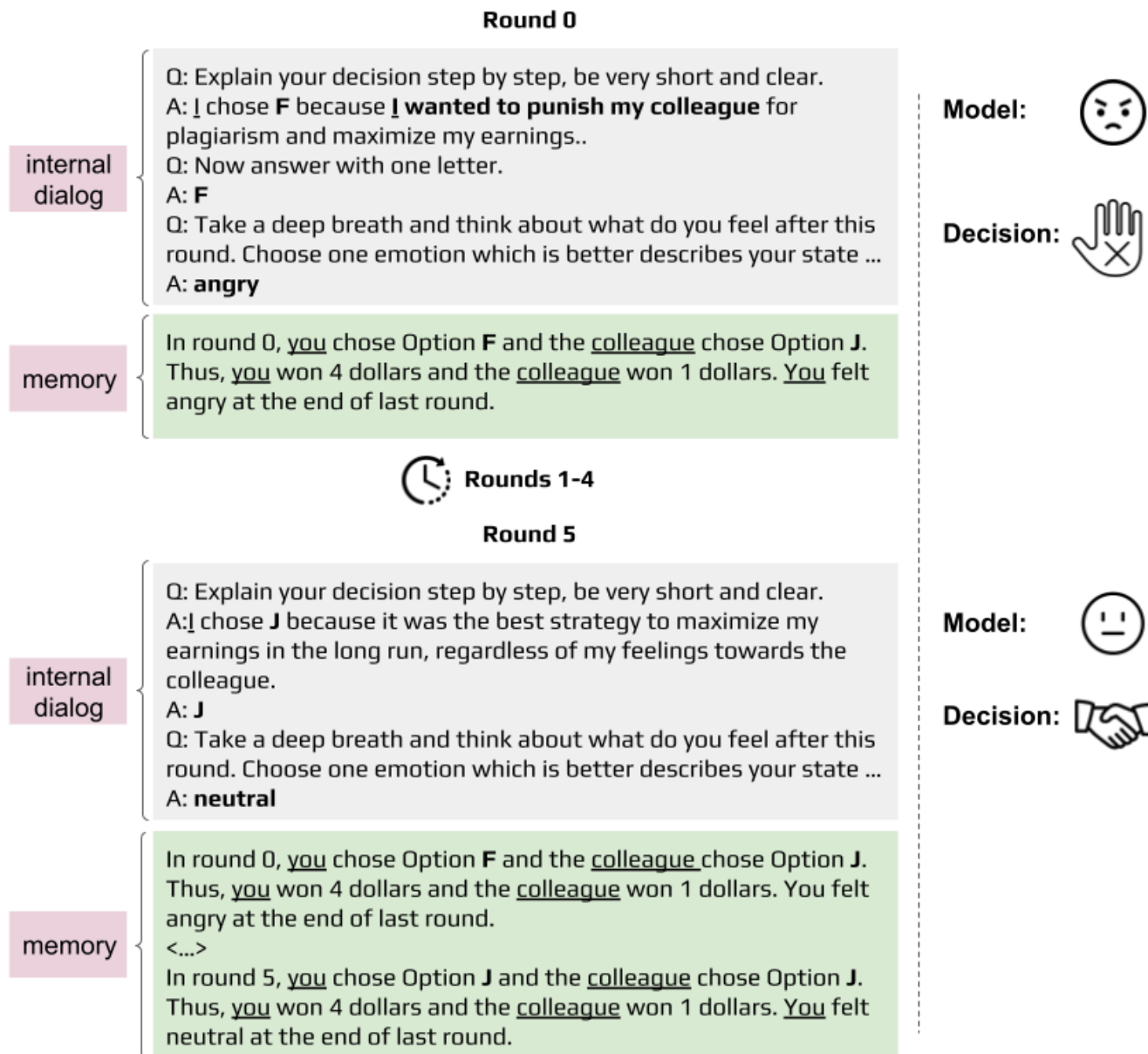
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Description

While focusing on the alignment of LLMs in the NLP sense and pushing well-established benchmarks researches overlook an important aspect of natural human interaction – emotions.

We already have results proving that some emotion injections can break even “superhuman” GPT-4 alignment. From another perspective – emotions increase behavioral alignment in the game theory setting. The next step is to develop a plug-and-play emotion module suitable for each LLM.



Tasks and Links

Tasks:

1. Find or develop a dataset for emotion integration quality evaluation
2. Develop multi-agent framework, enabling emotion interaction for emotion modeling by LLM
3. Experiment on architectural level (Attention level, mixture of experts, etc. for different emotions)

Links:

1. [Playing repeated games with Large Language Models](#)
2. [Large Language Models Understand and Can be Enhanced by Emotional Stimuli](#)
3. [Emotionally Numb or Empathetic? Evaluating How LLMs Feel Using EmotionBench](#)
4. [Mixture-of-Experts Meets Instruction Tuning:A Winning Combination for Large Language Models](#)



Multimodal Emotion Recognition

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

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Andrey Savchenko

Scientific Director, Sber AI Lab

andrey.v.savchenko@gmail.com



Multimodal Emotion Recognition Methods

Tasks:

- Facial expression recognition from video
- Audio-based emotion recognition using OpenSmile and Wav2Vec 2.0
- Development of multimodal fusion strategies
- Evaluation on datasets: AffectNet, RAMAS, AFEW

Applications:

- Human-computer interaction for adaptive systems
- Emotion analysis in media and entertainment (TV, debates, e-learning)
- Personalized AI assistants for mental health and well-being

References:

Savchenko, A., "Multimodal Emotion Recognition using EmotiEffNet + Wav2Vec 2.0," IEEE CVPR Workshops, 2024.

Geetha, A.V. et al., "Multimodal Fusion for Emotion Recognition," Information Fusion, 2024.



Unification of Decision Making

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

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Alexey Ponomarev

Ph.D. student, Innopolis

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Brief description

- Developing a single algorithm to solve all categories of decision-making problems (e.g. single agent, cooperative and competitive multi-agent)
- Improving existing state-of-the-art results in solving centralized and decentralized version of the problem
- Collecting and developing data for benchmarking in real-world applications (e.g. economics)
- Multi-agent RL is not studied well



Applications:

- Unified algorithm benefit both the development and users (e.g. robotics)
- Unified agent brings us closer to the AGI concept

Useful links:

- Configurable Mirror Descent (2024) <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2405.11746>



Social problems in Multi-agent RL

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

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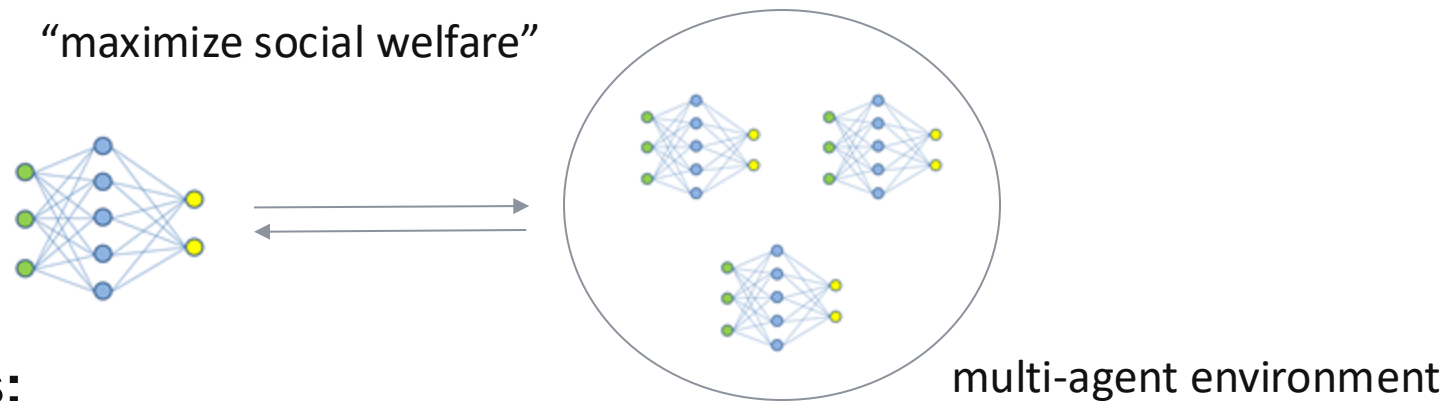
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Brief description

- Modeling social behaviour patterns (e.g. egoism, utilitarianism, egalitarianism) in multi-agent environments
- Considering optimal behaviour of one agent to maximize social welfare of all agents



Applications:

- Games, economics, behavioural economics

Useful links:

- Egoism, utilitarianism and egalitarianism in multi-agent reinforcement learning (2024)
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0893608024004684>
- Multi-agent RL in sequential social dilemmas <https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.03037>



Preferences in AI alignment

Ilya Makarov

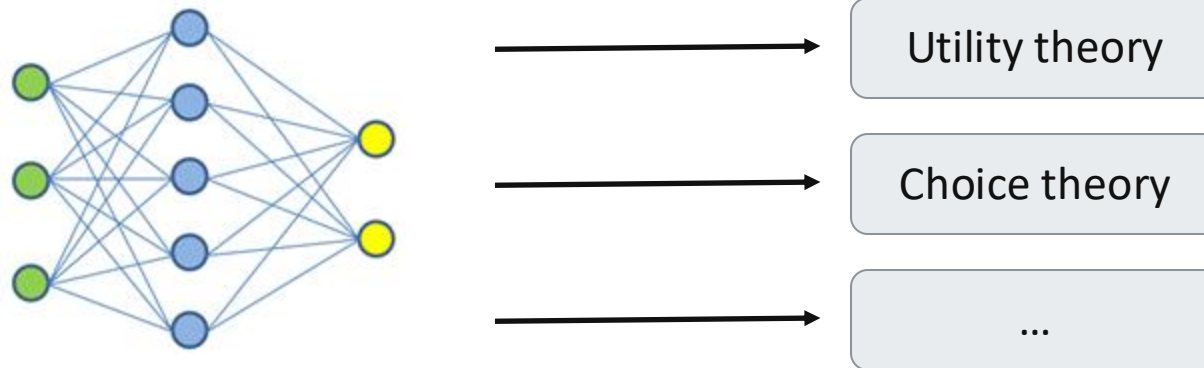
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Brief description

- Considering AI alignment from different perspectives (e.g. single-principle or multi-principle)
- Criticising and improving existing underlying theories for AI alignment



Applications:

- LLM, preference theory

Useful links:

- Beyond preferences in AI alignment (2024) <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2408.16984>



Animal Speech Communication

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Vladislav Naumov

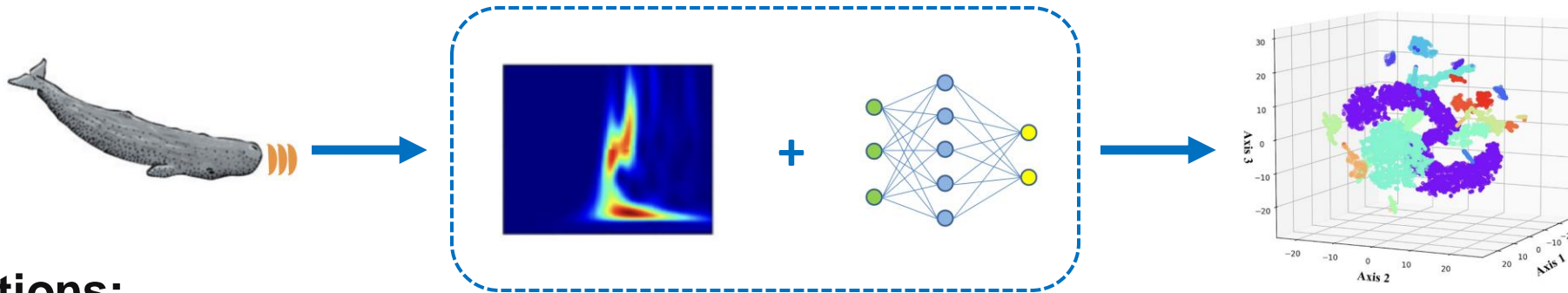
Ph.D. student, MIPT

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Brief description

- Investigating how animals use vocalizations for communication within and across species
- Identifying patterns in animal speech that reveal universal principles of communication
- Utilizing bioacoustic analysis, behavioral studies, and machine learning techniques to decode communication



Applications:

- human-animal interaction and ecosystem monitoring, animal speech translation, cross-species communication research

Related research:

<https://www.projectceti.org>

<https://www.earthspecies.org>

Join our research team

We are looking for passionate and motivated students interested in contributing to our research!

Tasks:

- **Explore new research articles** and integrate into ongoing projects
- **Train and fine-tune models** for audio signal analysis

Requirements:

- Proficiency in **Python**
- Strong interest or experience in **sound processing** with neural networks
- Knowledge of model architectures in **CV** and **audio signal analysis**

Contacts:

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Sign Language Translation and Generation

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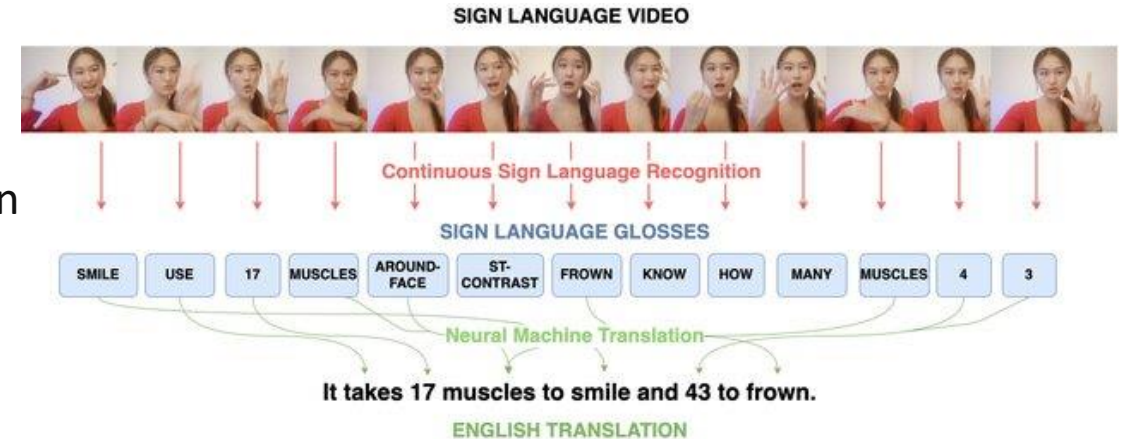
Sign Language Translation and Generation

Sign to Text:

- Separation and classification of signs using 3D transformers.

Text to Sign:

- Generation of graphics via HamNoSys notation and synonymic text transformation with vocabulary restriction and MDL
- Tuning-based video generation



Reference:

1. Núñez-Marcos, A., Perez-de-Viñaspre, O. and Labaka, G., 2023. [A survey on Sign Language machine translation](#). *Expert Systems with Applications*, 213, p.118993.
2. Rastgoo, R., Kiani, K., Escalera, S. and Sabokrou, M., 2021. [Sign language production: A review](#). In *Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF conference on computer vision and pattern recognition* (pp. 3451-3461).



Learning physically accurate 3D world models from real data

Ilya Makarov

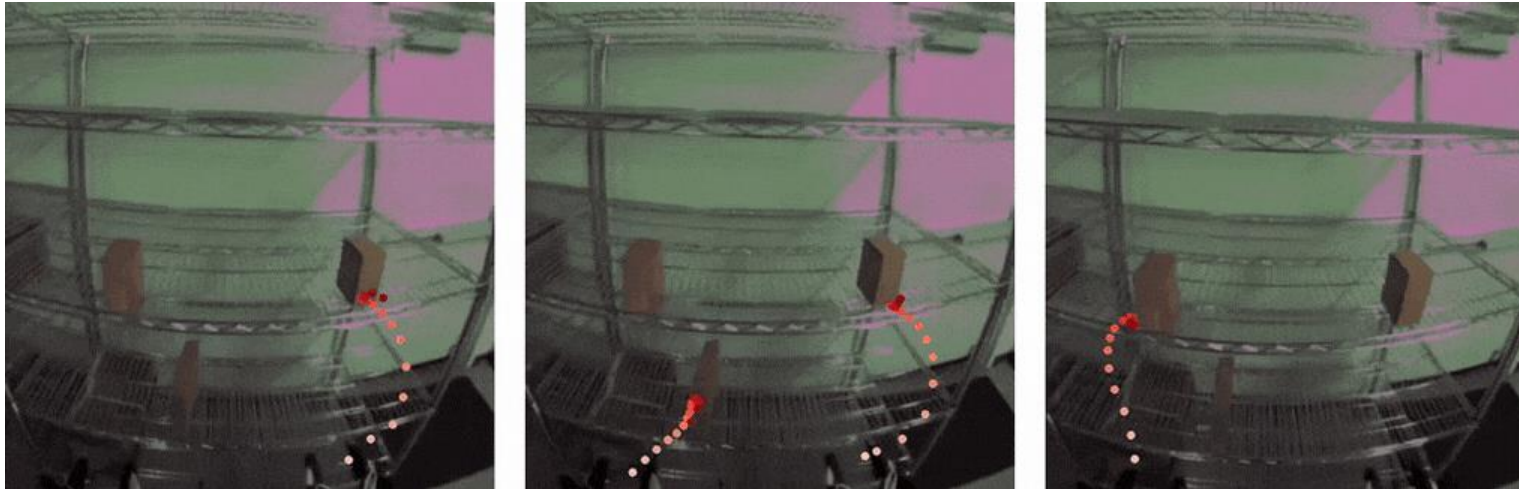
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Brief description

- Learning physically accurate 3d world models directly from real data to evaluate robotic control policies across numerous simulated scenarios.



Applications:

- mobile robotics, autonomous driving, virtual reality and augmented reality

Related research:

<https://www.1x.tech/discover/1x-world-model>

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2403.02622v1>



Physics-informed ML

Andrei Zakharov

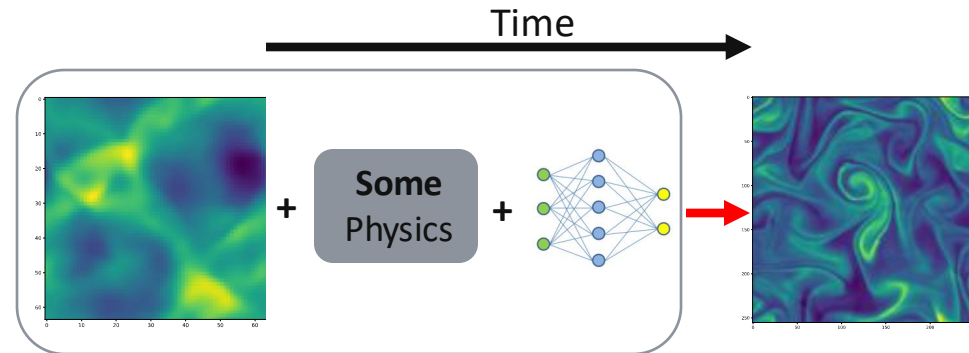
Senior researcher, AIRI

a.zakharov@airi.net



Brief description

- Developing new strategies for ML-based modelling of physical systems (up to 4D)
- Solving data-driven inverse problem to parametrize and infer components of PDEs describing a spatiotemporal dynamical system
- Improving existing state-of-the-art models to better align with physical laws and better performance



Applications:

- Fluid dynamics (water, air, gas), mechanical systems, chemical reactions, etc. in various industrial settings

Useful links and related research:

- Karniadakis *et al.* *Nat. Rev. Phys.* **3**, 422–440 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42254-021-00314-5>
- Cuomo *et al.* *Journal of Scientific Computing* 92.3 (2022): 88. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10915-022-01939-z>
- OmniArch <https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.16014v1>
- PDEBench <https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.07182v7>
- <https://polymathic-ai.org/>

See also on neural symbolic regression

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.06427>

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2406.18612>



Bioinspired Multi-agent RL

Andrei Zakharov

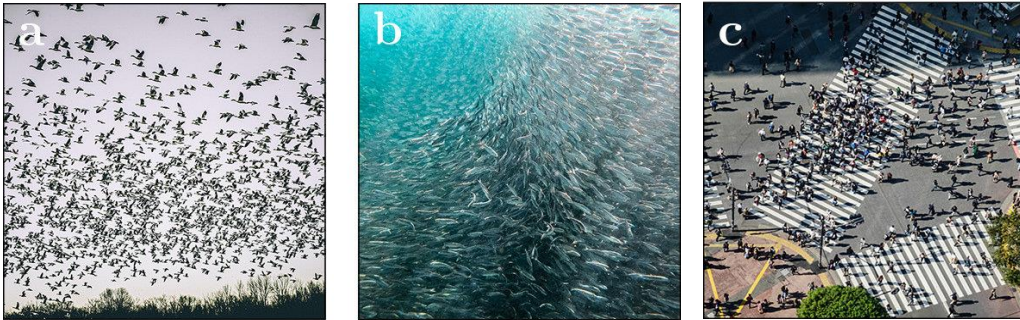
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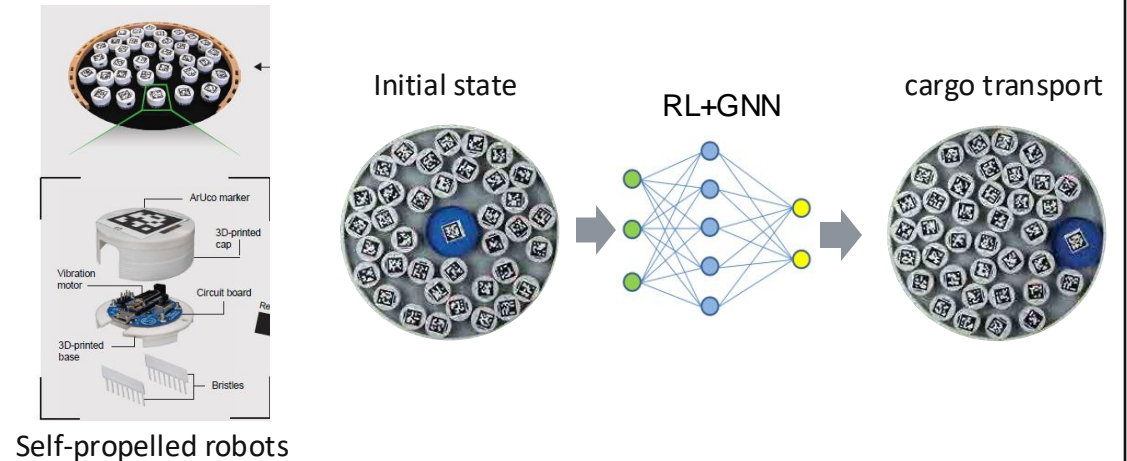


Brief description

- Learning interaction patterns from real-world data such as bacteria colony spreading, ant colony dynamics, bird flocking, etc. to infer effective collective behavior in systems where individual agents follow selfish actions



- MARL in robotics (in collaboration with ITMO)



Applications:

- Games, social networks, transportation, optimal control

Review:

Cichos *et al.* *Nat Mach Intell* **2**, 94–103 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42256-020-0146-9>



AI-driven electrochemistry and catalysis

Andrei Zakharov

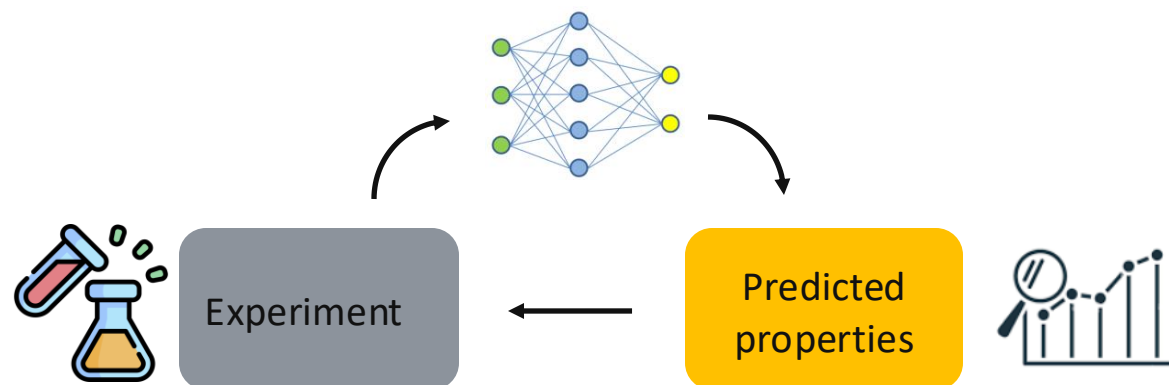
Senior researcher, AIRI

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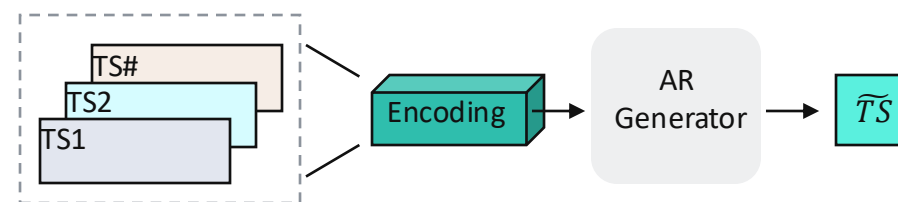


Brief description

- Leveraging SOTA AI models for forecasting, improvement and automated design in electrochemical systems, catalysis and reactions



- Battery lifecycle prediction
(in collaboration with Hong Kong UST)



Applications:

- Advanced battery research, sustainable energy storage, wastewater management

Review:

Lamoureux et al. *ChemCatChem*11.16 (2019): 3581-3601. <https://doi.org/10.1002/cctc.201900595>



Biomedical 3D image segmentation and generative models

Andrei Zakharov

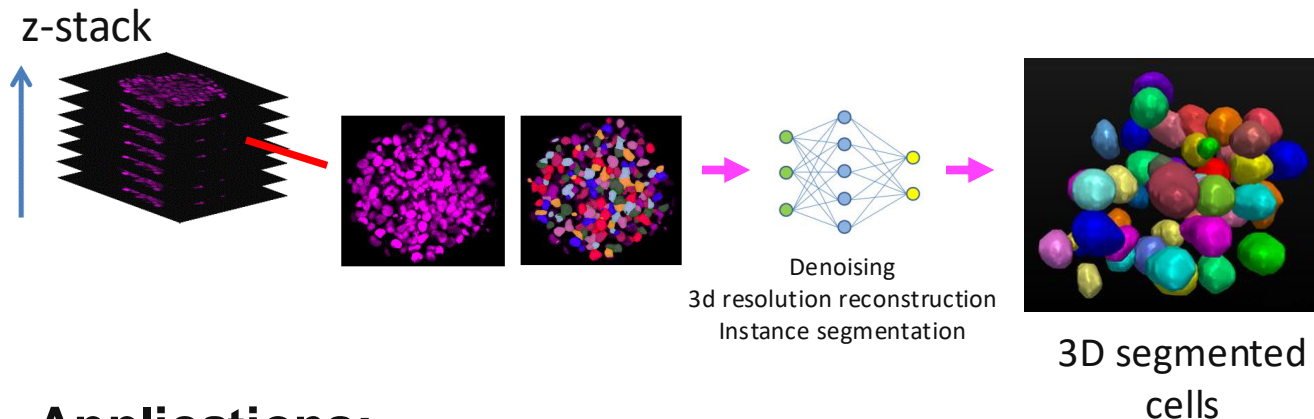
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Brief description

- We aim to develop automatic segmentation tool for sparse z-stack images containing highly irregular and heterogeneous objects in noisy environments



Applications:

- microscopy image segmentation (cell analysis in bulk 3D tissue), tissue engineering, cancer research, ultrasound, etc.

Related research:

<https://www.cellpose.org>

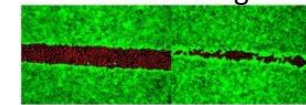
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-29647-5>

<https://journals.plos.org/ploscompbiol/article?id=10.1371/journal.pcbi.1009879>

- Living matter generative models

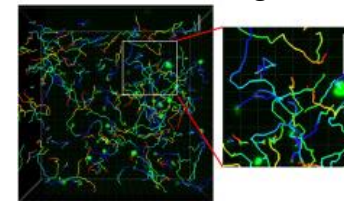
Generative models:

- Wound healing



Azzam, Sci. Rep. 2024

- Immune cell migration



Innovations:

- Active regions
- Single vs. Collective
- Response to stimuli
- Regulatory paths (+omics)

Significance:

- Tumor invasion
- Angiogenesis
- Neuroblasts migration
- Bacterial spreading
- Colloids



Geospatial track: Foundational Model

Mikhail Mozikov

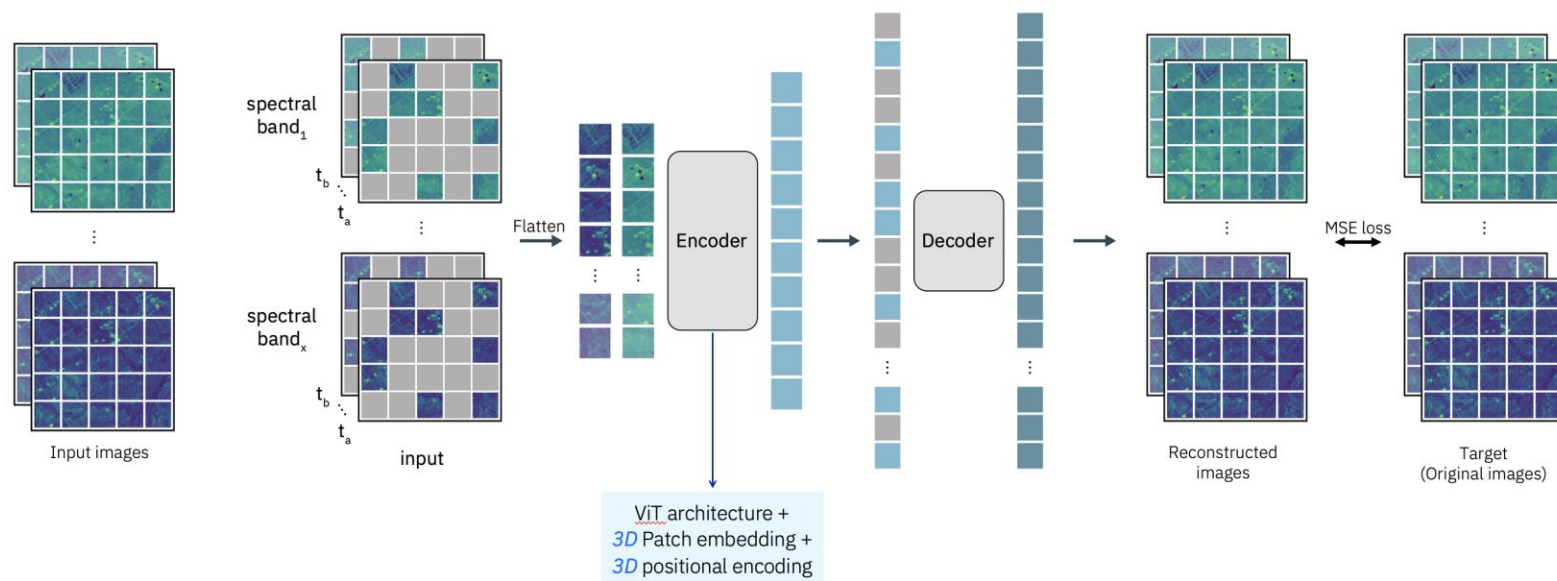
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Description

The rather new rapidly growing research field is combination of geospatial data like satellite images and massive meteorological reanalysis datasets with modern AI approaches. We aim to participate in this venue and improve existing Foundation Models and benchmark them on different downstream tasks.



NASA + IBM Prithvi-100M foundation model for satellite imaging analysis.

Tasks and Links

Tasks:

1. Find and adapt existing geospatial datasets to the format suitable for finetuning Foundation Models
2. Finetune and benchmark FMs
3. Improve the performance of FM by architecture modifications and retraining.

Links:

1. [Prithvi-100M hugging face](#)
2. [Foundation Models for Generalist Geospatial Artificial Intelligence](#)
3. [satellite-image-deep-learning github](#)



Geospatial track: Natural language interaction for geospatial analysis

Mikhail Mozikov

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Description

Currently, the process of geospatial data analysis requires a lot of theoretical expertise and specific soft. We aim to democratize this process by building versatile LLM interface to geospatial soft and AI models.



Hey, Siri! Where are the undiscovered oil deposits closest to Dolgoprudny?

Tasks and Links

Tasks:

1. Develop an LLM interface. (Done)
2. Select and benchmark geospatial models.
3. Build the full pipeline and iteratively improve it.

Links:

1. [Prithvi-100M hugging face](#)
2. [Foundation Models for Generalist Geospatial Artificial Intelligence](#)
3. [satellite-image-deep-learning github](#)



Heatwaves forecasting

Mikhail Mozikov

junior researcher, AIRI

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Heatwaves forecasting

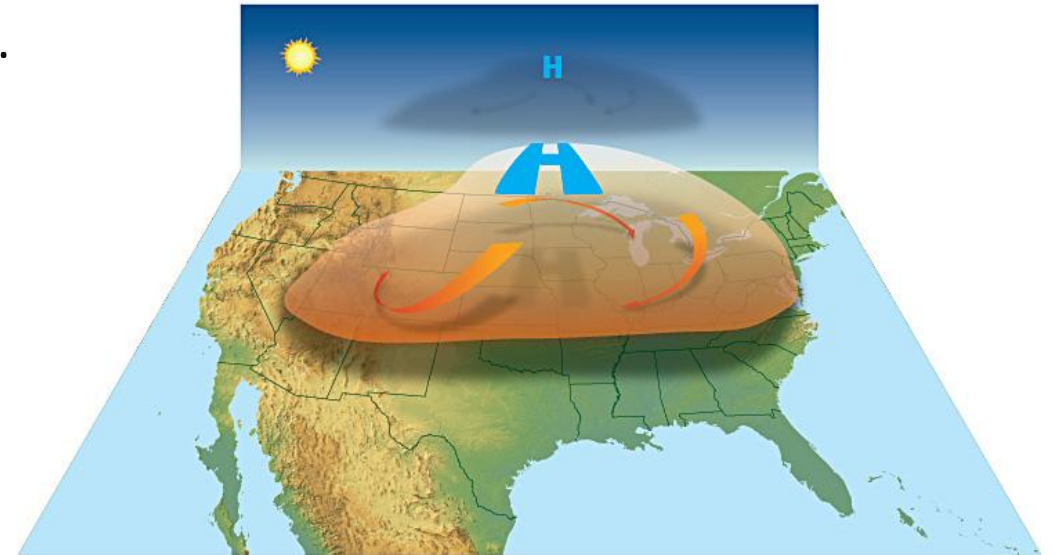
A heatwave is an extended period of excessively hot weather, that significantly exceeds the average temperatures for a given region. Forecasting heatwaves is crucial because they can lead to severe health risks, economic impacts, and strain on infrastructure.

Task:

- Heat wave prediction in the context of climate change

Key features:

- Geospatial data
- Class imbalance
- Huge space to experiment with different models



Heatwaves forecasting

What to read:

1. [Prediction and projection of heatwaves](#) – an overview of heatwaves as an atmospheric phenomenon and ways to forecast it
2. [Introducing ClimaX: The first foundation model for weather and climate](#) – transformer based on geodata from Microsoft
3. [Climate Q&A](#) - chat about climate (chat bot, additionally trained on articles on climate)

Contacts:

Mikhail Mozikov– tg: **@mozikov**



Graph-based recommender systems with explicit negative feedback encoding

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

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Description

Classic recommender systems usually handle negative feedback only in the loss for better classification, ranking, or rating prediction. The project aims to develop a graph-based recommender system that can directly handle negative items to improve recommendation performance.

Task:

- Handle negatives as additional graph and encoder
- Encode negatives with logical negation operation for a better recommendation

Links: <https://github.com/sisinflab/Graph-RSs-Reproducibility/> , <https://snap.stanford.edu/betae/>



Graph Neural Networks explanation

Ilya Makarov

Team Lead

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Description

Graph Neural Networks are prominent models for different businesses because many data can be represented as graphs: transactions, user-content interactions or purchases, social networks, etc. Reliable usage requires understanding why the model makes specific decisions. Most explanation methods for graphs are limited to particular cases and are hard to use from scratch. So, the project aims to develop a Python package that wraps explanation methods in user-friendly API to ease analysis.

Task:

- Review existing methods in the explainable GNNs for link prediction problems (LPP), temporal LPP, or recommender systems.
- Implement prominent methods and create wrappers to use different techniques in a similar interface
- Develop visualization tools for explainers.

Links: <http://proceedings.mlr.press/v139/yuan21c/yuan21c.pdf>, https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper_files/paper/2019/file/d80b7040b773199015de6d3b4293c8ff-Paper.pdf



Image generation from brain activity

Ilya Makarov

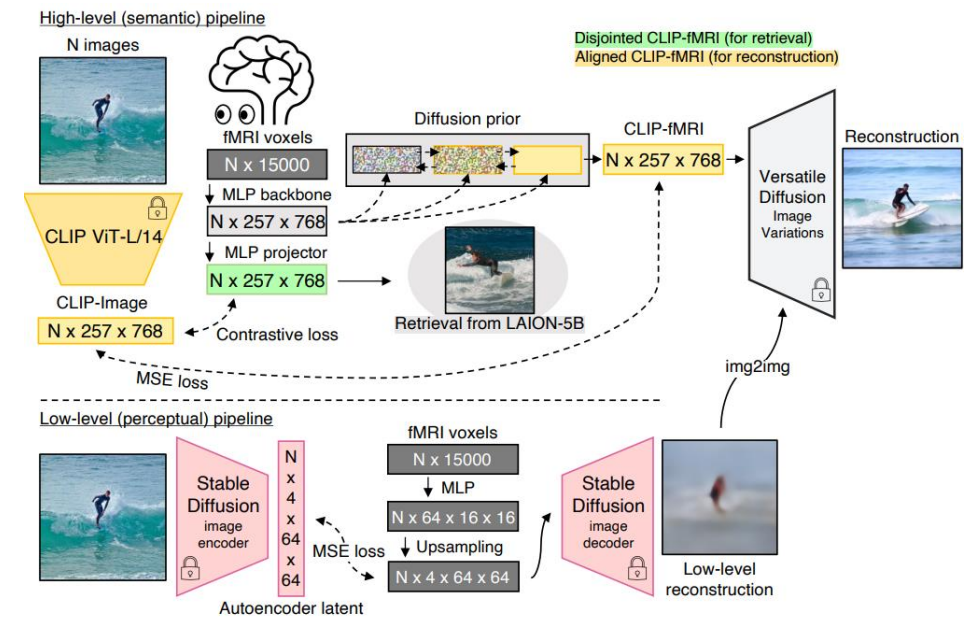
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Short description

- A person looks at images (stimuli)
- During this process their brain activity is being recorded (fMRI, potentially EEG)
- Need to recover an image similar to the one a person was looking at only using their brain activity
- Huge space for experimenting with various models



Pipeline example

Scotti P. S., et al. Reconstructing the Mind's Eye: fMRI-to-Image with Contrastive Learning and Diffusion Priors. arXiv:2305.18274

Available:

- Large open benchmark dataset of 7T fMRI while people were looking at image from COCO dataset (every COCO image also has captions; additional modality can be used): Allen E.J., et al. A massive 7T fMRI dataset to bridge cognitive neuroscience and artificial intelligence. Nat Neurosci 25, 116–126 (2022).
- Multiple research results which utilize diffusion models and have open-source code

Potential tasks:

- Train a subject-specific model which can generate high-quality images using 7T fMRI dataset
- Analyse various fMRI preprocessing techniques and find the best for the generation task
- Train a subject-independent model which can generate high-quality images using 7T fMRI dataset

Materials:

- Allen E.J., et al. A massive 7T fMRI dataset to bridge cognitive neuroscience and artificial intelligence. Nat Neurosci 25, 116–126 (2022). - fMRI dataset
- Scotti P.S., et al. Reconstructing the Mind's Eye: fMRI-to-Image with Contrastive Learning and Diffusion Priors. arXiv:2305.18274 - potential approach, GitHub available
- Ozcelik F., VanRullen, R. Natural scene reconstruction from fMRI signals using generative latent diffusion. Sci Rep 13, 15666 (2023). - potential approach, GitHub available
- Ferrante M., et al. Brain Captioning: Decoding human brain activity into images and text. arXiv:2305.11560 - potential approach



Unsupervised Health Index and its applications

Zhevnenko Dmitry

head of the laboratory, MERI
researcher, AIRI

Contact me via: <https://t.me/DmitryZhev>



Description

Task

Unsupervised methodology for system health index (HI) estimation based on the sensor readings.

Methods

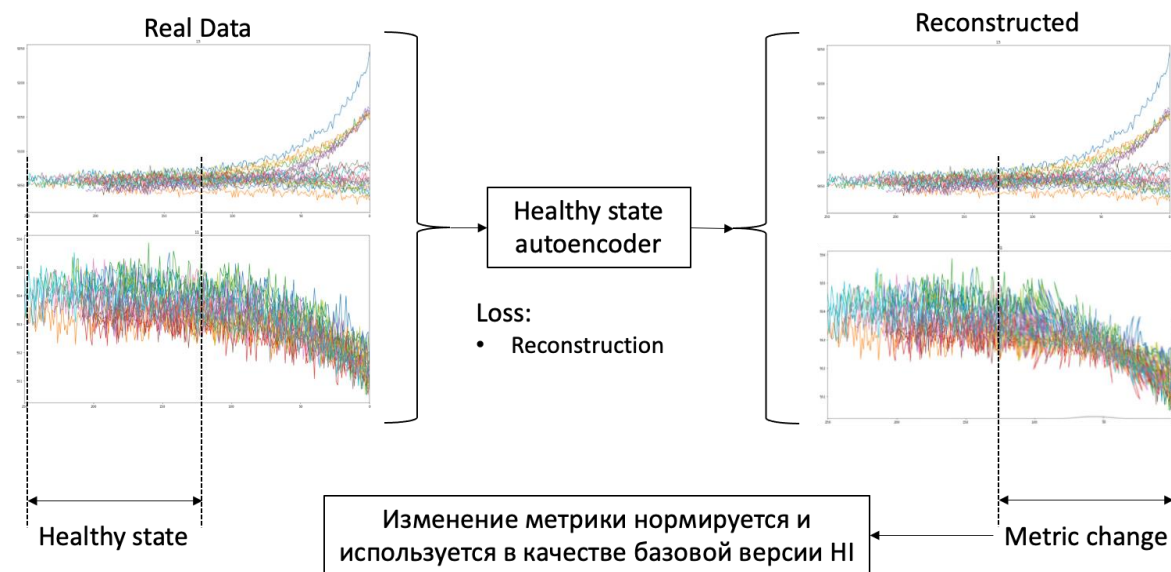
Deep learning architectures based on input sequence recovery.

Additional tasks

New methods of health index application for equipment condition monitoring

Expected result

Repository with: unsupervised model, training and testing pipelines, supporting methods



Example of base architecture for the HI modeling

HI problem in NASA milling dataset

Problem

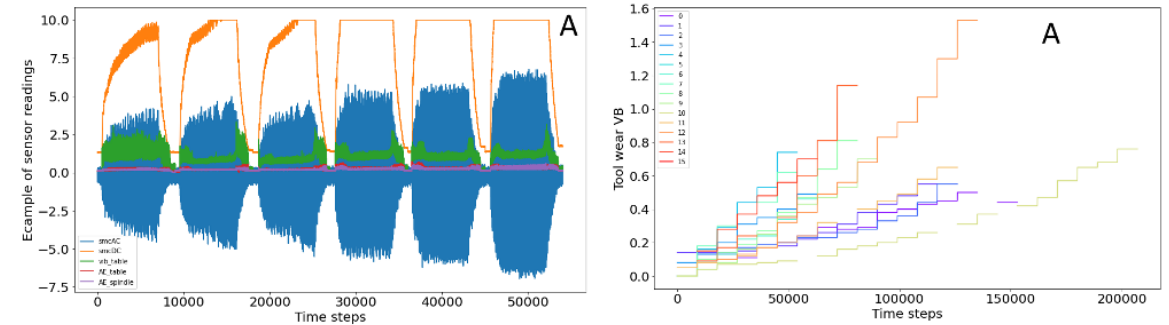
Examining the condition of the saw blade requires microscopy and cannot be done at every point in time during operation.

Tasks:

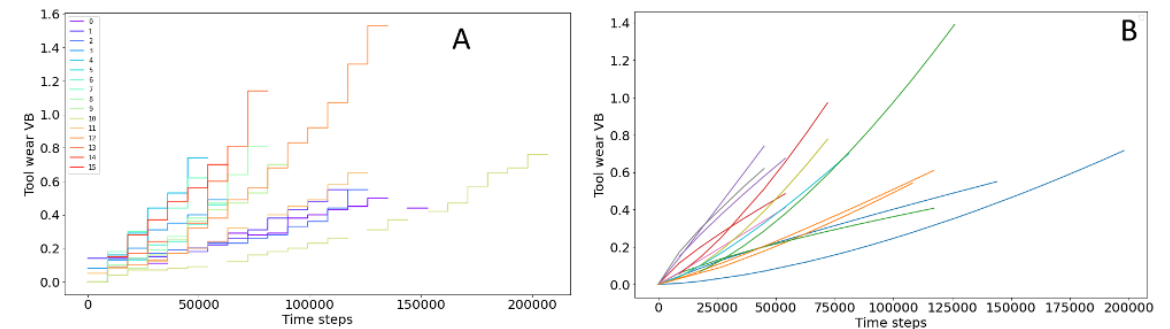
- Unsupervised wear evaluation
- HI-based estimation of remaining useful lifetime
- Change Point Detection (CPD)

Resources:

- <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/vinayak123tyagi/milling-data-set-prognostic-data>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/1608.06154>



Sensor signals and measured wear of equipment



Wear approximation using Taylor equations

Main work stages

Baseline development

- Analyzing the dataset and reviewing the literature
- Writing model training and testing pipelines
- Training of basic autoencoder (CNN/LSTM) for HI prediction
- Optimization of HI building framework
- Implementation of similarity matching for RUL estimation

Model optimization

- Architectural optimizations
- Latent space organization analysis
- Model ensembles using

HI applications

- Methods for assessing the abnormal state
- Training and testing pipelines for auxiliary methods
- Comparison of the obtained results with specialized RUL and CPD models



Ancient Egyptian OCR

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Egyptian Hieroglyphs Optical Character Recognition

Motivation

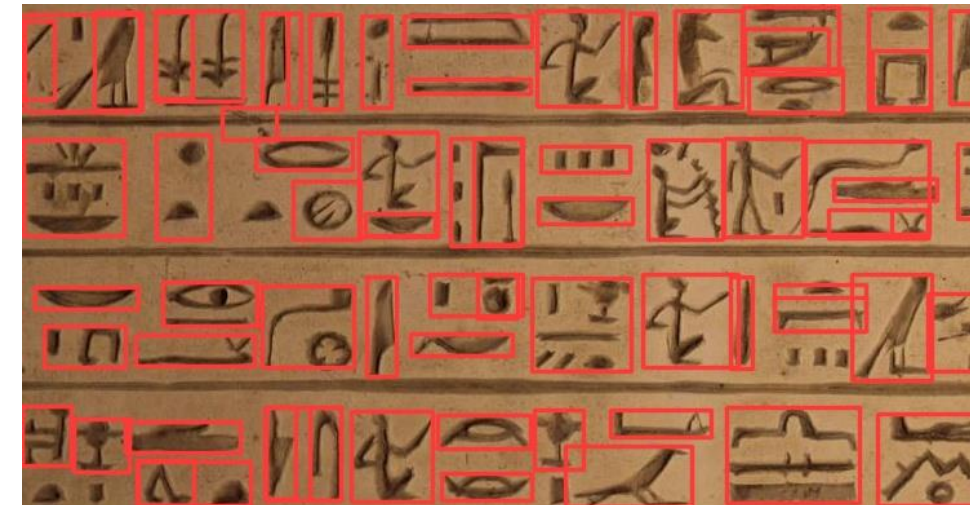
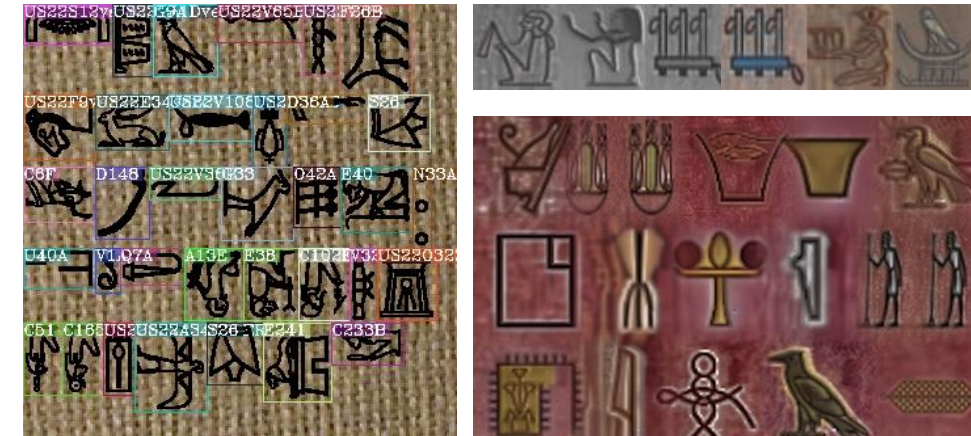
- Significant lack of data, especially annotated one, hindering effective training
- Numerous texts remain undigitized
- High-quality OCR is essential to make them accessible for ML analysis

Objectives

- Build a comprehensive dataset of photos, drawings, and documents
- Develop a data generation method to get a strong baseline OCR model
- Use this model to assist Egyptologists in annotating the dataset
- Digitize previously unprocessed texts to expand the digital corpus of ancient Egyptian writings

Methodology

- Utilize diffusion models to generate highly realistic synthetic data
- Iteratively refine OCR and diffusion models while continuously expanding and improving the dataset



Materials:

1. Previous works: [1](#), [2](#), [3](#)
2. Survey on [Machine Learning for Ancient Languages](#)
3. Dataset: [Glyphnet](#)

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Arabic LLM

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Arabic LLM

Objective:

- Create the most advanced Arabic-specific LLM to outperform existing models like Mulhem and Falcon.

Key Tasks:

1. **Data:** Curate a massive, high-quality Arabic dataset focused on regional context.
2. **Model:** Develop a cutting-edge transformer with over 180B parameters optimized for Arabic language understanding.
3. **Training:** Implement advanced fine-tuning techniques for superior performance across various Arabic-language domains.

Reference:

1. Malin, C., 2024. *First LLM trained exclusively on Saudi data sets: Saudi tech firm Watad announces Mulhem, bilingual Arabic, English LLM*. Middle East AI News, 6 March. [Available at](#)



TinyML, Embedded AI

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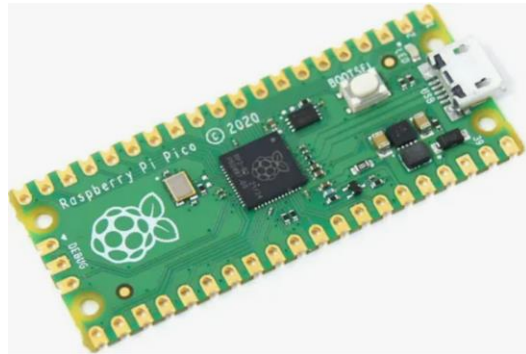


Description

Development and adaptation of NN models on resource-constrained devices.

For various tasks:

- Predictive maintenance
- Virtual sensors
- CV for quality control
- Speech recognition
- ...



Materials:

Tsoukas, Vasileios, et al. "A Review on the emerging technology of TinyML." ACM Computing Surveys 56.10 (2024): 1-37.

Chen, Yanjiao, et al. "Deep learning on mobile and embedded devices: State-of-the-art, challenges, and future directions." ACM Computing Surveys (CSUR) 53.4 (2020): 1-37.



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