



Welcome to AI Matters 6(1)

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Issue overview

Welcome to the first issue of the sixth volume of the AI Matters Newsletter.

This issue is smaller than usual as a reflection to the disruptions caused by the on-going COVID-19 pandemic on the scientific community. We open with a call for funding by SIGAI Executive Committee Chair, Sanmay Das, to support AI activities promoting outreach. In our regular articles, we provide an event report by Michael Albert and John P Dickerson on the AAAI/ACM SIGAI Job Fair. In the policy column, Larry Medsker and Farhana Faruqe cover a new series on AI and Bias on the Policy Matters Blog with a commentary on Bias, Fairness, and Discrimination in the context of AI, along with discussions on AI policy issues with respect to work and timeframe for AI impact. Another regular column is our AI crosswords from Adi Botea. We have one contributed article from Cameron Hughes and Tracey Hughes on what constitutes the essential ingredients for AI in a world where AI is increasingly pervading in every walk of life. Enjoy!

Special Issue: AI For Social Good

Recognizing the potential of AI in solving some of the most pressing challenges facing our society, we are excited to announce that the next Newsletter of AI Matters will be a special issue on the theme of “AI for Social Good.” We solicit articles that discuss how AI applications and/or innovations have resulted in a meaningful impact on a societally relevant problem, including problems in the domains of health, agriculture, environmental sustainability, ecological forecasting, urban planning, climate science, education, social welfare and justice, ethics and privacy, and assistive technology for people with disabilities. We also encourage submissions on emerging problems where AI advances have the potential to influence a transformative change, and perspective articles that highlight the challenges faced by current standards of AI to have a societal impact and opportunities for future research in this area. More details to be coming soon on <http://sigai.acm.org/aimatters>. Please get in touch with us if you have any questions!

Submit to AI Matters!

Thanks for reading! Don't forget to send your ideas and future submissions to *AI Matters*! We're accepting articles and announcements now for the next issue. Details on the submission process are available at <http://sigai.acm.org/aimatters>.



Amy McGovern is co-editor of AI Matters. She is a Professor of computer science at the University of Oklahoma and an adjunct Professor of meteorology. She directs the Interaction, Discovery, Exploration and Adaptation (IDEA) lab. Her research focuses on machine learning and data mining with applications to high-impact weather.



Iolanda Leite is co-editor of AI Matters. She is an Assistant Professor at the School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden. Her research interests are in the areas of Human-Robot Interaction and Artificial Intelligence. She aims to develop autonomous socially intelligent robots that can assist people over long periods of time.



Anuj Karpatne is co-editor of AI Matters. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). He leads the Physics-Guided Machine Learning (PGML) Lab at Virginia Tech, where he develops novel ways of integrating scientific knowledge (or physics) with machine learning methods to accelerate scientific discovery from data.
