LMU LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN

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AI-HUB@LMU

Apply now: 2026 AI-HUB@LMU Prizes

Applications are open for the 2026 AI-HUB@LMU Prizes for AI research. The call includes two awards: the Prize for the Most Innovative AI Research Project and the Prize for the Best Master's Thesis in AI. LMU scientific staff and LMU Master's graduates working on AI topics are invited to apply, with early career researchers explicitly encouraged. The submission deadline for both prizes is June 1, 2026. The prizes are generously sponsored by the Münchener Universitätsgesellschaft (MUG).

Learn more and apply here.

LMU AI Research

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With reservations: LMU study maps AI use in UK journalism

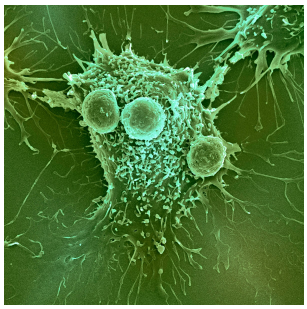
LMU researchers Prof. Dr. Neil Thurman and Sina Thäsler-Kordonouri (LMU Department of Media and Communication) conducted a representative online survey of more than 1,000 UK journalists on how AI is perceived and used in practice. While 62 percent see AI as a large threat and only 15 percent as a large opportunity, AI tools are already widely used: 56 percent use them weekly and 27 percent daily. Most use cases are transcription, translation, and grammar checking, but AI also supports story research, idea generation, and drafting text.

Read the full article.

Literature and AI: what authorship means in the age of text generators

In LMU Research Magazine Rethink, Prof. Dr. Julian Schröter (LMU Digital Literary Studies) reflects on how rapid progress in automated text production is challenging traditional ideas of authorship. He argues that our expectations of literature are still shaped by a centuries-old notion of the lone genius, while AI tools are increasingly becoming part of writing and publishing. Prof. Dr. Schröter expects AI assistants to become normal across the book market, alongside a smaller niche for explicitly human-only works.

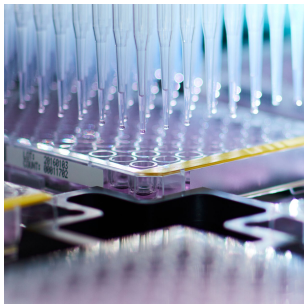
Read the full article here.



AI supported immune therapy for more precise cancer treatment at LMU

Prof. Dr. med. Marion Subklewe and Prof. Dr. med. Sebastian Kobold (LMU University Hospital) describe how immune cell therapies such as CAR T cell approaches are moving toward truly patient specific decisions. A key next step is using machine learning to analyze large patient datasets, including transcriptome data, to identify patterns that explain why some patients respond while others do not. In the ERC project CATACLIS, this data driven view aims to combine tumor, patient, and immune parameters to support more precise therapy recommendations and better risk assessment.

Read the full article here.



NUCLEATE at LMU explores RNA and DNA with AI supported methods

RNA is increasingly seen as far more than a messenger for protein production. In the new NUCLEATE Cluster of Excellence, Prof. Dr. Veit Hornung (LMU Gene Center Munich) and partners investigate nucleic acids as a subject, as an object, and as a tool, from basic mechanisms of RNA and DNA function and modification to applications such as RNA based therapeutics and CRISPR Cas technologies. A dedicated focus is on computer based approaches that use AI to support safer and more targeted future therapies.

Read the full article here.

ML framework at LMU speeds up design of RNA delivery carriers

Researchers at LMU have developed an integrated computational platform that combines molecular dynamics simulations with machine learning to discover new polymer materials for therapeutic RNA delivery. Led by Prof. Dr. Olivia Merkel (LMU Department of Pharmacy), the approach helps design and optimize polymer based RNA carriers using the tool Bits2Bonds. Instead of testing large libraries in the lab, the system can virtually screen thousands of candidates and prioritize the most promising options for synthesis and validation.

Read the full article in the LMU newsroom.

“KI Robust” project for reliable AI in radiotherapy planning

The project “AI and Robust Optimization: Tackling Uncertainty in Modern Radiotherapy (KI Robust)” has been approved within the BMFTR’s program “Mathematics for Innovation”. The joint-project including Prof. Dr. Karl Heinz Küfer (Fraunhofer ITWM), PD Dr. Christopher Kurz (LMU University Hospital), Dr. Philipp Freislederer (Brainlab), Martin Sabel (Varian Medical Systems Imaging Laboratory Gmbh) and AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok (LMU Chair for Mathematical Foundations of AI) aims to automate key steps in radiotherapy planning and make results more transparent for clinical decision making.

Learn more here.

Honors & Awards

PD Dr. Christoph Heilig honored by the Bavarian Academy of Sciences

At the annual ceremony of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BAdW), several new members with ties to LMU were formally honored, including PD Dr. Christoph Heilig (LMU Protestant Theology). The recognition highlights the role of strong, cross disciplinary research in times of geopolitical uncertainty. Dr. Heilig’s involvement as a Task-Force lead within the AI-HUB@LMU links this academic visibility to the university’s growing work on AI in research and society.

See more here.

In the News

Prof. Dr. Mario Haim on how AI in search engines calls for new ways to judge credibility

An LMU interview with AI-HUB@LMU steering committee member Prof. Dr. Mario Haim (LMU Communication Science) looks at how AI generated answers in search engines change what people read and trust online. Traditional cues such as ranked link lists and familiar domains become less visible when a fluent summary appears before any click. Prof. Dr. Haim highlights the risk that users adopt AI phrasing too uncritically and argues for more transparency about the data and mechanisms behind these systems. At LMU, his team studies whether AI summaries broaden or narrow the range of viewpoints presented.

Full interview here.

Prof. Dr. Hinrich Schütze on more reliable and efficient language models

Prof. Dr. Hinrich Schütze (LMU Chair for Computational Linguistics) was featured in WirtschaftsWoche commenting on the Swiss start up Giotto.ai and its approach to building smaller language models that still perform well. The reported system uses external memory plus context aware decoding to reduce typical errors and fabricated outputs. Prof. Dr. Schütze highlights that separating memory from the model could address core inefficiencies in today's large scale systems, making them more robust without simply scaling parameters.

Read the full feature.

Prof. Dr. Björn Ommer on image-generative AI and visual understanding

LMU Chief AI Officer Prof. Dr. Björn Ommer was a guest on the ZDF science series Terra X, moderated by Prof. Dr. Harald Lesch. In the episode, he explains how image generative AI works and why systems such as Stable Diffusion can enable machines to create images and interpret visual content. Prof. Dr. Ommer also discusses the technical foundations behind today's generative models and what their rapid spread could mean for art, creativity, and society, including new possibilities as well as emerging challenges around synthetic media.

Watch the episode here.

Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok on AI ethics for autonomous agents

AI-HUB@LMU spokesperson Prof. Dr. Gitta Kutyniok (LMU Chair for Mathematical Foundations of AI) was featured in VDI Nachrichten discussing ethical and safety challenges that arise when AI agents act autonomously and make decisions. She argues that responsible AI needs measurable criteria that can guide system behaviour and make decision making more transparent.

Read the full feature.

Prof. Dr. Sven Nyholm on what ethical AI should mean in practice

In a recent interview for The Creative Process Podcast, Prof. Dr. Sven Nyholm (LMU Chair for Ethics of AI) discusses current and future impact of AI, how we should think about different ethical values in the context of AI, and what putting these into practice could look like. As Principal Investigator for Ethics of AI at the Munich Center for Machine Learning, he connects philosophical questions to concrete issues such as bias, opacity, and how people may come to rely on AI outputs without understanding its limits.

Listen to the full episode here.

Prof. Dr. Stefan Feuerriegel at UNICEF to shape AI and data science strategy

AI-HUB@LMU Steering Committee member Prof. Dr. Stefan Feuerriegel (LMU Institute of AI in Management) was invited by UNICEF to help brainstorm and shape its emerging AI and data science strategy. In the session, the group discussed how AI should be designed to serve people first and how it can support real time measurement of behaviors and outcomes, especially in hard to reach communities. A key priority was stronger data collection as a foundation for better downstream decisions, with new opportunities from voice bots and related technologies. Prof. Dr. Feuerriegel also highlighted cross disciplinary collaboration as a practical accelerator.
Learn more here.

Resaro joins relAI to advance testing of safe and secure AI systems

Resaro has joined the relAI Konrad Zuse School of Excellence in Reliable AI as an industry partner, strengthening work on responsible, safe, robust AI for mission critical applications. The company offers an Approved Intelligence Platform with modular, scenario based testing workflows to evaluate AI solutions across quality, performance, safety, and security, including different AI modalities. Use cases cover anti money laundering systems, deepfake detection, and medical imaging classifiers. Through this partnership, relAI students will gain access to research opportunities, while relAI will expand its network by adding unique skills.

Learn more here.

Talk: How AI and platform algorithms reshape online communication (03.02.26)

On Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 14:00, the Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) hosts a talk on how AI and algorithmic curation are transforming online communication. Dr. Iina Savolainen (Tampere University) will share insights from research on human behaviour in technology rich environments, including how online systems can influence engagement patterns and problematic use. Chaired by Dr. Magdalena Obermaier (LMU Institute for Communication Science and Media Research), the session takes place at Oettingenstraße 67 in Munich.

Learn more and register here.

IEC Essentials Workshop: Impact business models and financial foundations (12.01.26)

On January 12, 2026, the LMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) and the Munich Center for Machine Learning (MCML) run an on site Essentials Workshop at the LMU IEC Space from 9:00 to 17:30. The session introduces the IEC Business Impact Canvas and guides participants through defining problem and solution fit, shaping a value proposition, and clarifying how value is created, delivered, and captured. Hands-on exercises and real examples help teams map key activities, resources, stakeholders, and the financial, societal, and ecological impact of their idea. Participation is limited to LMU MCML PhD students, coordinated by Annie Weichselbaum (IEC Incubation Lead) and Dr. Thomas Meier (MCML Science Manager).

See details here.

Munich Center for Machine Learning

Media Innovations Impact Bootcamp (IEC/MCML): AI meets entrepreneurship (23./24.02.26)

On January 23 and 24, 2026, the Media Innovations Impact Bootcamp brings together researchers and students interested in AI, machine learning, art, and media design who want to explore founder driven innovation. The two day program combines expert talks with hands on ideation and design thinking workshops, collaborative project work, coaching, and peer feedback, ending with final pitches evaluated by an expert jury. The bootcamp is co organized by the LMU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center and the MCML, with support from the LMU Media Informatics Group and partners from the Munich media ecosystem.

See more and register here.

Data Science and AI Seminar: Prof. Dr. Carsten Marr on computational hematopathology and AI (23.01.26)

The January edition of the Data Science and Artificial Intelligence seminar of the medical faculty at LMU will take place on Friday, January 23, 2026 at 10:00 (Klinik für Strahlentherapie, Campus Großhadern, Marchioninistr. 15, 81377 Munich, room 5I U3 702, Demoraum Strahlentherapie). The speaker is Prof. Dr. Carsten Marr, LMU Professor for AI in Cell Therapy and Hematology at LMU University Hospital. He will talk about AI in computational hematopathology.

Save the date and join the seminar.

Data Science and AI Seminar: Dr. Alexandros Tanzanakis on Smart diabetes care with virtual twins and closed loop control (06.02.26)

The February edition of the Data Science and Artificial Intelligence seminar of the medical faculty at LMU will take place on Friday, February 6, 2026 at 10:00 (Klinik für Strahlentherapie, Campus Großhadern, Marchioninistr. 15, 81377 Munich, room 5I U3 702, Demoraum Strahlentherapie). Dr. Alexandros Tanzanakis, PostDoc and Group Leader in Artificial Intelligence in Biomedical Engineering at Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg and affiliated with the Munich Center for Machine Learning (MCML), will present The Next Era of Intelligent Diabetes Care: From Population-Scale Virtual Twins for Outcome Prediction to Fully Automated Closed-Loop Glucose Control.

Save the date and join the seminar.

Send us your news

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