

Digitizing Spatial Experience for Fostering Empathy

Doctoral research

Ville Paananen

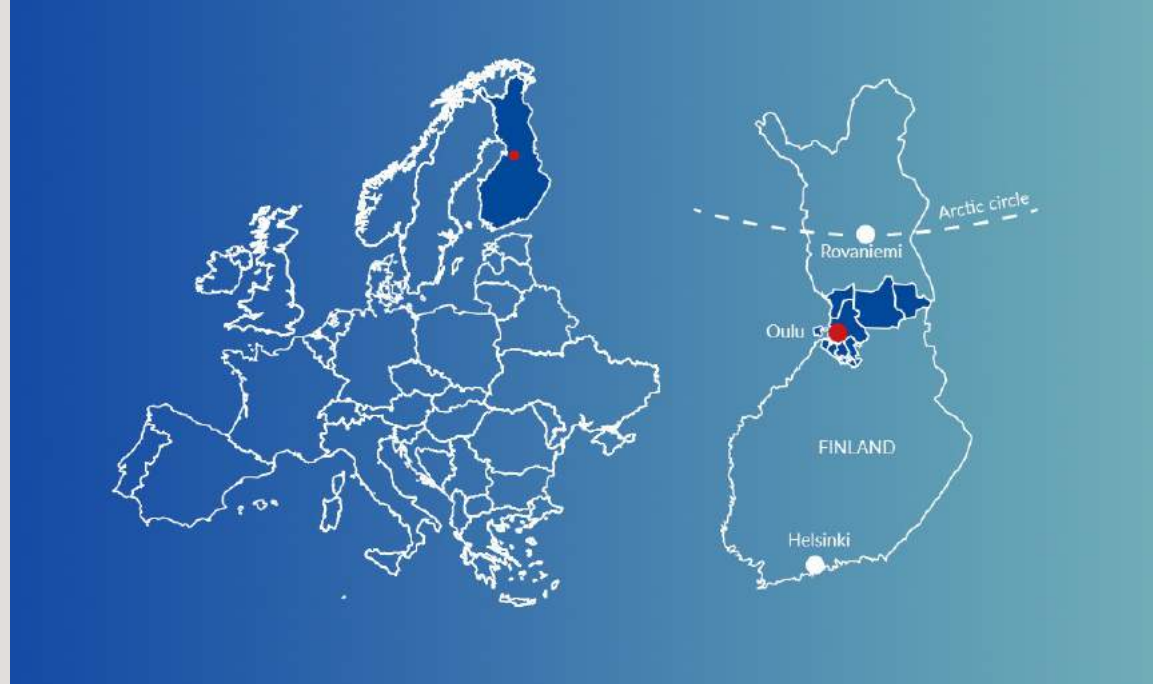
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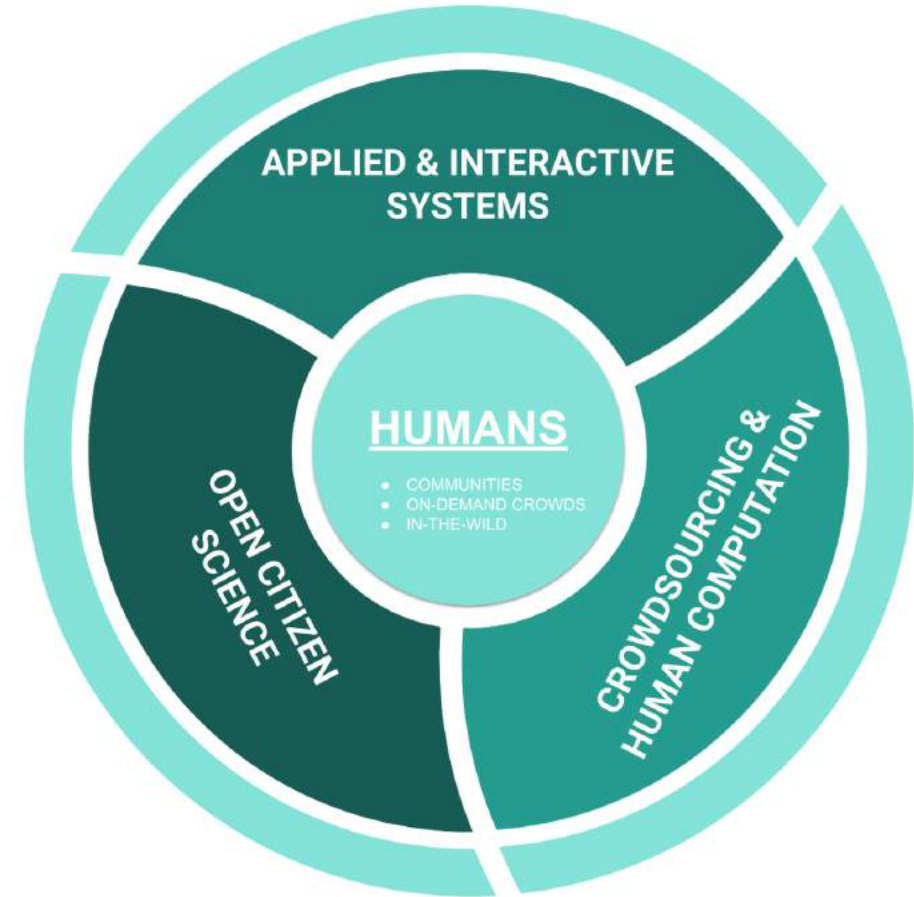
Ville Paananen

- Doctoral researcher in CS (2020-)
- Bachelor's student in architecture (2020-)
- Background in electrical engineering
- Ceramics, synths, drawing, etc. on the side
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Crowd Computing research group

- We investigate **distributed forms of work, where the tasks are too challenging for computers alone.**
- Given the increasing role AI in the society, it is now imperative to identify and harness the unique aspects of human life.
- This allows us to develop ways for seamless **human-machine collaboration** and discover how to combine the best of both worlds: authentic human cognition with computational efficiency.



A blurred photograph of a crowded subway car. Several people are visible, some standing and holding onto poles, others sitting. The image is intentionally out of focus to convey a sense of motion and density. The text "Humans are spatial creatures, but this is rarely acknowledged in technology" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

Humans are spatial creatures,
but this is rarely acknowledged in
technology

*“But there is something missing:
empathy, shared understanding of momentary experience,
shared valuation, a sense of place.”*

— Kirsh, 2019