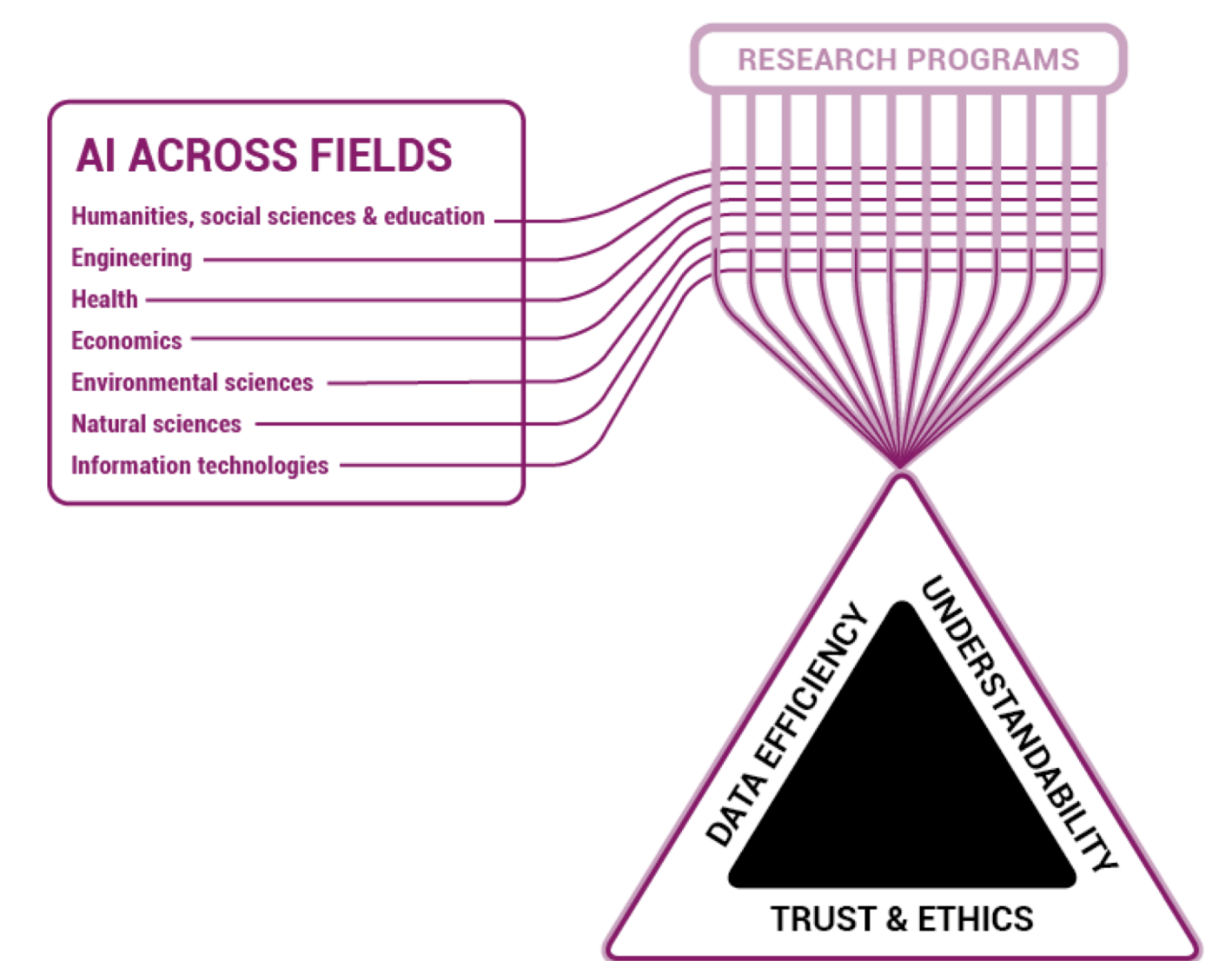


AI in Society (Research Program R7)

FCAI Research Program R7 focuses on social and ethical dimensions of AI. It deals both with the preconditions of trustworthy and socially acceptable AI and the consequences of uses of AI. It aims to bring together AI research and human sciences to better understand how AI works in organizations and society.



Program objectives

Research Program R7 starts in October 2019. Our first formulation of research themes is designed to be inclusive: we wish to bring together a wide network of researchers from different disciplines.

1. The design and domestication of AI and their unintended consequences

- Who participates in the design of AI systems?, What are their goals and values, how does the process work?
- How different user groups domesticate the AI systems? (local modification, repurposing, selective avoidance, ...)
- What unintended consequences the adoption of AI systems have for organizations, social relations, and society in general?

2. Understandability of AI for different audiences/stakeholders

- What is understandability for different AI stakeholders and what are the concerns that motivate them?
- How understandability is related to explainability, intelligibility, and justification?
- How understandability for AI is different from understandability for humans and organizations?

3. Foresight and responsibility in AI decision-making and robotics

- In what sense AI systems could be legally or morally responsible for their actions? If they are not responsible, who is?
- What kind of principles should be used in the responsible development of AI in society?
- Is it possible to develop procedures for identifying and dealing with unanticipated consequences?

4. Legitimacy and social acceptability of AI – the institutional arrangements for accountability and trust

- What determines the legitimacy and social acceptability of AI systems?
- What is bias? What are legitimate means to counter it?
- What kinds of institutional arrangements (transparency, auditing, ...) facilitate long term trust in AI systems?

5. The governance, politics and political economy of data

- Who owns the data? Who should have rights to it?
- Who is responsible for the privacy, security and accuracy of data?
- How should the data economy be governed and regulated nationally and internationally?

Methodologies

The research program brings together researchers from humanities, social sciences, law, education, cognitive science, computer science, and philosophy. Consequently, the research is highly interdisciplinary and it combines many different methods, from philosophical analysis to ethnography and computer simulation.

We are especially interested in doing case studies of real world AI development and application. Cases inspire theoretical and philosophical reflection, but even more importantly provide an empirical anchor to discussions about the future AI and society.

For this, other FCAI Research Programs and Highlights are invaluable resource.

The organizational goals for 2020

Increased number of research projects

Increased collaboration between the projects

Establishing connections to other FCAI Research Programs and Highlights

Establishing common activities for the research program (workshop-series, communication forums, etc.)

Already ongoing projects

Algorithmic systems, power, and interaction, Kone Foundation 01/04/2018 → 31/03/2021

Robots as ethical agents, Finnish Cultural Foundation 01/03/2019 → 28/02/2022

Algorithmic Cultures, Kone Foundation 01/04/2019 → 31/03/2022

Ethical AI for the Governance of the Society (ETAİROS), STN 01/06/2019 → 31/08/2022

AlgoT – Potential and Boundaries of Algorithmic Transparency, Academy of Finland 01/09/2019 → 31/08/2023

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