

ML in PL

CONFERENCE 2024

Conference Booklet



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Intro

Welcome to the 8th edition of the ML in PL Conference! We are truly honored to have you join us for this special event.

We're excited for you to dive into a diverse program featuring lectures, engaging discussion panels, hands-on tutorials, and ample networking opportunities. We hope you'll gain a wealth of knowledge and create lasting memories during your time here.

We want to express our sincere gratitude for your ongoing curiosity and incredible contributions to the field of machine learning. Together, we continue to push the boundaries of innovation. Welcome, and let the ML in PL Conference be a source of inspiration for your journey ahead!

Agenda

You can access the agenda [here](#).

Conference Slack

Join our conference slack [here](#).



Who We Are

ML in PL Association is a non-profit organization devoted to fostering the machine learning community in Poland and Europe and promoting a deep understanding of ML methods. The organization was founded based on the experiences in organizing the ML in PL Conference (formerly PL in ML). Even though ML in PL is based in Poland, it seeks to provide opportunities for international cooperation.

We are a group of people of different backgrounds: researchers, professionals, and students. We are all volunteers, working together in our free time.

We aim to:

- Build a strong local community of ML researchers, practitioners, and enthusiasts at various levels of their careers.
- Support new generations of students interested in ML and promote early research activity.
- Foster the exchange of knowledge in ML.
- Promote business engagement in science.
- Support international collaboration in ML
- Increase public understanding of ML

We strive to achieve our goals by organizing the ML in PL Conference annually, co-organizing summer schools, and cooperating with research institutions to provide more opportunities for growing scientists.





Invited Speakers



Bernardino Romera Paredes

Google DeepMind

Bernardino Romera Paredes is a researcher at Google DeepMind, where he has been a core team member of AlphaFold2 for protein folding, and AlphaTensor for matrix multiplication algorithms. More recently, he initiated FunSearch, a system which uses Large Language Models for program search and has discovered new mathematical knowledge. Long before that, in 2009, Bernardino started his AI journey by studying the MSc Computational Statistics and Machine Learning at UCL. In 2010 he started a PhD, also at UCL, supervised by Prof. Massimiliano Pontil and Prof. Nadia Berthouze, and in 2013 he also did an internship at Microsoft Research. After finishing his PhD in 2014, he joined the Torr Vision Group as a Postdoc at the University of Oxford, researching about semantic segmentation and zero-shot learning. He has several papers published in Nature, as well as in machine learning conferences like NeurIPS and ICML. His main motivation is to leverage the power of AI to bring light to important scientific problems.

Tom Rainforth

University of Oxford

Tom Rainforth is a Senior Researcher in Machine Learning and leader of the RainML Research Lab at the Department of Statistics in the University of Oxford. He is the principal investigator for the ERC Starting Grant Data-Driven Algorithms for Data Acquisition. His research covers a wide range of topics in and around machine learning and experimental design, with areas of particular interest including





Bayesian experimental design, deep learning, representation learning, generative models, Monte Carlo methods, active learning, probabilistic programming, and approximate inference.



Wojciech Samek

Technische Universität Berlin

Wojciech Samek is a Professor in the EECS Department at TU Berlin and is jointly heading the AI Department at Fraunhofer HHI. He is a Fellow at BIFOLD - Berlin Institute for the Foundation of Learning and Data, the ELLIS Unit Berlin, and the DFG Research Unit DeSBI. Furthermore, he is a Senior Editor for IEEE TNNLS, an Associate Editor for Pattern Recognition, and an elected member of the IEEE MLSP Technical Committee and Germany's Platform for AI. He also serves as a member of the scientific advisory board of IDEAS NCBR - Polish Centre of Innovation in the Field of Artificial Intelligence. Wojciech has co-authored more than 200 papers and was the leading editor of the Springer book "Explainable AI: Interpreting, Explaining and Visualizing Deep Learning" (2019), and co-editor of the open access Springer book "xxAI – Beyond explainable AI" (2022). He has served as Program Co-Chair for IEEE MLSP'23, and as Area Chair for NAACL'21 and NeurIPS'23, and is a recipient of multiple best paper awards, including the 2020 Pattern Recognition Best Paper Award and the 2022 Digital Signal Processing Best Paper Prize.

Iryna Gurevych

Technische Universität Darmstadt

Iryna Gurevych is Professor of Ubiquitous Knowledge Processing in the Department of Computer Science at the Technical University of Darmstadt in Germany. She also is an adjunct professor at MBZUAI in Abu-Dhabi, UAE, and an affiliated professor at INSAIT in Sofia, Bulgaria. She is widely known for





fundamental contributions to and innovative applications of natural language processing and machine learning. Professor Gurevych is a past president of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), the leading professional society in the field of natural language processing. Her many accolades include being a Fellow of the ACL, an ELLIS Fellow, and the recipient of an ERC Advanced Grant.



Alejandro Frangi
University of Manchester

Professor Alejandro Frangi FREng holds the Bicentennial Turing Chair in Computational Medicine and RAEng Chair in Emerging Technology at The University of Manchester, with joint appointments in the Schools of Engineering and Health Science. He is the Director of the Christabel Pankhurst Institute. His research interests lie at the crossroads of medical image analysis and modelling, focusing on machine learning and computational physiology. He is renowned for his work on statistical methods applied to population imaging and in silico clinical trials. As a leader in the field, Prof. Frangi significantly contributes to in silico regulatory science and innovation, notably through his leadership of the InSilicoUK Pro-Innovation Regulations Network (www.insilicouk.org). His efforts are pivotal in advancing the understanding and application of computational methods in medicine, emphasising the importance of in silico trials for regulatory science and healthcare innovation.

Jan Peters

Technische Universität Darmstadt

Jan Peters is a full professor (W3) for Intelligent Autonomous Systems at the Computer Science Department of the Technische Universität Darmstadt. Jan Peters has received the Dick Volz Best 2007 US PhD Thesis Runner-Up Award, the Robotics: Science & Systems – Early Career Spotlight, the





INNS Young Investigator Award, and the IEEE Robotics & Automation Society's Early Career Award as well as numerous best paper awards. In 2015, he received an ERC Starting Grant and in 2019, he was appointed as an IEEE Fellow and in 2020 an ELLIS fellow.



Stanisław Jastrzębski

Molecule.one

Stanislaw Jastrzebski serves as the CTO and Chief Scientist at Molecule.one, a biotech startup in the drug discovery space. He is passionate about improving the fundamental aspects of deep learning and applying it to automate scientific

discovery. He completed his postdoctoral training at New York University in deep learning. His PhD thesis was based on work on foundations of deep learning done during research visits at MILA (with Yoshua Bengio) and the University of Edinburgh (with Amos Storkey). He received his PhD from Jagiellonian University, advised by Jacek Tabor. Beyond academia, he gained industrial experience at Google, Microsoft and Palantir. In his scientific work, he has published at leading machine learning venues (NeurIPS, ICLR, ICML, JMLR, Nature SR). He is also actively contributing to the machine learning community as an Area Chair (most recently NeurIPS '23) and as an Action Editor for TMLR. At Molecule.one, he leads technical teams working on software for synthesis planning based on deep learning, public data sources, and experiments from a highly automated laboratory.

Yuki Asano

University of Technology Nuremberg

Yuki Asano is the head of the Fundamental AI (FunAI) Lab and full Professor at the University of Technology Nuremberg. Prior to this, Yuki lead the QUVa lab at the University of Amsterdam, where he closely collaborated with Qualcomm AI Research.





His PhD was at the Visual Geometry Group (VGG) at the University of Oxford, where he worked with Andrea Vedaldi and Christian Rupprecht. Also, he loves running, the mountains, and their combination.



Lucas Beyer

Google DeepMind

Lucas Beyer grew up in Belgium wanting to make video games and their AI. He went on to study mechanical engineering at RWTH Aachen in Germany, then did a PhD in robotic perception and computer vision there too. Now, he is a staff research scientist at Google DeepMind (formerly Brain) in Zürich, leading multimodal vision-language research.

Roberto Calandra

Technische Universität Dresden

Roberto Calandra is a Full (W3) Professor at the Technische Universität Dresden where he leads the Learning, Adaptive Systems and Robotics (LASR) lab. Previously, he founded at Meta AI (formerly Facebook AI Research) the Robotic Lab in Menlo Park. Prior to that, he was a Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley (US) in the Berkeley Artificial Intelligence Research (BAIR) Lab. His education includes a Ph.D. from TU Darmstadt (Germany), a M.Sc. in Machine Learning and Data Mining from the Aalto university (Finland), and a B.Sc. in Computer Science from the Università degli Studi di Palermo (Italy). His scientific interests are broadly at the conjunction of Robotics and Machine Learning, with the goal of making robots more intelligent and useful in the real world. Among his contributions is the design and commercialization of DIGIT -- the first commercial high-resolution compact tactile sensor, which is currently the most widely used tactile sensor in robotics. Roberto served as Program Chair for AISTATS 2020, as Guest Editor for the JMLR





Special Issue on Bayesian Optimization, and has previously co-organized over 16 international workshops (including at NeurIPS, ICML, ICLR, ICRA, IROS, RSS). In 2024, he received the IEEE Early Academic Career Award in Robotics and Automation.



Tomek Korbak

UK AI Safety Institute

Tomek Korbak is a Senior Research Scientist at the UK AI Safety Institute working on safety cases for frontier models. Previously, he was a Member of Technical Staff at Anthropic working on honesty. Before that, he did a PhD at the University of Sussex focusing on RL from human feedback (RLHF) and spent time as a visiting researcher at NYU working with Ethan Perez, Sam Bowman and Kyunghyun Cho. He studied cognitive science, philosophy and physics at the University of Warsaw.



Panels

AI IN LAW

Join us for the "AI in Law" panel, where we would like to explore the influence of artificial intelligence on the legal sector. During discussion we will delve into the potential role for AI-driven technologies and their promise to increase access to justice as well as challenges for responsible AI adoption.

Panelists:

- Gabriela Bar (Gabriela Bar Law & AI)
- Michał Jackowski (DSK Kancelaria)
- Alkan Dogan (Simmons Wavelength)

Moderators:

- Marek Ballaun
- Emilia Wiśnios

CAREER PATHS IN ML

Explore the trajectory of "Career Paths in Machine Learning"—a thought-provoking panel dissecting the critical junctures and strategic decisions that define careers in this fast-evolving domain. Join us as we delve into the nuanced paths of industry versus academia, guided by insights from leading professionals at the forefront of machine learning research and application.

Panelists:

- Bartłomiej Twardowski (IDEAS NCBR, Computer Vision Center UAB)
- Anna Dawid (Leiden University)
- Tomek Korbak (UK AI Safety Institute)

Moderators:

- Alicja Grochocka-Dorocińska
- Maciej Charbąszcz



AI IN MEDICINE

Join us for a panel discussion on "AI in Medicine", where we will delve into the influence of artificial intelligence on the healthcare sector. The focus areas are practical applications of AI in clinical settings and the role of AI in expediting research breakthroughs across medicine and biology.

Panelists:

- Anna Gambin (University of Warsaw)
- Wouter Bulten (Aiosyn)
- Piotr Wygocki (MIM Fertility)

Moderators:

- Błażej Dolicki
- Aleksandra Daniluk

AI SAFETY

Attend the "AI Safety" panel, powered by ElevenLabs, for an in-depth discussion on the real-world challenges of designing and evaluating safe AI models without compromising performance. We'll explore AI manipulation techniques and dive into both automated and human-in-the-loop approaches for preventing misuse.

Panelists:

- Anna Bialas (Cohere)
- Julia Bazińska (Lakera AI)
- Matija Franklin (Human In the Loop / UCL)

Moderator:

- Aleksandra Pedraszewska



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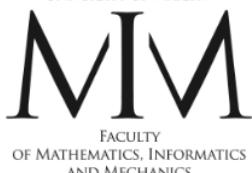
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Networking Event

Following a full first day of groundbreaking AI and machine learning sessions, come unwind and connect at our afterparty. This networking event is designed for conference attendees, speakers to share ideas, build connections, and enjoy a relaxed evening in Warsaw's vibrant atmosphere.

Venue: [Bolek Pub & Restaurant](#) – within walking distance from the SGH Warsaw School of Economics.



Date: Thursday, November 7, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM – midnight

Address: al. Niepodległości 211, Warsaw

Getting There:

- Metro: M2 line to Pole Mokotowskie station
- Trams: stop Biblioteka Narodowa (lines: 1, 7, 9, 11, 17, 25, 33, 41)
- Buses: stop Biblioteka Narodowa (lines: 167, 174, 200 or night lines: N34, N36)



Research Platform

The Research Platform is designed to streamline the flow of information between research groups and young scientists. Our platform brings together group leaders, researchers, and motivated students who wish to engage in scientific projects. We understand that finding an interesting group and taking that first step can be daunting, which is why we believe that our platform will make it easier for young scientists to take that initial step.

Furthermore, on our platform, young researchers will discover valuable tips and tricks on where to find research groups, how to secure funding, and more.

If you're a young researcher ready to explore innovative projects and advance your career, visit [Research Platform](#).

Meetups

Meetups are a series of meetings that bring together a community passionate about Machine Learning. These events combine talks on trending topics and networking and its main purpose is to broaden participants' horizons and encourage collaboration. In 2024, three meetups were organized: two in Poland (Warsaw and Wroclaw) and, for the first time, there was also one organized abroad – in Utrecht, The Netherlands.





AI Art

Join us in Warsaw for one of the most exciting events in the world of art and technology! 🌎 ML in PL: AI Art Festival 2024 (Oct 31 - Nov 11) is the perfect opportunity to witness the future of a likely new branch of art – AI Art. 🌐 The festival accompanies ML in PL 2024 – the largest AI conference in Central and Eastern Europe.

The event kicks off with the opening of the AI Art competition exhibition titled Future will be better tomorrow. From November 8-10, there will be lectures and workshops with invited AI Art artists from across Europe, including Hugo Caselles-Dupré from the collective Obvious, a pioneer in AI Art (creator of the most expensive AI artwork ever sold). Speakers will share insights into their experiences with creative AI use and introduce us to brand new topics, such as Mind-To-Image.

Moreover, the competition isn't over yet! The top three works from the exhibition will be announced during a special Awards Ceremony at MSN. The results will be influenced not only by the jury but also by you! Visitors can vote for artworks using QR codes next to each piece.

Program:

Oct 31 – Nov 11 – Exhibition, Academy of Fine Arts, Warsaw, 37/39 Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie St.

Oct 31, 6:00 PM – Exhibition Opening

Nov 8 – Workshop and lecture, Academy of Fine Arts

Nov 9, 5:00 PM – Lecture and Awards Ceremony, new MSN building, 103 Marszałkowska St., Warsaw

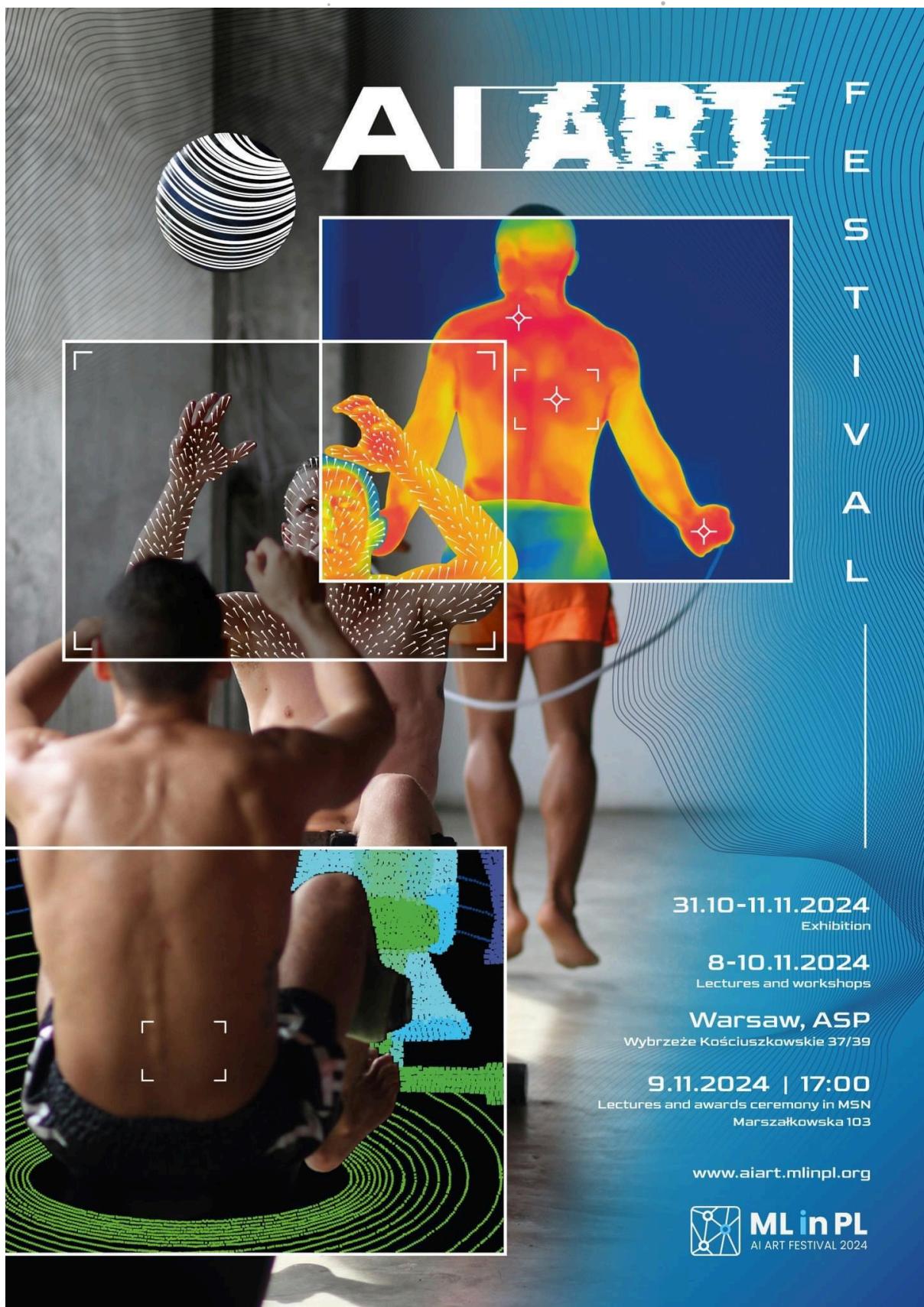
Nov 10, 10:00 AM – Online lecture

Registration: <https://aiart.mlinpl.org/program>

More information on the website: <https://aiart.mlinpl.org/>



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Future Will Be Better Tomorrow is an exhibition of the finalists of ML in PL: AI Art Competition, featuring:

- Tatsuru Arai
- Leon Butler
- Agata Konarska
- Rafał Kruszka
- Anže Sekelj
- Konrad Smoleń
- Piotr Stechura
- Übermorgen
- Zuzanna Wudarska

The collage consists of several panels arranged in a grid-like structure, each containing a different piece of AI-generated art. The panels are framed by a dark background with white film strip borders at the top and bottom. The top row features a landscape image, a black and white abstract pattern, and a portrait of a person with a complex, organic texture. The middle row features a person sitting in a garden setting, a close-up of a pink flower, and a person standing in a room. The bottom row features a person bending over, a person standing in a room, and a close-up of a colorful, textured artwork. The overall theme is the intersection of technology and art.

EXHIBITION

Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie 37/39

ML in PL
AI ART FESTIVAL 2024



In light of the challenges posed by the rapid development of artificial intelligence, the attempt to define it and encapsulate it within a predetermined theme has become impossible. The technology of tomorrow escapes all control. Therefore, the goal of the competition was to inspire artists to envision the future. What seems unrealistic today may surprise us with its presence tomorrow.

The results of the competition, namely the selection of the top three works, will be announced on November 9 during the awards ceremony at the new building of the Museum of Modern Art. This is the first artistic competition of this scale in Poland, where the criterion for considering submissions was the successful verification of whether the works were created using artificial intelligence tools. The outcome will be influenced not only by the judges but also by visitors — there will be an opportunity to vote for works using a QR code.

The title of the exhibition was inspired by a slip of the tongue by Dan Quayle, the Vice President of the United States under George H. W. Bush from 1989 to 1993. It was translated into Polish as "Przyszłość będzie lepsza jutro" ("The future will be better tomorrow"), but it could also be interpreted as "Przyszłość będzie lepsze jutro" ("The future will be better tomorrow"). The necessity to choose between 'lepsza' (better, feminine) and 'lepsze' (better, neuter) prevents a faithful rendering of the quote. Quayle's grammatical mistake is typical of the natural language generation tools from the 1990s.



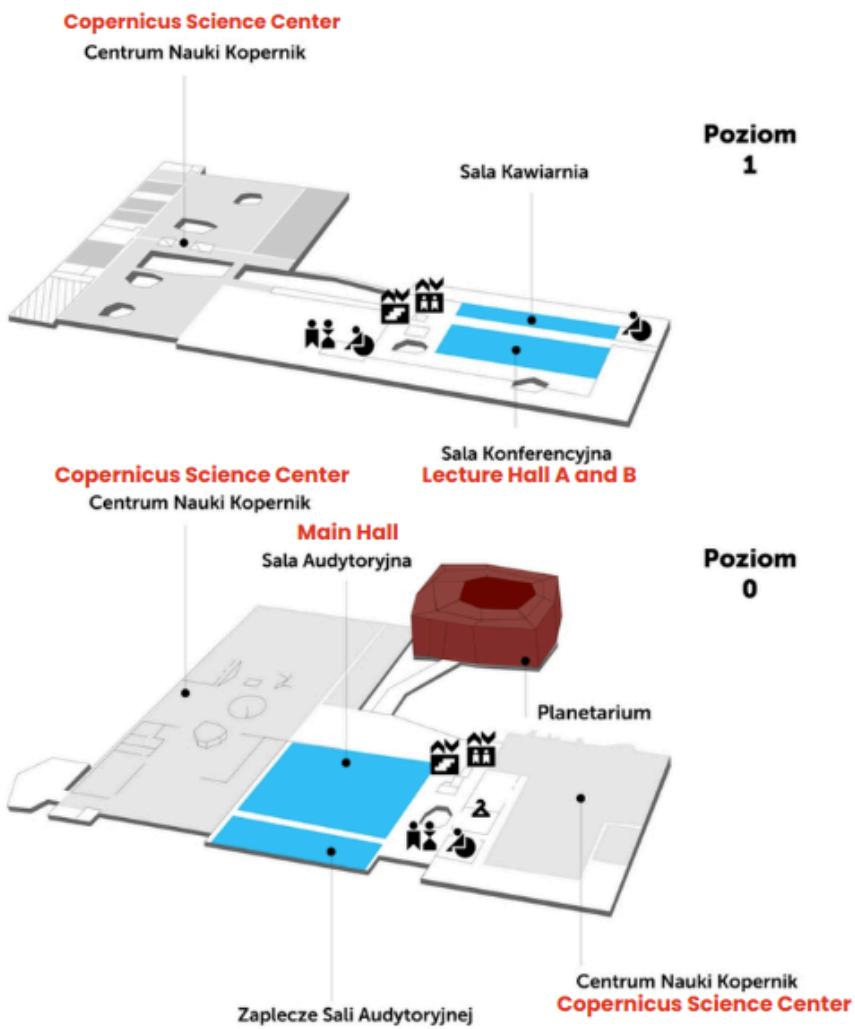
Copernicus Science Center

Address: Wybrzeże Kościuszkowskie 20, 00-390 Warszawa

Public transport:

- M2 metro line to Centrum Nauki Kopernik station
- Bus lines 106, 118, 127 to Biblioteka Uniwersytecka stop or lines 185, 162 to Metro Centrum Nauki Kopernik stop

You can park your car in front of the Copernicus Science Zone, in the paid parking zone, from Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays, you can park there free of charge.





University of Warsaw

Address: ul. Banacha 2, 02-097 Warszawa

Public transport:

- Tram lines 1, 14, 25 to Banacha station, 7, 15 to Och-Teatr station
- Bus lines 136 to Banacha station, 167, 191, 521 to Och-Teatr station

Parking:

You can park your car in the area surrounding the faculty.





Public Transport in Warsaw

Three main ways of transport in Warsaw are buses, trams and metro. There are two ticket zones but with very high probability, you will only use the public transport in the first zone.

You can buy a ticket in the special ticket machine (in every tram/bus and on many stops) or through an app (one of the following: moBilet, mPay, SkyCash, zBiletem, jakdojade.pl).

Remember to validate your ticket through a validating machine or by scanning a QR code! (otherwise you can get a fine)

There are following main ticket types in the first ticket zone:

- **20 minute ticket entitles to an unlimited number of journeys for a period not exceeding 20 minutes from its validation** (1.70 PLN for students with valid ID, 3.40 PLN otherwise). Note that this 20-minute limit is strictly enforced, in particular on the route from the airport.
- **Single fare transfer ticket entitles to an unlimited number of journeys for a period not exceeding 75 minutes from its validation or entitling to a single journey to a stop or station which is the last on the route** (2.20 PLN for students with valid ID, 4.40 PLN otherwise)



What to see in Warsaw?

Museums to see

- **Muzeum Narodowe w Warszawie (National Museum in Warsaw)**
 - **Location:** al. Jerozolimskie 3 (Midtown)
 - What you can see this week:
 - Picasso - this temporary exhibition is organized to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Pablo Picasso's death and to celebrate Spain's Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of this year. It gathers paintings and prints, a total of more than 120 works by the artist.
 - Permanent exhibitions, National Museum in Warsaw boasts a collection numbering around 830,000 works of art from Poland and abroad, from ancient times to the present including paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, photographs, coins, as well as utilitarian objects and design.
- **Muzeum Powstania Warszawskiego (Warsaw Uprising Museum)**
 - **Location:** Grzybowska 79 (Wola district)
 - Museum is dedicated to the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. It collects and maintains hundreds of artifacts – ranging from weapons used by the insurgents to love letters – to present a full picture of the people involved. The museum's stated goals include the creation of an archive of historical information on the uprising and the recording of the stories and memories of living participants.
- **POLIN Muzeum Historii Żydów Polskich Polin (POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews)**
 - **Location:** Mordechaja Anielewicza 6 (Muranów district)
 - The Museum is a modern institution of culture - it is a historical museum which presents the 1000 years of Jewish life in the Polish lands. It is also a place of meeting and dialogue among those who wish to explore the past and present Jewish culture.



- **Muzeum PRLu (Museum of Life in the Polish People's Republic)**
 - **Location:** Piękna 28/34 (Midtown)
 - This museum is a unique place in Warsaw, which takes you back in time to experience everyday realities and absurdities of the 1944-1989 communist era in Poland.
- **Muzeum Karykatury**
 - **Location:** Kozia 11 (Midtown, Powiśle district)
 - The museum collection includes over 20 thousand caricatures and cartoons of Polish and foreign artists.
- **Interaktywne Muzeum Flipperów (Interactive Museum of Pinball "Pinball Station")**
 - **Location:** Kolejowa 8A (Wola district)
 - In this museum you can enjoy vintage pinball games, such as: Twilight Zone, FunHouse, Terminator 2, Dirty Harry, Batman Forever, X Files, Star Trek, Lethal Weapon 3, The Addams Family, Road Show or arcades: Mortal Kombat 4, Pac Man, Marvel, Street Fighter, Metal Slug.
- **Muzeum Neonów (Neon Museum)**
 - **Location:** Soho Factory, Mińska 25 (Praga district)
 - The Neon Muzeum is dedicated to the documentation and the preservation of Cold War era Neon Signs and Electro-Graphic Design. The permanent collection contains hundreds of fully restored and dazzling neon signs, as well as other electro-graphic artifacts; many of which were designed by the great graphic artists of the age – the designers who were responsible for the world-renowned Polish Poster School.
- **Muzeum Polskiej Wódki (Polish Vodka Museum)**
 - **Location:** Plac Konesera 1 (Praga district)
 - The Polish Vodka Museum is housed in a historic distillation and rectification plant within the premises of the Koneser Praga Centre. There you can find interactive exhibitions, presentations and screenings, which tell the history of vodka production throughout the ages, as well as information and fun facts about the impact of vodka on shaping Polish culture and about its international career.



Outdoor Attractions

- **Łazienki Królewskie (The Royal Łazienki Museum):**
 - **Location:** Śródmieście (Midtown)
 - The Royal Łazienki was King Stanisław August's summer residence, in which a classicist architecture is harmoniously blended with its natural surroundings featuring fabulous gardens. Here, one can not only rest while watching nature but also deepen one's knowledge of the ideas of the Enlightenment by visiting such gems of the European architecture
- **Ogród Krasiński (Krasiński Garden)**
 - **Location:** Gen. W. Andersa (Muranów district)
 - The historic city park in baroque style in Downtown, Muranów district.
- **Plac Zamkowy (Castle Square)**
 - **Location:** Old Town in Warsaw
 - The square surrounded by the historic townhouses, features the Sigismund's Column and the Royal Castle
- **Pałac Kultury i Nauki (Palace of Culture and Science)**
 - **Location:** plac Defilad 1 (Midtown)
 - Probably the most popular spot in the city center, you can take a photo in front of the palace or even take the elevator to the top to enjoy a panoramic view of Warsaw. In this building we can find many attractions like cinema, theater or even swimming pool.

Other Attractions

- **Fotoplastikon Warszawski (Warsaw Fotoplastikon):**
 - **Location:** al. Jerozolimskie 51 (Midtown)
 - Photoplasticon (or Kaiser-Panorama) is a form of stereoscopic entertainment medium used chiefly in the 19th and early 20th centuries, a precursor to film. In Warsaw, in the annexe of the Hoser House, you can see the only fotoplastikon in Poland that has been operating continuously in the same place since 1905.



- **Studio cinemas:**

- **Kino Amondo** ([ul. Żurawia 20, Midtown](#)) - very small cinema, where you can find less popular films and good snacks in the bar.
- **Kinoteka** ([Palace of Culture and Science, Midtown](#)) - located in the Palace of Culture and Science, has its own vintage atmosphere.
- **Iluzjon** ([Ludwika Narbutta 50A, Mokotów district](#)) - Film Art Museum has a special status of archival cinema. This cinema presents film classics and the latest achievements of world and Polish cinematography. There are no commercials or popcorn, but there is a nice restaurant where you can grab a bite before or after the seance.

- **Chocolate Cafe E.Wedel**

- E. Wedel is a Polish chocolate manufacturer, which has been producing a variety of chocolates, cakes, and snacks since 1851. There are few E.Wedel cafes, where you can find their confectionery products, with hot chocolate being particularly popular.