Robert Bosch Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence

RBCDSAI, IIT Madras hosted Colloquium on 'Artificial Intelligence – A Priority for India' On 22nd April 2019

Indian Institute of Technology Madras - Robert Bosch Centre for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence hosted a Colloquium on 'Artificial Intelligence - A Priority for India' on April 22, 2019, brings leading researchers, academicians, policymakers and industry leaders in India, to understand the research and innovation in AI and Machine Learning in the country. It also focused on arriving at actionable programs for the Indian AI ecosystem to contribute and collaborate The Colloquium was anchored by RBCDSAI, IIT Madras, a premier multi-disciplinary AI Centre in India, along with itihaasa research and digital, a non-profit organization which studies the evolution of technology domains in India. IIT Madras recently conducted a colloquium (Artificial Intelligence – A Priority for India) program.

S.Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman of itihaasa Research and Digital and Axilor Ventures, said, "Artificial Intelligence is an important technology driving global economic growth in the 4th industrial revolution and in which India should develop national capability and global leadership. This is essential to meet our aspirations of becoming a USD 5 trillion economy in the next five years. At itihaasa Research and Digital, we published the first-of-its-kind report on the landscape of AI research in India that sets the agenda for how we can build a strong capability in AI. We have co-anchored the IIT Madras AI Colloquium to spark a meaningful dialogue among researchers, industry, and policy makers. I am optimistic about AI making a positive impact on India's growth."

Prof Bhaskar Ramamurthi, Director, IIT Madras, said, "There is a lot of excitement surrounding AI and it is our job in the university to figure out the way forward in such a way that its benefits and potential for misuse are clear. We should not discover security issues too late, as was the case with Internet."

Importance of this Colloquium

Speaking about the importance of this Colloquium, Prof Mahesh Panchagnula, Dean (International and Alumni Relations), IIT Madras, said, "Events like this colloquium that bring together people from a cross-section of stakeholders are crucial to the evolution of AI in a direction that benefits the society at large. Institutions like IIT Madras have to take a lead role in organizing such colloquia." Around 30 speakers delivered lectures during the Colloquium, which attracted more than 200 participants, with 65% from industry and the rest from the academic and student community.

Prof. B. Ravindran said, "The themes of the roundtables were chosen to reflect the key challenges that need to be addressed for wider adoption of AI, particularly in India. The deliberations in the colloquium would lead to greater awareness of these issues, and hopefully, result in more sustained dialogues between the different stakeholders in evolving India's AI policy." Artificial Intelligence has become ubiquitous today. Whether it is a recommendation for your next retail purchase or a conversation with a service chatbot or automated medical diagnosis, AI impacts us in our everyday lives. Every industry is striving to leverage AI and create competitive advantage in its business. At the same time, there are some key questions that are critical in AI.

Fourth RBC-DSAI Workshop on Recent Progress in Data Science and AI , 10th May 2019

Winning Posters

➢ Topology Identification using Steady State Data : **Satya Jayadev P** Shankar Narasimhan , Nirav Bhatt

➢ Incorporating structural information to improve dialogue response generation. **Nikita Moghe**, Priyesh Vijayan, Balaraman Ravindran, and Mitesh M. Khapra

Talks given by RBCDSAI Faculty

Prof.B.Ravindran

1. "Why the recent excitement in AI", Invited Talk, Jackson Laboratories, Bar Harbour, Maine, USA, May 20, 2019

2. "Beyond Rewards", Invited Talk, Department of Computer Science, Northeastern University, Boston, USA, May 17, 2019.

3. "A tutorial on (deep) Reinforcement Learning", IITM-Purdue Seminar Series, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA, May 13, 2019.

4. "Beyond Rewards", Invited Talk, Institute for Infocomm Research, Astar Institute, Singapore, May 9, 2019.

5. "Beyond Rewards", Department Colloquium (via Webex), Department of Computer Science, University of Texas, Dallas, USA, May 3, 2019.

6. "State of AI Research in India", Fireside Chat with Kris Gopalakrishnan, IIT Madras AI colloquium, April 22, 2019.

7. "AI in Transportation", Keynote Talk, Sweden India Innovation Partnership Conference on AI for All, New Delhi, April 11, 2019.

8. "Untag AI", Invited Talk, TedX Lavelle Road, Bangalore, April 7, 2019.

Prof. Himanshu Sinha

9. "Modelling determinants of phenotypic variation " Duke University Medical Center, Durham NC USA , May 20, 2019

10. " Phenotype buffering – determining the role of RP gene variants " Centre for Computational Systems Biology (CCSB), Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard University, Boston MA, USA, June 24, 2019

Prof. Karthik Raman

11. "Computational Approaches to Understanding Complex Biological Networks", Talk at Big Data Research Allahabad Summer School 2019, jointly organized by Allahabad University and Interdisciplinary Center for Scientific Computing (IWR) of Heidelberg University, April 1, 2019

RBCDSAI in collaboration with IIMBx successfully completed the first batch of **Certificate in Technology and Management** (**CTM**) Course and Launched the Second Batch in April 2019.

RBCDSAI Research Travel Scholarships :

1.Arjun Manoharan for an internship with Prof. Sriraam Natarajan, Director Center for Machine Learning, Department of CS, Erik Jonsson School of Engineering & Computer Science, The University of Texas at Dallas.

2.Prasan Ashok Shedligeri as a Visiting Predoctoral Research Fellow appointment with Dr Oliver Cossairt, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Northwestern University.

Congratulations Arjun & Prasan !!!

Visitors :

From April to June 2019, RBCDSAI hosted 80+ visitors from 40 + Organizations which include Societe Generale, Southern Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Sterling Software, Southern Railways Hospital, Delegates from Taiwan include TAIPEI Medical University &Taiwan Academia Industry Consortium, Taylor & Francis Group, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, The Jackson Laboratory, University of Edinburgh, University of Newcastle Australia, Thiagarajan College of Engineering, Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI), Tamilnadu eGovernance Authority (TNEGA), University of Technology Sydney, Valeo, Velodyne LiDAR, ViaSat India Pvt Ltd, VIDEOKEN INC, Virginia Tech, Virinchi, Virtusa, Wadhwani AI, WEIR group.

Hosted **Dr. Mahendra Sonawane** - May 2019 Group Leader, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. Post-Doctoral Research with Prof. Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard, at the Max Planck Institute of Developmental Biology.

Upcoming Events

➢ Facebook Data for Good, July 24, 2019

➢ Fifth RBCDSAI Workshop on Recent Progress in Data Science and AI, August 10, 2019

➢ PSE and Re imagining PSE in the era of big data science and IoT , August 18-19, 2019

➢ 2nd RBCDSAI AI/ML Conclave August 29, 2019