

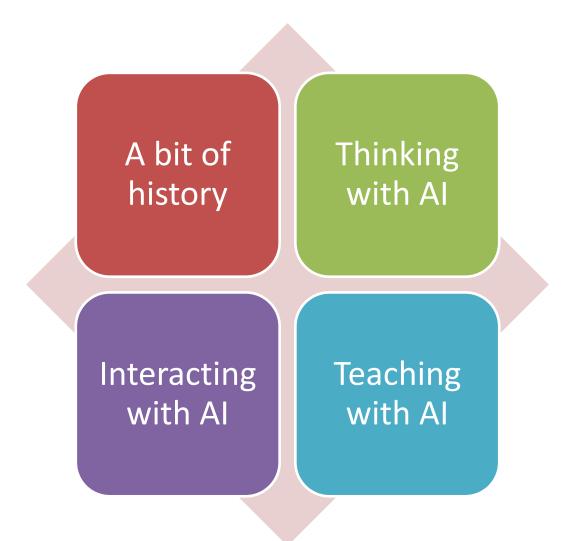
Al Techniques in Education

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Overview

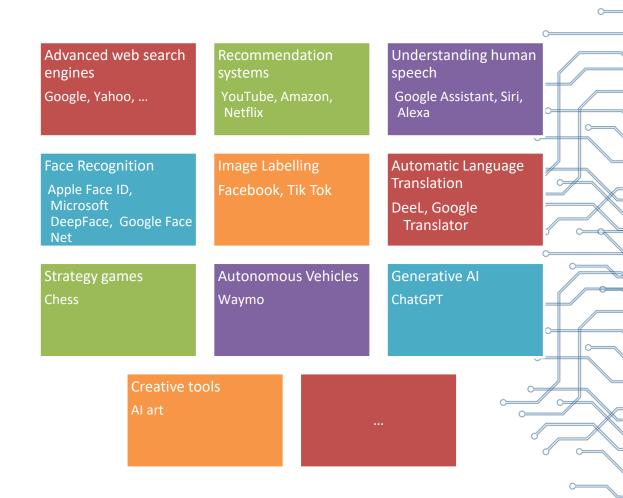


Artificial Intelligence

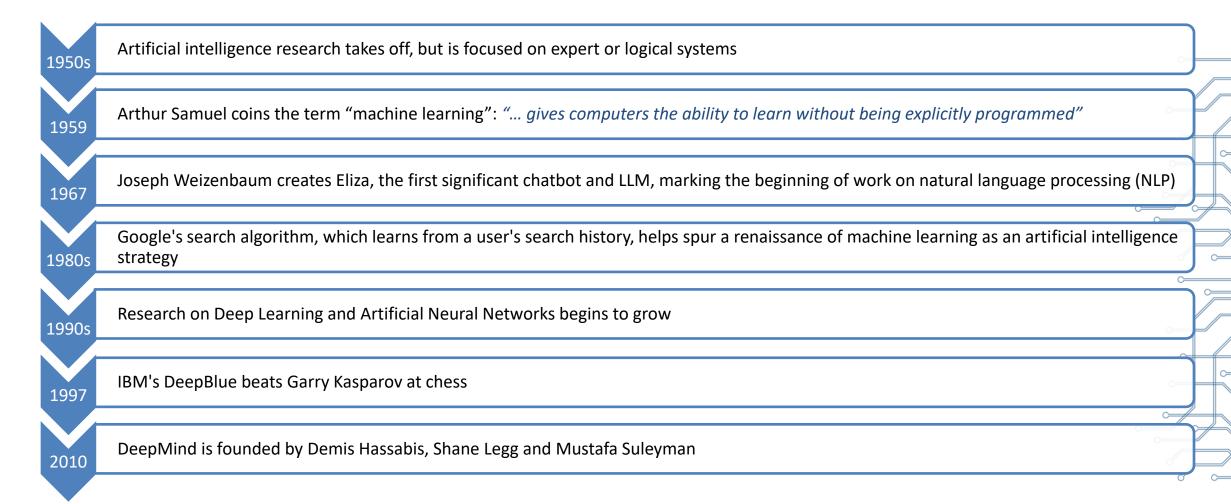
Field of study in computer science, which develops and studies intelligent machines

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the intelligence of machines or software, as opposed to the intelligence of humans

Al is widely used throughout industry, government, science, and everyday life

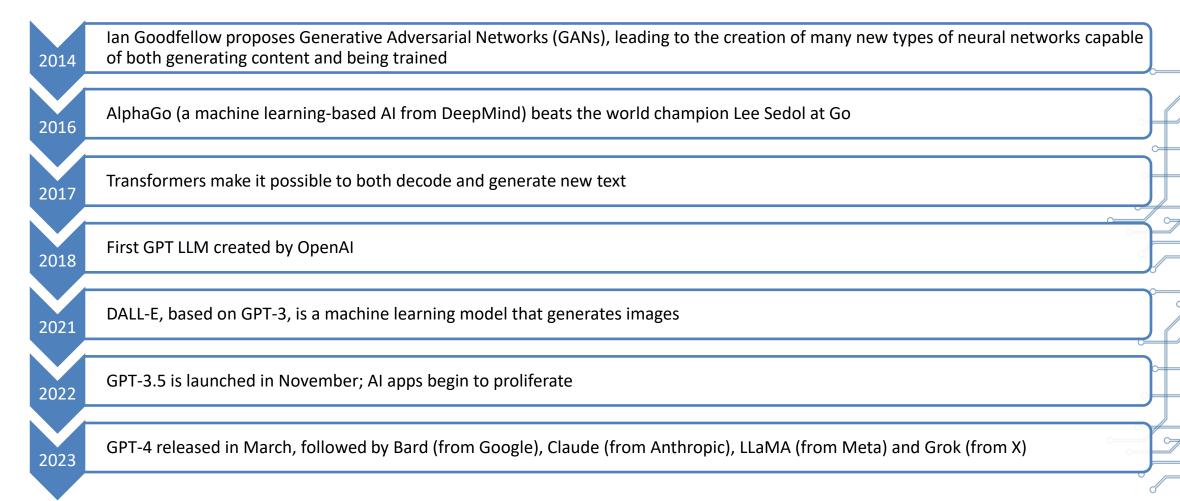


A bit of history



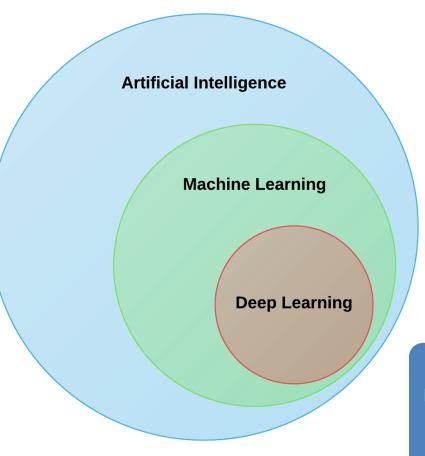


A bit of history





Evolution of Al



"Machine learning is the field of study that gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed."

Arthur Samuel (IBM, 1959)



Instead of explicitly programming a computer to perform a specific task, you provide the computer with training data and learning algorithms that allow the computer to learn autonomously from that data and improve its performance over time

Deep Learning is a sub-area of Machine Learning that focuses on using deep artificial neural networks to learn from large amounts of data



These neural networks are mathematical models inspired by the structure of the human brain and are composed of multiple layers of artificial neurons



Generative Al

Uses Machine Learning and Deep Learning techniques to generate new content, including images, music, and text, that did not previously exist

It is capable of producing complex and highly realistic content that mimics human creativity, making it a valuable tool for many industries

It can be used to create animations, reduce the development time of video games and applications, revolutionize the way information is created, and even create entire virtual worlds

Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT)

Generative

Able to generate coherent and contextually relevant content

May also generate false content (hallucinations)

Pre-trained

Trained on large-scale text data before fine-tuning

Possible bias due to the training set

Transformer

Probabilistic and statistical reasoning

This also causes unpredictability and unrealiability



Al Hallucination

Al hallucinations are instances where models generate plausible but incorrect or ungrounded information

Causes: Insufficient data, overgeneralization, lack of fact-checking

Impact: Erodes trust, spreads misinformation

Mitigation: Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG), human-in-the-loop verification, and model fine-tuning



Al Bias

Artificial intelligence is not free of human biases

Data used for training may contain inherent biases

Such biases can lead to discriminatory decisions in areas such as hiring, lending, insurance, and law enforcement

Actions are being taken to mitigate bias in artificial intelligence



General Rule

Always question and critically assess every output from Generative Al

Biases

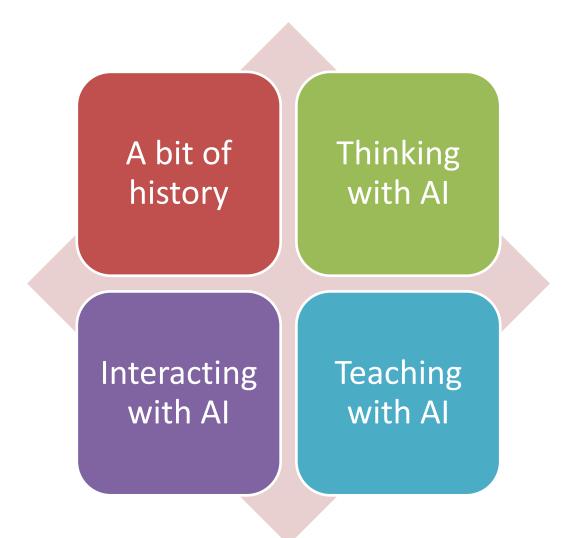
Hallucinations

Unpredicatbility

Understand how Al output impacts and integrates within a specific field



Overview



Artificial Intelligence

improve the accuracy and precision of medical diagnoses

mitigate vulnerabilities in networks and systems

identify cybersecurity measures



make new drug discovery faster

increase the accuracy of facial identification systems

counter fraud

Al is one of the most important things humanity is working on

Al will have a deeper impact than electricity and fire

Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google and Alphabet



Impact on work and society

Some jobs will be replaced by AI

All jobs will be impacted by Al

Generative AI will change the way people think, but not just at work



Impact on work and society

In each job there are many tasks that a human will need to do

Critical thinking will remain essential

Routine tasks will be delegated to AI, while most thinking and creating jobs/tasks will be carried out by humans

People might not want to produce more Al-assisted work, even if it is better and faster



Al can do faster and better

Al can alphabetize, format, summarize, translate ... very quickly

Al can scan an image in more detail, even pixel by pixel

Al can process a large amount of data, without getting tired

Al can be as reliable as humans in many tasks

meeting notes, translations, finding cancer cells, finding legal precedents, ...

Al-assisted work may be faster, better, cheaper, and more enjoyable ...

However, professional work will still need human expertise



Co-Intelligence

Co-intelligence combines human intelligence and Al capabilities to achieve superior results

Humans contribute creativity, empathy, and domain expertise

Al offers computing power, pattern recognition, and scalability

Emphasizes synergy, where Al empowers rather than replaces humans



Al as a collaborator

Improved decision making through Al-assisted insights

Increased creativity

Al fosters brainstorming and content creation

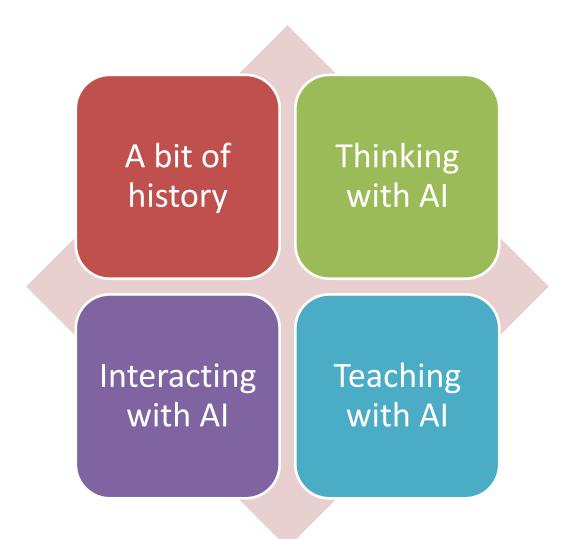
Improved problem solving in complex fields
e.g. healthcare, finance

Real-world examples

- Healthcare diagnostics: Al suggests diagnoses, physicians validate
- Product design: Al generates prototypes, humans refine
- Research: Al analyzes data, researchers interpret results



Overview



ChatGPT

Advantages over other What is ChatGPT Main features tools Language model based on Transformer architecture Contextual understanding: consistently answers Flexibility of use (interactive chat, API embeddable, ...) (OpenAI) articulated questions Trained on billions of textual tokens to generate Text generation: articles, emails, reports, Continuous updates and improvements through user feedback natural language responses communication proposals Tone customization: formal, informal, technical, creative



ChatGPT Versions

| Version | Release Data | Context Size | Main Features | Notes |
|-------------|------------------|--------------|--|----------------------|
| GPT-3.5 | March 2022 | 4096 tokens | Fine-tuned for conversations and instructions | Used in free ChatGPT |
| GPT-4 | March 2023 | 8192 tokens | Advanced reasoning, multimodal capability. Excellent performance, but heavy and expensive. | Used in ChatGPT Plus |
| GPT-4 Turbo | November 2023 | 128k tokens | Faster and cheaper version of GPT-4 | Used in ChatGPT Pro |
| о3 | April 2024 | | Advanced reasoning | |
| o4mini | May 2024 | | Uses advanced reasoning and it's faster | |
| o4mini-high | May 2024 | | Great at coding and visual reasoning | |
| GPT-4.5 | Research Preview | | Good for writing and exploring ideas | |



Problem Formulation

Problem formulation involves clarifying and accurately framing the issue to be addressed

Identification

Recognize and describe the main problem and its key elements

Goal Setting

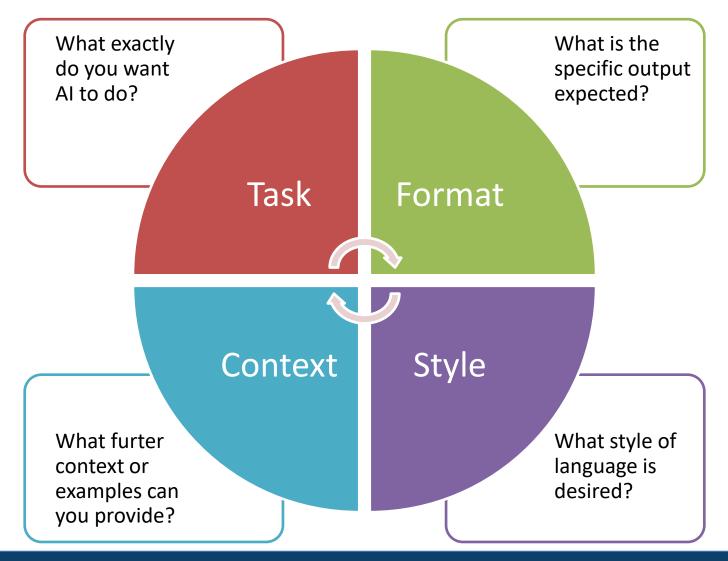
Establish desired outcomes and success criteria

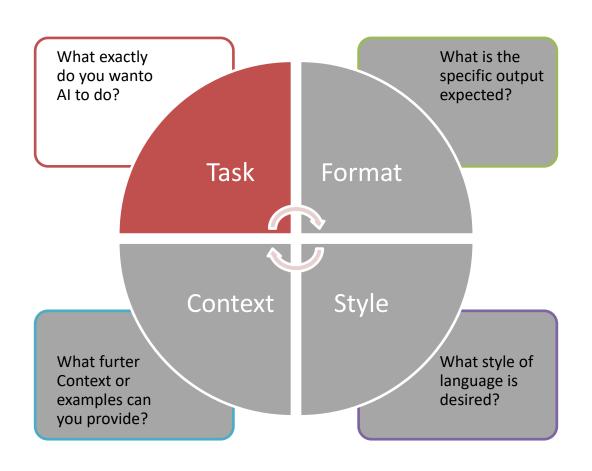
Università di Pisa

Context Analysis

Assess the context in which the problem arises and gather relevant information







Generate

Write

Summarize

Rephrase

Expand

Analyze

Elaborate

Translate

Transform

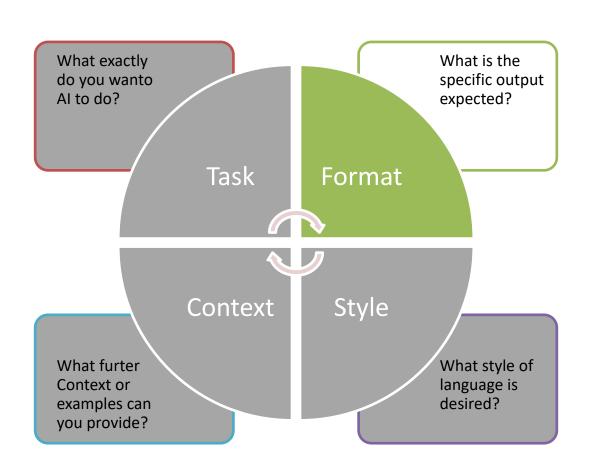
Detect

List

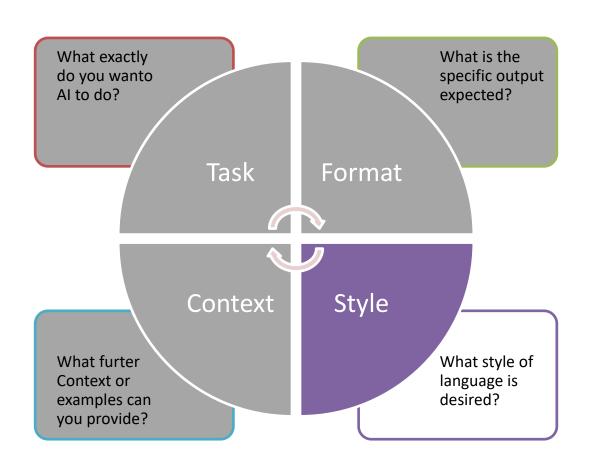
Draw

Invent

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Academic style

Marketing style

Comic style

Archaic style

Engineering language

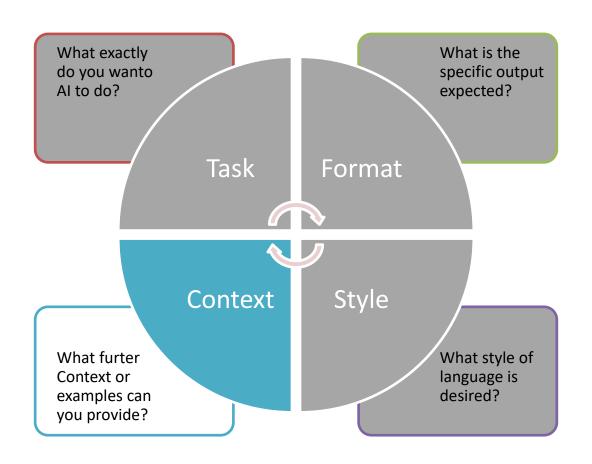
Medical language

Law language

Political language

In the style of ...

.. As you were ...



Follow this model

Use the attached file

Read the paper just uploaded

Suitable for an undergraduate class

For a presentation at a project meeting

PPT presentation at a course on radioprotection

...

Some Examples

Generate a list of 5-10 articles on Industrial IoT use cases to propose to graduate students in the computer engineering program

Produce 3 different way to introduce the use of AI in education to faculty members and researchers who are not computer scientists

Using the uploaded PDF file (scientific paper intended for a conference on Edge Computing), write a 200 abstract using the same style used in the uploaded paper

Create a press release about this recent cybersecurity attack at the University of X. Use the same format of previous University press releases (see the attached example). Emphasize that the attack was contrasted effectively and no data breach was observed



Suggestions for Effective Prompting

No synonyms

 Avoid using synonisms to refer to the same thing

Assertive style

 Using an explicit causal language can help

No negative commands

- Negative or double-negative commands may be confusing
- Always convert into positive commands

Models

- Al responds very well to models
- Use an existing model, whenever possible

Constraints on length or structure

- "Maximum 150 words"
- "Write two paragraphs: one introductory and one concluding."

No ambiguity about secondary instructions

 If you ask to perform multiple operations, separate them clearly



Iteration

Few complex task are accomplished with a single request

- → Iteration
- Reformulating the prompt
- Refining the search

Reformulation

You can also ask ChatGPT to help in better formulating the prompt to achieve the desired result

Refinement

Ask follow-up questions to clarify or elaborate
"Can you detail step 3 for me with a practical example?"



Human and AI Creativity

The best way to have a good idea is to have lots of ideas

Linus Pauling



Humans and Al generate new ideas by trying new combinations

- Al can do this at greater speed and
- Al ability to hallucinate is a form of creativity

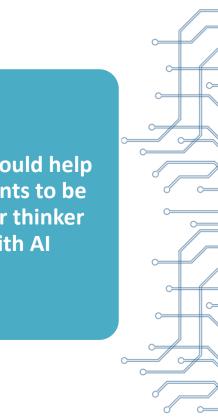


Al can help humans in

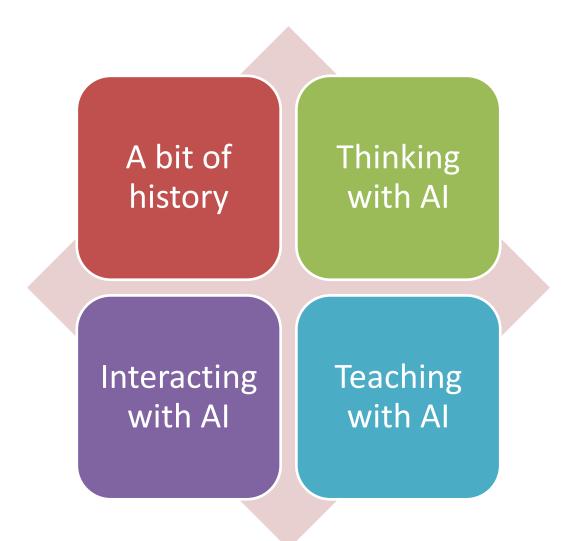
- Explore new ideas
- Clarify their thoughts
- Increase divergent thinking
- Become more creative



We should help students to be better thinker with Al



Overview



Tasks of Faculty Members

Research

Teaching

Management

Bureaucracy

• • •

The rise of computers and the Internet has fundamentally reshaped our way of working

Al is expected to drive an even more profound transformation in how faculty conduct their teaching and research



Copilot



Compose and optimize e-mails

- Draft emails and suggest edits for clarity and professionalism
- Generate quick response templates based on context

Create and edit documents

- Produce drafts of reports, letters, and PowerPoint presentations
- Recommend layouts, formatting, and consistent styles
- Summarize long sections or extract key points

Rapid Research and Information Summarization

- Extract relevant data from web pages, documents, or emails
- Summarize scientific articles, business reports, or industry news
- Explain technical concepts or specialized terminology



Copilot



Analyze and Visualize Data in Excel

- Generate advanced formulas
- Create charts and interactive dashboards from raw data
- Identify anomalies, trends, and insights through guided analysis

Generate Presentation and Briefing Content

- Create slides with titles, key points, and suggested graphics
- Produce speaker notes consistent with slide content
- Translate text between languages and adjust tone as needed



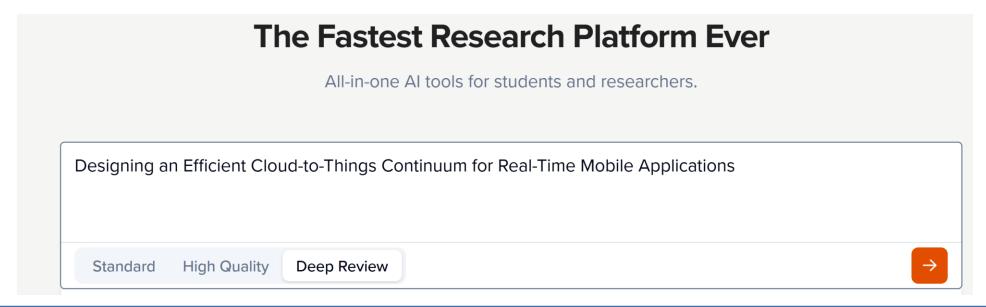
Research Assistant

Deep literature review

Discover emerging topics



Summarize key findingsand methods from multiple PDFs



| 247 papers found | × |
|---|---|
| [1] Real-Time Edge Computing Services for Internet of Things-based Cloud Networks Manish Srivastava + 2 more | |
| [2] Efficient Cloud-Based Real-Time Geo-Information Delivery for Mobile Users Guang Jin + 5 more - Mobile Data Management | |
| [3] 5G and IoT Cloud Integration for Enhancing Connectivity and Data Management Abhigna Manikanta Paladugu + 8 more | |
| [4] Stratus: Energy-Efficient Mobile Communication Using Cloud Support. Bhavish Aggarwal + 8 more | |
| [5] Using the MQTT protocol in real time for synchronizing IoT device state. Adnan Shaout + 1 more - The International Arab Journal of Information Technology | |
| [6] On Energy-Efficient Offloading in Mobile Cloud for Real-Time Video Applications Lei Zhang + 4 more - IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology | |





[7] A Survey and Design of a Scalable Mobile Edge Cloud Platform for the Smart IoT Devices and

Writing a scientific papers (or parts of it)

Reducing a full paper in an extended abstract

Generating an abstract

Improving the quality of presentation



Suggest five different approaches to structuring these concepts in a manuscript

Compose a concise abstract for the attached paper (200 words)

Recommend a different, more appealing, title for this article

Draft an opening paragraph that reviews the existing literature on my topic, including appropriate citations

In what alternative ways could I deepen the concept introduced in paragraph X?

Which additional studies or sources could I include to reinforce this thesis?

Convert my research summary into a funding request for foundation Y, following their goals and criteria

Prepare a progress report for my grant X using the foundation's official template

Who are the leading figures in this field who might review this paper? Which of their publications should I cite?

Organize these research findings into a 6,000-word paper suitable for submission to journal X

Al-supported Writing

Scientific papers from results

Project reports

Books

Reduced version of a paper/report/book

extended abtract from a previous longer paper

Notes from brainstorming

Thesis (students)

•••



Al-supported Writing

operating modes of a user. We assumed that the notebook can be (i) *handheld* by the user, at a distance of approximately 1 m from the TR; (ii) *on the desk*, at a rough distance of 1.5 m from the TR; (iii) *on the floor*, at a distance of 2.5 m from the TR.

Fig. 2 shows the upstream and downstream bit rate experienced by the user when the EP moves along the x axis (the trend is similar for the z axis). The bit rate is strongly dependent on the vertical distance between EP and TR. When the shift on the x axis is limited, the bit rate increases with the EP closer to the transceiver due to the higher power of the incoming signal. We observe that, at the distances considered, the maximum bit rate is in the range [170-250] Mbps and [110-160] Mbps for donwlink and uplink flows, respectively. When the shift on the x axis increases, the behavior drastically changes and higher rates are experienced at larger vertical distances. This is because the radius of the light cone emitted by the photodiode on the transceiver increases with the vertical distance (see Figure 1). Consequently, the maximum distance at which it is possible to transmit/receive data, increases with the vertical distance. In our setup, when the notebook (EP) is held in hand by the user (vertical distance of approximately 1.0 m), the maximum transmission distance is about 1.1 m. The same increases to approximately 1.7 m, when the notebook is located on the floor (distance equal to 2.5 m).

As a final remark, we can observe that even when the EP is

III. CONCLUSIONS

We can draw some important lessons from our experimental measurements. The cone of light emitted by each transceiver is limited to a few meters; therefore, many transceivers are required to cover a certain area. Each TR location must be selected carefully to avoid shadow areas. The maximum bit rate is in the order of hundreds of Mbps, higher than that provided by Wi-Fi. However, it decreases significantly with distance from the TR, especially if line-of-sight is not guaranteed. Obstacles can partially or completely obstruct the light signal, making communication impossible in certain areas. In conclusion, this technology has a number of interesting properties that make it appealing in specific contexts. Conversely, it may not be suitable for scenarios where uninterrupted service is essential.

IV. CREDITS

Some content presented in this paper was generated through Artificial Intelligence. The authors have verified sources and correctness.

REFERENCES

 IEEE Standard for Information Technology, Part 11: Wireless LAN Medium Access Control (MAC) and Physical Layer (PHY) Specifications

 Amendment 6: Light Communications, IEEE Computer Society Std.,
 June 2023, IEEE 802.11bb-2023.



Al-supported Assessment

Generate 5 questions about topics described in the following syllabus but limited to only classes taught by Giuseppe Anastasi: <link> Cyber-Physical Systems vs. Internet of Things

Explain the main differences between a cyber-physical system and an IoT network, including in your comparison the concept of a Digital Twin and the layered structure of the IoT protocol stack.

Sensors and Tags in Pervasive IoT

What are the characteristics and advantages of "passive," "semi-passive," and "active" sensors in a pervasive IoT environment? Also describe how RFID tags differ from "beacon" tags in data collection.

Energy-Saving Strategies in IoT

Describe the main energy management techniques in a Low-Power and Lossy Network (LLN)

MAC Protocols for IEEE 802.15.4

Illustrate how the main channel access mechanisms work in IEEE 802.15.4 (BE vs. NBE modes, slotted CSMA/CA)

Architecture and Scheduling in 6TiSCH

Analyze the 6TiSCH architecture, explaining the role of the 6top layer and the difference between centralized scheduling (e.g., AMUS) and distributed scheduling . What are the advantages and limitations of each approach in terms of scalability and reliability?



Al-supported Assessment

Create 5 multiple-choice questions on the syllabus at the following link. Each question should include one correct answer and 3 additional plausible, but incorrect, answers. Do not include a "none of the above" or "all of the above" option

Thought for 36 seconds

What is the primary purpose of a Digital Twin in a Cyber-Physical System (CPS)?

- 1.A digital replica of a physical system used for simulation and monitoring.
- 2.A sensor node hardware platform optimized for LLNs.
- 3.A duty-cycling technique for power management in LLNs.
- 4.A protocol for header compression in 6LoWPAN.

In Sensor Networks what is the main function of the GAF (Geographic Adaptive Fidelity) algorithm?

- 1. Conserving energy by turning off redundant nodes based on their location within a virtual grid.
- 2. Placing nodes in low-power listening (LPL) mode to minimize active periods.
- 3. Using model-based prediction to adjust each node's sampling rate dynamically.
- 4. Assigning time slots in a decentralized fashion as part of 6TiSCH scheduling.

Which of the following best describes the main limitation of IEEE 802.15.4 CSMA/CA in Industrial IoT (IIoT) applications?

- 1.Unpredictable latency due to contention-based channel access.
- 2.Inability to compress IPv6 headers efficiently.
- 3.Lack of support for integrating Digital Twins.
- 4. Excessive energy consumption caused by continuous beacon transmissions.

In the context of power management in LLNs, what is the key difference between a "wakeup radio" and a "scheduled rendezvous" scheme?

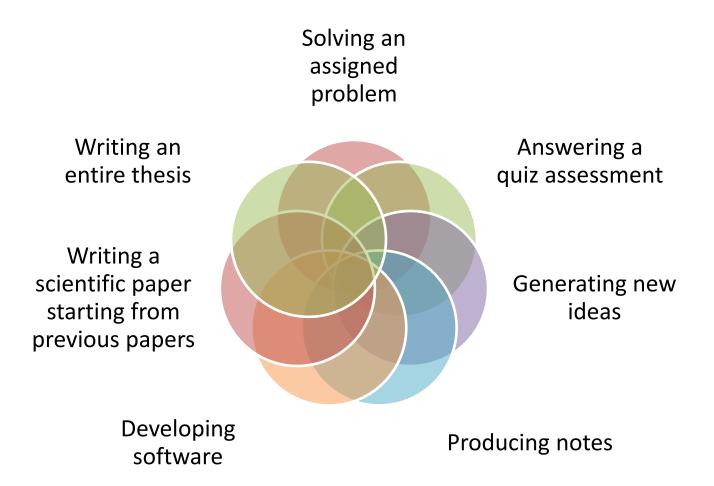
- 1.A wakeup radio uses a secondary ultra-low-power receiver to wake the main radio on demand, while scheduled rendezvous synchronize active periods among nodes.
- 2.A wakeup radio compresses packet headers, whereas scheduled rendezvous compresses payload data.
- 3.A wakeup radio refers to sensor nodes harvesting ambient energy, while scheduled rendezvous relies solely on battery power.
- 4.A wakeup radio schedules network topology changes, and scheduled rendezvous handles routing table updates.

What is the role of the 6top sublayer in the 6TiSCH architecture?

- 1. It manages the scheduling of cells between neighbors, interfacing the TSCH MAC layer with upper layers.
- 2.It implements duty-cycling and energy harvesting strategies for sensor nodes.
- It defines the IPv6 addressing and neighbor discovery protocol for LLNs.
- 4.It provides data compression and decompression using CBOR and EXI.



Cheating by Students



Project Assignment

Implement the Trivia Quiz Multiplayer game using a client-server application

The game involves questions and answers. The server asks questions to all connected clients. Players submit their answers to the server, which grades them and updates the score, maintaining a ranking of all players.

There must be at least two themes for questions

Technology

General Culture

There must be 5 questions per theme

(1) Who founded the company Microsoft? Answer: Bill Gates and Paul Allen; (1) Which company introduced the first commercial personal computer in 1981? Answer: IBM:

(2) Which ocean is the largest in the world? Answer: Pacific Ocean

(2) What is the longest river in the world? Answer: Nile

Client must decide which quiz they want to participate in (they can only participate in one quiz at time), and each theme will have its own ranking.

1 point for correct answer

0 points for wrong answer

You can participate only once in each individual quiz.

For implementation, choose the communication protocols, packet structures, the data exchange modes (text or binary), and the type of server (iterative, concurrent, or based on I/O multiplexing) depending on aspects that are deemed congruous to the application described. The considerations made in making all these decisions should be explained in a documentation to be delivered along with the sources.



Prompt for generating the code





Generates the code that implements the application described in the attached PDF document according to the specifications described in the same attached PDF document

Below you will find two complete C files (server.c and client.c) that implement the "Trivia Quiz Multiplayer" application described in the attached PDF specification.

The server uses I/O multiplexing with select() to handle multiple clients simultaneously, keeps in memory two quizzes of 5 questions each (reads from file), handles unique nicks, ranking by theme, special commands, and disconnects.

The client connects to the server, chooses the quiz, submits answers, can request ranking with show score or end the quiz with endquiz.

Both files are commented line by line to explain variables, data structures, and logical flow.



Output from ChatGPT



server.c (595 lines of code)

Explanation of the most important parts of server.c

client.c (330 lines of code)

Explanation of the most important parts of client.c

Sample files for testing the application

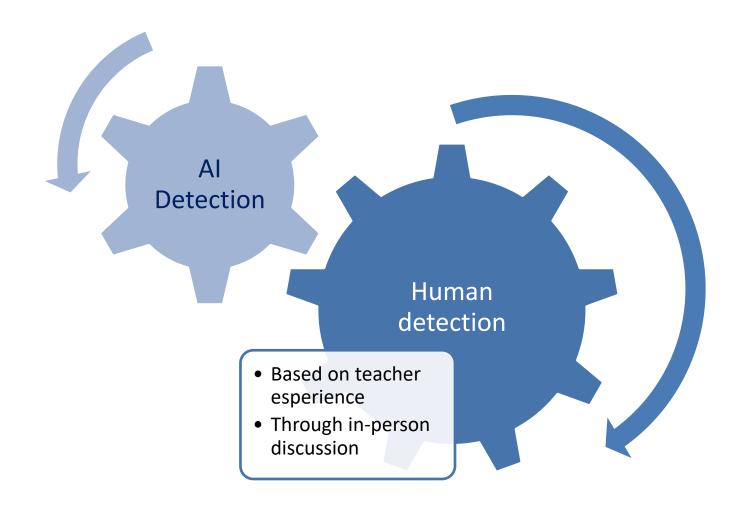
Commands to compile and execute the application

Does it work?

Grade: 1/5 (E)



Cheating Detection





Personalized Assistants

Student Interaction

Weekly meetings with PhD students

Course Assistant

Answers questions on a specific course

General Assistant

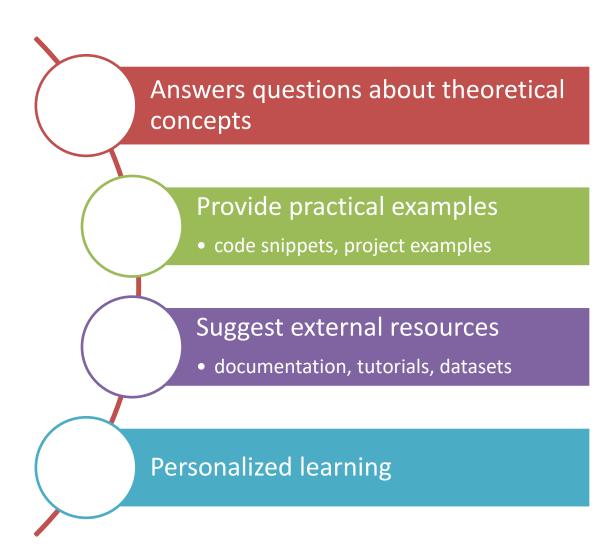
- Provides information about specific aspects
- In many languages

• • •

PERSONALIZED GPT



Course Assistant





Capabilities

√ Web Search

Start Chat



General Assistant



Sibylla is an open source
Al chat system developed by the University of Pisa

It provides
timely
information
about the
regulations
and operation
of the
university

Questions can be asked in any language Sybilla is based on ChatGPT and the Oraculum system

Source codes are available to the community on GitHub



Sibylla



devo andare in missione ma mi sono ammalato. Posso chiedere il rimborso di tutte le spese fatte



我必須去執行任務,但我生病了。 我可以要求報銷所有產生的費用。





La malattia, documentata da certificato medico, potrebbe legittimare il rimborso delle spese sostenute e non rimborsabili dai fornitori di servizi solo con riferimento a missioni già autorizzate. Tuttavia, è importante notare che è necessario che la missione sia stata autorizzata preventivamente per poter richiedere il rimborso delle spese.



根据规定,如果您因病无法执行任务,只有在已经获得授权的情况下,才能报销已产生的费用。此外,您还需要尝试联系酒店和交通公司,以尝试追回已经支出的费用。无法追回的费用将会被报销。



Need for Human Supervision



Key risks

- Possibility of unverified or inaccurate content
- Dependence on automated solutions



Guidelines for responsible use

- Always verify sources
- Transparency to the public on the use of AI
- Protection of sensitive data



Human-machine balancing

- Al as an intelligent assistant, not a substitute
- Training users on the limitations of Al tools



Future Perspectives

Evolving trends

- Conversational AI in augmented/immersive reality apps
- Multimodal systems for rich content
- Specialized models for vertical applications

What is changing for users?

- Advanced digital skills (prompt engineering, Al ethics)
- Collaboration with IT/Data Science teams

Take-away

- Al does not replace human creativity and thinking
- Powerful tool for speed and personalization
- Conscious adoption is competitive advantage

Al agents



Al Agent

Al system designed to act as an autonomous agent, able to set goals, make decisions, and act proactively without step-by-step instructions

Autonomy

Operates independently for long periods of

Proactive behavior

Takes initiative when appropriate

Goal-oriented

Plans and acts to achieve complex goals

Memory and learning

Adapts based on context and past

Persistent context

Handles long-term tasks or conversations



Al Agents vs. Chatbots

Chatbot

Reactive Behavior

One-step commands

Limited context

No long-term planning

Al Agent

Proactive behavior

Multi-step reasoning

Maintains context over time

Able to initiate and complete complex tasks

Examples

Intelligent personal assistants (organizing a trip)

Autonomous research agents (research plan on a certain topic)

Al software developers (developing a program)



Al Agents for Teaching/Learning

Assessment Agent

Generates diverse, objective-aligned question pools

Automated Feedback & Grading

Instant scoring of quizzes, essays or code with detailed improvement tips

Virtual Lab Simulations

• Safe, guided experiments (e.g. circuits, data workflows) with real-time hints

24/7 Q&A Chatbot

On-demand clarifications, analogies and references about course material



Al Agents for Teaching/Learning

Personalized Tutoring

• Tailors explanations, exercises & study plans to each student's needs

Adaptive Learning Paths

• Dynamically adjusts content sequence, pace & difficulty based on progress

Content Generation & Summaries

• Auto-drafts lecture outlines, examples or concise overviews of long texts

Motivation & Study-Habit Coach

• Sends reminders, tracks streaks, celebrates milestones & combats procrastination.

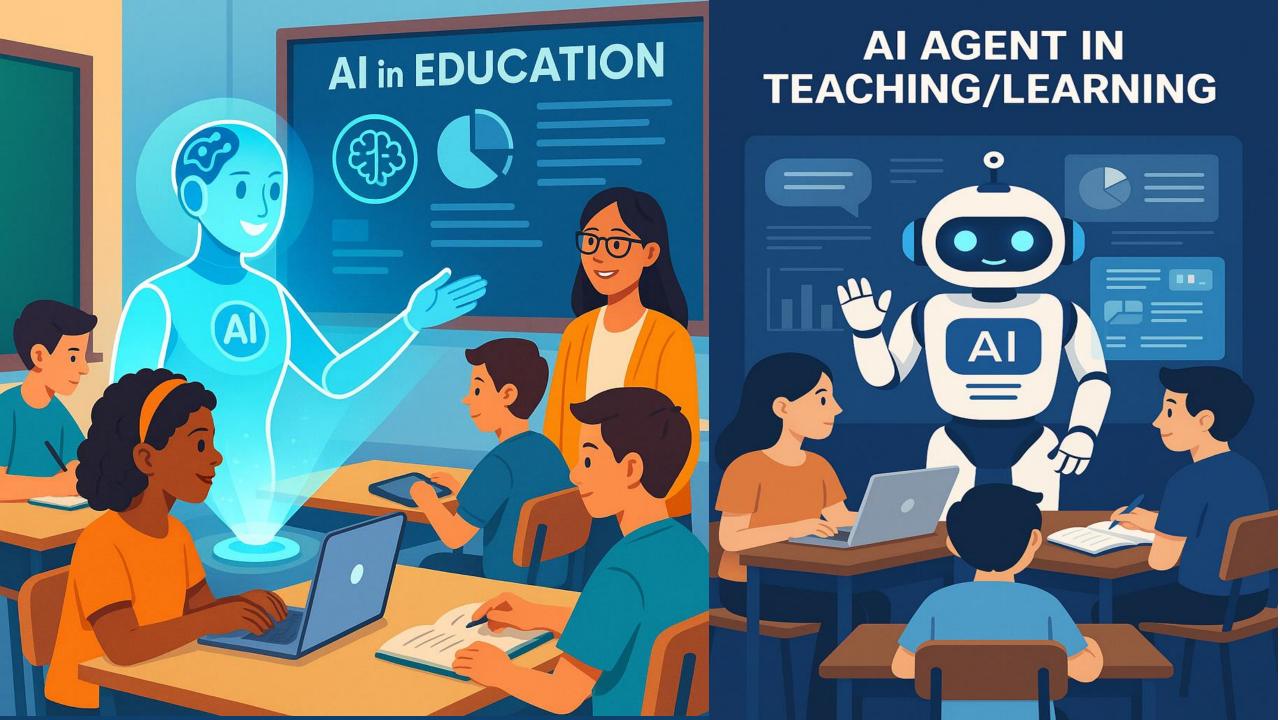


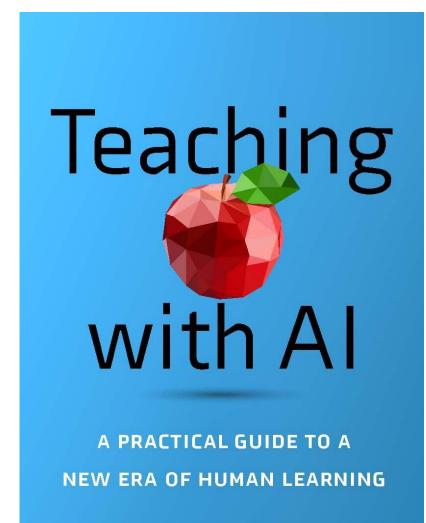
Conclusions

Professors can free up time for high-impact human interactions with students

Also they can give students more responsive, customized support throughout their learning journey







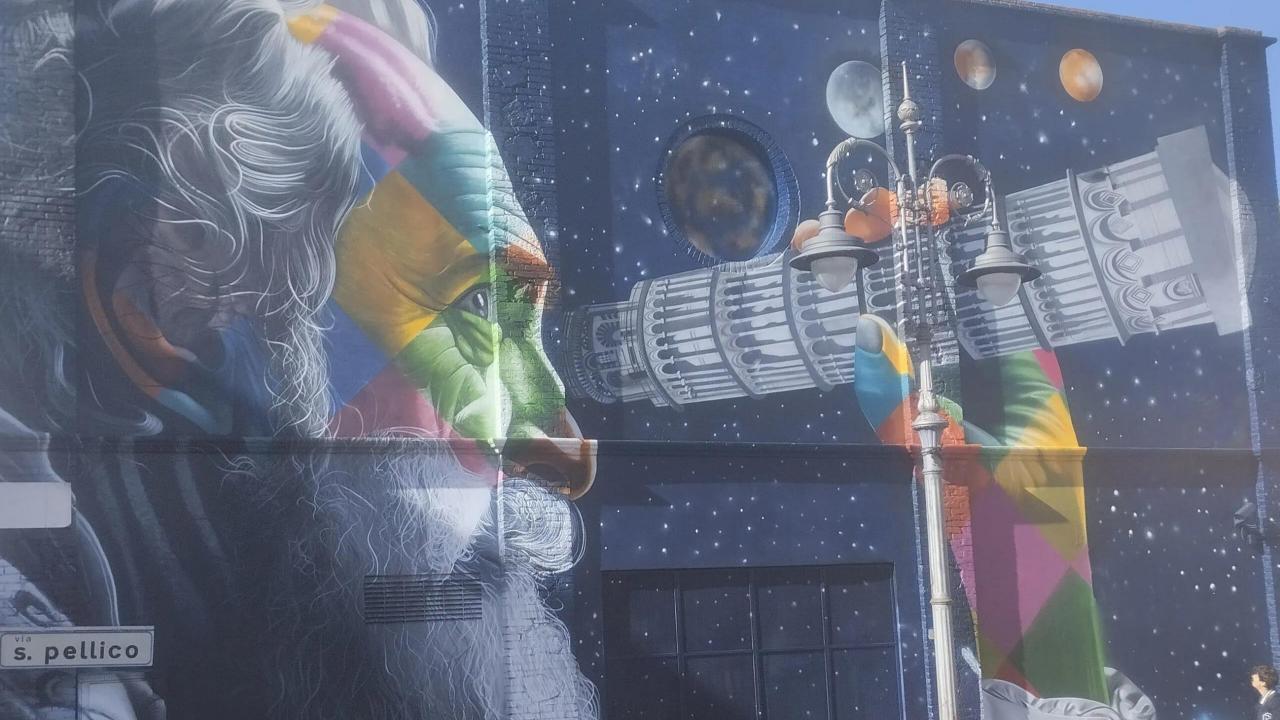
José Antonio Bowen and

C. Edward Watson

Much of the content presented was generated through Artificial Intelligence

The author has checked sources and verified content







Prof. Giuseppe Anastasi

https://www.linkedin.com/in/giuseppe-anastasi-5660b37/

Background

Professor of Computer Engineering, teaches courses in Computer Networks and Internet of Things

He received his Ph.D. in Information Technology from the University of Pisa

He graduated (with honors) in Electronic Engineering from the University of Pisa

Areas of Interest

Internet of Things

Fog/Edge Computing

Cyber-Physical Systems

Cybersecurity

Smart Environments (Cities/Industry/Energy, ...)

IT for Sustainability

IT & Society

Relevant Experiences

Rector's Delegate for Digital Transition, University of Pisa [2022 - Today]

Director Emeritus, CrossLab for Digital Transformation, University of Pisa [2024 - Today]

- The CrossLab for Industry 4.0 is an initiative funded by the Ministry of University and Research under the Departments of Excellence program
- It consists of five interdisciplinary and integrated labs to support the digital transformation of companies and society

Director, Department of Information Engineering, University of Pisa [2016 - 2020]

- The Department of Information Engineering at the University of Pisa is a Center of Excellence for Research and Higher Education in Information Technology (IT), Robotics and Bioengineering
- In 2018 and 2023, it was selected by the Ministry of University and Research as a Department of Excellence

Director, National Lab on Smart Cities & Communities, CINI [2015 - 2018].

• The CINI (National Interuniversity Consortium for Informatics) Smart Cities & Communities National Laboratory is a national center of expertise for the digitization of Cities and Public Administration

