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# National Institute of Informatics (NII)

## Inter-University National Research Institute dedicated to Informatics

- $\sim$  350 researchers
- $\sim$  130 graduate students
- ho ~ 150 clerical & support staff

### **Research areas**

- Principles of Informatics
   Mathematical Informatics, Intelligent Informatics, Quantum Information, Mathematical Logic
- Information Systems Architecture Information Network, Computer Architecture, Software infrastructure, Software Engineering
- Digital Content and Media Sciences
   Foundation of content management, Text & Language Media, Pattern media, Human & Knowledge media
- Information and Society

Information use, Science Information, Information Public Policy



# Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) NII $\Leftrightarrow$ TU Wien

## MoU: foster NII international research exchanges towards excellence

- Formalize cooperation at the institutional level
- Signed between TUW and NII 2009

#### Main actors

- Faculty of Informatics
- Atomchip Group (Faculty of Physics, TU Wien) & Quantum Centre

### Topics

- Privacy, security, and Risk Management Technology (2009)
- Knowledge Representation and Reasoning Methods (2015)
- Quantum Physics (2015)

### Exchange program

- Researchers
- NII International Internship Program (MSc / PhD students), since 2010
  - 39 internships so far



zwischen der National Institute of Informatics und

austrian signatories: BP Fischer, Minister Hahn, VR Kaiser

- Inconsistency Management in Reasoning Systems (2009-2015)
- Verification and Formal Methods (2022)

NI

Artificial Intelligence and Web (2022)

## Security, Privacy & Risk Management Technology

## Long term collaboration between Prof. Isao Echizen and Prof. Edgar Weippl (Secure Business Austria Center/TU Wien)

Joint research topics combining NII and TU Wien expertise

Multimedia Security

multimedia forensics and security in distributed systems to detect forgery and protect privacy in multimedia

QR Code Security

robust message hiding within QR codes intersecting QR code security

- Privacy in Electronic Health Records privacy concerns in electronic health records privacy resp. broader information security
- Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies
   connect expertise in cryptography with blockchain technologies, esp. for security in distributed systems
- Obfuscation and Detection Techniques complement forgery detection using neural networks with software obfuscation



# Security, Privacy & Risk Management Technology, cont'd

- Annual lab visits of Prof. Weippl
- Visiting Professor at NII
- Collaboration on a number of PhD theses, several NII Internships



Edgar Weippl at Isao Echizen's Lab - disussion on ongoing PhD theses

#### **Future Possible Joint Research Topics**

Privacy-preserving AI and Machine Learning

preventing data leaks, ensuring ethical AI use, secure training algorithms

Digital Watermarking and Information Security

techniques for embedding and protecting data in media files, prevent piracy and unauthorized distribution

## Knowledge Representation & Reasoning

## Inductive Logic Programming





 $P(x,y) \leftarrow Q(x,y)$  $P(x,y) \leftarrow Q(x,z), R(z,y)$ 

### Meta-interpretative Learning

Background Knowledge (B):	
father(john, bob)	father(tim, ann)
Positive Examples ancestor(sue, bob) ancestor(tim, bob)	(P <sup>+</sup> ): ancestor(john, bob) ancestor(ann, bob)
Negative Examples (P <sup>-</sup> ): ancestor(bob, tim)	
Hypothesis:	
$p1(x, y) \leftarrow mother(x, y)$ $p1(x, y) \leftarrow father(x, y)$	

 $p_1(x, y) \leftarrow moner(x, y)$  $p_1(x, y) \leftarrow father(x, y)$  $ancestor(x, y) \leftarrow p_1(x, y)$  $ancestor(x, y) \leftarrow p_1(x, z), ancestor(z, y)$ 

### Reference system: Metagol (Imperial College)

- limit search space by rule patterns
- powerful learning (predicate invention, recursive rules)

### Contributions

- Use Answer Set Programming (ASP, ako declarative combinatorial search)
- Provide techniques to leverage ASP solvers
- Achieve performance boost
- Prof. Katsumi Inoue, Tobias Kaminski
- ICLP 2018 Best Paper Award

## Semantic Web



Detect events, e.g. vehicle breakdown, by semantics-enhanced query answering

- classes and relationships
- spatio-temporal relations

```
    vehicle vehicle x has stopped for longer than 30s,
    break- while it is located inside an intersections y,
    but not on one of the park lanes
```

- Prof. Ryutaro Ichise, Patrik Schneider
- EKAW 2018 (runner up), Semantic Web Journal 2020

 $<sup>\</sup>begin{array}{l} q_{2.4}(x,y): Vehicle(x), speed(x,r)[avg, 30s], (r < 1), inside(v,u), \\ pos(x,v)[line, 15s], hasLoc(y,u), Intersection(y), \\ during(v,r), disjoint(v,z), hasLoc(p,z), ParkLane(p) \end{array}$ 

# Artificial Intelligence

## Neurosymbolic AI: Reconcile Symbolic and Subsymbolic AI

symbols abstract computation knowledge (model) driven



signals neural computation

data driven

source: Wikipedia

### Visual dataset generation using ASP



- Images to test the capabilities of neurosymbolic systems on constrained data
  - Prof. Katsumi Inoue, Nelson Higuera
  - In progress (2024)

#### Neurosymbolic AI for autonomous driving



 NII's MWIT Team won the ROAD-R challenge 2023 (annotated videos, knowledge like "a traffic light cannot be red and green at the same time")