

Responsible Innovation in Collaborative, Connected, and Intelligent Systems: Design, Implementation, and Governance

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The rapid proliferation of collaborative and connected systems, powered by digital tools and platforms, has dramatically transformed how individuals and organizations interact, work, and live. With the advent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other intelligent technologies, collaborative systems have achieved unprecedented levels of automation and intelligence. These developments have opened new avenues for AI-enabled collaboration but have also introduced pressing ethical, legal, and societal concerns. These concerns necessitate responsible innovation to design, develop, and govern such systems effectively.

This mini-track offers a platform for scholars and practitioners to explore these challenges and engage in critical discussions about responsible design, implementation, and governance of AI-enabled collaborative and connected systems. Topics addressed span ethical considerations, governance frameworks, AI-enabled collaboration, and societal impacts of AI integration.

This year, two papers have been selected for inclusion in the proceedings.

The paper titled "A Two-Phased AI-Enabled Framework for Innovation with User-Generated Data from Consumer Review Sites" by Kristijan Mirkovski, Jingda Kang, Libo Liu, Marta Indulska, and Hao Liu, presents a novel framework for leveraging advanced AI techniques to support open innovation processes. This framework introduces an automated two-phased approach that integrates machine learning and generative pre-trained transformers to extract and generate actionable product innovation ideas from consumer review data. The study provides actionable insights for organizations seeking to improve their product development processes by utilizing user-generated data effectively.

The paper titled "Algorithmic Accountability as a Virtue or a Mechanism? The Ethical Divide Among AI Developers" by Jan-Hendrik Schmidt, Sebastian Bartsch, Yannik Zweidinger, and Alexander Benlian, investigates how ethical orientations among AI developers shape their perceptions of algorithmic accountability. Through qualitative interviews, the study reveals a dichotomy in how accountability is conceptualized—either as a mechanism for operational quality assurance or as a virtue tied to ethical standards. These findings contribute to a nuanced understanding of the ethical dimensions of AI development, offering implications for practice and governance.

These contributions collectively highlight the importance of addressing ethical challenges and leveraging AI responsibly in collaborative systems. We look forward to the rich discussions these works will inspire.