

Exchanges

The Interdisciplinary Research Journal

Themed Call for Papers

Exchanges (ISSN 2053-9665) is a peer-reviewed, open access, scholar-led, interdisciplinary research journal published biannually by the Institute of Advanced Study, University of Warwick since 2013. Exchanges has a mission to champion publications from early career scholars and support discourse between disparate disciplinary traditions. An international Editorial Board of early career researchers manage the journal, along with providing guidance to first-time authors or those unfamiliar with writing for broader audiences.

Theme: A.I. – Panic or Panacea?

The issue of intelligence lies at the heart of the scholarly lifeworld, although for much of history a topic focussed around a singular, human construct. Today though, algorithms, deep learning and artificial intelligence have emerged into the everyday world. From the seemingly trivial, to battling the pandemic or even fighting our future wars (**Bode, 2020; Kane, 2020; Teo & Dobson, 2020**), applications of algorithmic intelligence are increasingly shaping critical decisions and policy helping meet emerging challenges. Should we be celebrating the transition to a more 'automated' workplace, freeing humankind from waged-labour exploitative drudgery or does it represent an existential threat to the livelihood of millions (**Kurzgesagt, 2017**)?

Some would argue humanity has cause to fear the unchecked rise of the machines in our society. For example, the recent examination debacle in the UK undoubtedly lays still sharp in the minds of many British students and their parents (**Hao, 2020; Tolhurst, 2020**) as an example of a misapplied technological aid. Other cautionary tales of unfettered algorithm use abound in fields as diverse as space imaging and earth observation, through to the evaluation of immigration applicants or 'future crime' prediction (**Ferguson, 2017; McDonald, 2020; Marchisio & Smith, 2019**). Is the era of the *Minority Report* a new era of safety to be trumpeted or a greater force for oppression and fear?

Conversely, many assert artificial intelligence, machine learning and algorithms offer humanity a brave new world of opportunity, advancement and potential achievement. Deployed in the service of humanity algorithmic intelligence could help us better plan for future building and habitation needs, predict cataclysmic acts of nature or even more efficiently discover curative treatments (**Decherchi & Cavalli, 2020; Macaulay, 2020; Quach, 2020; Sun et al, 2020**). Thus, the artificially intelligent enabled future may be a far brighter one than some currently anticipate. Where, if anywhere, does 'the truth' lay?

Manuscript Submissions

Hence, for the issue of *Exchanges* due for publication in Autumn 2021, we invite authors to submit original, exciting and insightful manuscripts for peer-reviewed publication consideration inspired by any aspect of this theme. We welcome papers written for a general academic audience exploring or reviewing the science, application and implementation of machine learning, artificial intelligence or algorithms within a broader societal setting. We

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also welcome manuscript submissions from the humanities, arts and social sciences dealing with the ethics, perceptions, interpretations and representations of these issues too. While submissions are invited from all disciplinary perspectives, we would be especially pleased to receive manuscripts from previously under-represented fields or geographic regions within *Exchanges*.

As an interdisciplinary journal with a wide scholarly readership, authors should seek to write their manuscripts so as to be suitable for a general academic audience. Wherever possible, consideration should be given to unpack, delineate and expand on any potentially 'disciplinary niche' language, terms or acronyms used. Ideally, authors should seek to incorporate some element of interdisciplinary thinking or perspectives, or outline the broader scholarly relevance of their work, within the manuscript.

Critical Reflections & Conversations

First-time or early career authors may also wish to consider submitting either a critical reflection or conversational piece inspired or informed by these themes. Such pieces would serve to provide much needed background to the topic for a general academic audience. For example, critical considerations of the impacts, and especially those explicitly drawing on interdisciplinary methods, methodologies or insights, would be particularly welcome. Additionally, we would be delighted to consider conversational pieces. These augmented interviews could be with key figures, thinkers and workers within any area of AI, machine learning or algorithmic intelligence, or alternatively focus on those whose lives may have been reshaped through the deployment of these technological solutions. Critical reflections and conversations only undergo editorial review ahead of publication and hence are especially suitable for first-time or early career authors. alternatively

Submission Deadlines

All submitted manuscripts will undergo editorial review, with those seeking publication as a research article also undergoing formal peer review. The online submission form, along with supplementary author guidance can be accessed at:

➤ exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/about/submissions

Peer-reviewed articles
1st May 2021

Conversations or critical reflections:
31st August 2021.

Manuscript Submission Formats

Exchanges is a diamond open access (**Fuchs & Sandoval, 2013**), scholar-led journal, which means there are no author fees or reader subscription charges. Authors also retain copyright over their work but grant the journal first rights of publication as a submission requirement.

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Manuscript submissions in the following formats are currently sought:

Research Papers: Manuscripts exploring the outcomes, application or impact from original, unpublished research or thought. (4,000-6,000 words)*

Review Papers: Summaries of the current understanding on topics, highlighting key papers and authors, developing trends and thought. (3,000-5,000 words)*

Conversations: Dialogues with significant figures focusing on interdisciplinary contributions and scholarly insights. Ideally, these incorporate short biographical sketches on their subject's relevance and life journey. This is followed an interview transcript, usually followed by a bibliography of any relevant publications. (3,000-5,000 words)^

Critical Reflections: Evaluative, reflexive critiques, opinions or insights into conference and symposia, emerging research areas or new texts. These should include two key elements: a descriptive part introducing an element of the research project, coupled with the observations, comments and personal insights of the author(s)'. (1,000-3,000 words)^

Author Instructions: exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/about/submissions

*Will undergo editorial scrutiny and then passed for external peer-review

^Will undergo editorial scrutiny and review only

Manuscripts outside of these formats may be considered, but authors are strongly advised to discuss their intentions with the Editor-in-Chief before submission.

Open Call for Papers

Please note, there is also an open call for papers outside of this theme, with no deadline. See guidance on submission on the *Exchanges* journal website.

➤ exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/announcement/view/22

Author Responsibilities

All manuscript submissions must be original pieces, which have not been submitted to or already formally published elsewhere. Authors are required to obtain appropriate permissions for the inclusion of any copyrighted material (e.g. images). Authors are expected to respond to requests for revisions, corrections and clarifications from the editorial team as soon as possible. Where authors do not respond, their manuscripts may be removed from consideration.

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Contact

For more information on *Exchanges* and our activities, visit the journal's website. For questions relating to this call, future submissions or other matters relating to the title please contact Editor-in-Chief, Dr Gareth J Johnson.

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Alternatively, visit the journal's site to learn more about our title's mission and our range of support for contributors via our Editorial Board.

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