



Paris hosts Artificial Intelligence as part of the ERC=Science² communications campaign

Press release: 25 January 2019

Earlier this week, the [ERC = Science² project](#) kicked off a series of public engagement events on the topic of [Artificial Intelligence](#) with a 2-day programme (January 19-20) of dialogue events held at [Cité des Sciences & de l'industrie](#) in Paris, France. Funded by the [European Research Council \(ERC\)](#), the ERC = Science² project focuses on ERC-funded research by highlighting ongoing blue-sky research in Europe and its future impacts on our daily lives.

The last scientific theme of the project explores the topic of Artificial Intelligence and covers four main questions: Can computers learn to code? Can robots be delicate? Can computers do math? And the last question, can computers figure out what is important? The Cité des Sciences & de l'industrie launched a series of events around this interesting topic, organising a weekend full of activities around their Saturday Robots monthly fixture for robotic lovers. The ERC = Science² activities included two Science Cafés dedicated to the research of leading researchers Jean-Baptiste Mouret from the French National Research Institute for the Digital Science (INRIA) and Jean Paul Laumond from the Laboratory for Analysis and Architecture of Systems of the French National Centre for Scientific Research (LAAS-CNRS).

Éloïse Dalin and Pierre Desmeurax, from Jean-Baptiste Mouret's team, presented their research about robots and how these can learn to autonomously recover from unforeseen damages knowing that their adaptive capacities are limited. Jean Paul Laumond's research intends to use a new methodology, combining robotics and computational neuroscience, to investigate the anthropomorphic action in humans and robots.

These Science Cafés were accompanied by a round table on Artificial Intelligence hot topics where Fabien Ruggieri, Oliver Masson and Charles Tijus, from the LUTIN living lab, discussed with Thomas Gargot, from Cognition Handicap of Paris 8 University, questions such as the role of assistive robots or educational robotics. Finally, visitors were also able to do activities in the fab lab building their own robot skeletons with 3D printers and adding automation and artificial intelligence using micro controller cards.

With the activities on 19-20 January marking the start of this last theme, the project will now hold its two final events in museums in Bulgaria and Latvia which will take place in February and March. The project will finalise on 31 March 2019 but its outcomes will remain publicly available on the project's website.

This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No 672302).



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To find out more about the ERC = Science² campaign, featured ERC-funded research and the project multimedia content, please visit www.sciencesquared.eu.

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