Directory of Experts

2024

Contents

About ADAPT

ADAPT is the world-leading SFI research centre for Digital Media Technology and AI hosted by Trinity College Dublin. ADAPT's partner institutions include Dublin City University, University College Dublin, Technological University Dublin, Maynooth University, Munster Technological University, Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest, and the National University of Ireland Galway. ADAPT's research vision is to pioneer new forms of proactive, scalable, and integrated AI-driven Digital Content Technology that empower individuals and society to engage in digital experiences with control, inclusion, and accountability with the long term goal of a balanced digital society by 2030.

ADAPT is pioneering new techniques and technologies in Personalisation, Human-Computer Interaction, Analytics and Knowledge Extraction, Intelligent Machine Translation & Enhanced Human Translation, Dynamic Personalised Digital Media Discovery, Recomposition, and Interaction, Multimodal Engagement, and is setting the standards for the management of data governance, privacy, and ethics in content processing. ADAPT's research experts, collaborate across Industry, multidisciplinary academic communities and wider society to address the human-centric challenges and opportunities presented by advances in digital content technology and AI. ADAPT is funded by Science Foundation Ireland.

Partner Institutions

ADAPT's internationally recognised and award-winning research is a collaborative effort across the following institutions:

Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin (TCD)

Dublin City University (DCU)

Technological University Dublin (TUD)

University College Dublin (UCD)

Maynooth University

TUS (Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest)

MTU (Munster Technological University)

University of Galway

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Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
Ollscoil Átha Cliath

DCU
Ollscoil Chathair
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City University

T DUBLIN
OLLSCOIL TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA
BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

MTU
Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan
Munster Technological University

Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

UCD DUBLIN
University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY
GAILLIMH 18 45 GALWAY

TUS

Welcome to the SFI ADAPT Centre's Media Directory of AI Experts, a one-stop resource for connecting with leading researchers and innovators in the rapidly evolving field of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

With the explosion of interest in AI generated from large language models, it is becoming more apparent that AI is reshaping industries and redefining possibilities. We hope this directory will provide you with access to the right experts to enable insightful, accurate, and engaging reporting. All experts in this directory have knowledge of AI but to facilitate access to the knowledge and insights you need they have been categorised into key technology areas. Industry interest, media experience and ability to speak generally on the topic of AI is noted where relevant.

Natural Language Processing and Generative AI

Professor John D. Kelleher
Maynooth University

Hamilton Institute Professor of Computer Science at Maynooth University. Prof Kelleher has published over 160 peer-reviewed papers in the fields of AI and ML. His core research expertise is in the areas of machine/deep learning and natural language processing. Prof. Kelleher has led the AI research in a number of European funded projects on AI for Health. Prof. Kelleher has also led a large number of industry projects on topics such as anomaly detection in cloud services, analysis of multilingual social media for global disease monitoring, natural language to source code generation, customer propensity modeling, price modeling and prediction, and developing AI systems to support regulatory compliance.

Research Area:
- Artificial intelligence - machine/ deep learning and natural language processing
- AI for Health

Media Experience Examples:
- ADAPT Podcast
- ADAPT Podcast

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Environment and sustainability

Professor Anya Belz
Dublin City University

Professor of Computer Science at DCU and expert in Language Generation and System Evaluation , Prof Belz's research is in the intersection of machine learning and natural language processing (NLP) and her 16 externally funded research projects and publications span automatic language generation, text analysis, evaluation, reproducibility and image description.

Research Area:
- Artificial intelligence - machine/ deep learning and natural language processing
- AI for Health

Has Media Experience

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Environment and sustainability   Education   Government and public policy   Entertainment and media   Retail and e-commerce

Dr Robert Ross
TU Dublin

Robert Ross is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Computer Science in TU Dublin, where he teaches modules on Deep Learning and Natural Language Technologies, and leads the Cognitive Systems research group.

Robert has over 20 years of experience working in the broad field of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning with a particular focus on natural language technologies and interactive systems. Robert's current research is focused on the systematic fine tuning and adjustment of conversational systems to provide better long term engagement and acceptance of conversational systems in domains such as healthcare and education. Robert has students working in the field of Social Robotics and the Speech-Vision Interface, and has over the years also worked with commercial partners on the application of AI to the agricultural sector with applications to livestock monitoring and crop yield analysis.

Research Area:
- FinTech
- MedTech
- Machine learning
- Data analytics
- Emotion
- Multimodal interaction
- Natural language processing
- Predictive analytics
- Human Robot Interaction, Dialogue, Conversation, Reinforcement Learning

Media Experience Examples:
- RTE Radio
- AI Ireland Podcast

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Education   Entertainment and media

Dr Haithem Afli
Munster Technological University

Faculty member of Munster Technological University with expertise in Machine Learning and Deep Learning Research. Dr Afli is involved in several national, European (H2020) and International projects focussed respectively on the application of ML and NLP in Digital Health, 5G technology, AgriTech and security.

Research Area:
- Artificial Intelligence
- Behavioural Analysis
- Data Analytics
- Deep Learning
- Languages
- Linguistics
- Machine Learning
- Machine Translation
- Natural Language Processing

Media Experience Examples:
- RDI Hub Summer School

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Education

Data governance, regulatory compliance and digital ethics

Professor Dave Lewis
Trinity College Dublin

Head of Artificial Intelligence at TCD, his research focuses on the use of open semantic models to manage the Data Protection and Data Ethics issues associated with digital content processing. With more than 200 peer-reviewed publications, he has led the development of international standards in digital content metadata at the W3C and OASIS and contributes to international standards for trustworthy AI and data governance and has been awarded a SFI Public Service Fellowship award.

Research Area:
- Standards
- Data Governance and Ethics
- Expert in open semantic models to manage the Data Protection and Data Ethics issues associated with digital content processing

Media Experience Examples:
- AI Ireland Podcast
- RTE

Education

Government and public policy

Professor Aphra Kerr
Maynooth University

Professor at the Department of Sociology at Maynooth University, her research focuses on the ethics and values underpinning digital technology design and governance, AI-related public policy and social expectations and public engagement in AI. Ongoing research projects examine emerging European AI policy, the impacts of AI on the European media and communications industries, AI and datafication within the digital games and gaming industries and algorithmic literacy. She is supervising projects which examine the impact of automation and AI on cities, banking, policing, the taxi industry, and manufacturing. With more than twenty years researching digital content and technology, Prof Kerr is the author of over 100 publications and two monographs on the global digital games industry. Prof Kerr was elected to Academia Europea in 2021.

Research Area:
- Ethics and values in AI governance
- AI related public policy, digital games and gaming, algorithmic literacy and social expectations of AI

Media Experience Examples:
- ADAPT Maynooth University
- Silicone Republic

Entertainment and media

Retail and e-commerce

Education

Smart Cities and digital twins

Professor Markus Helfert
Maynooth University

Markus is Director of EMPOWER, Data Governance, a €10 million academic and industry research programme designed to future proof EU data flows and drive innovations in data protection internationally. He is also Professor in Digital Service Innovation at Maynooth University, Innovation Value Institute and Director of the Business Informatics Group at Maynooth University.

Research Area:
- Digital transformation
- Data governance
- Enterprise Architecture and Service Innovation
- Smart Cities and IoT based Smart Environments

Media Experience Examples:
AI Ireland Podcast

Maynooth University Video

Finance and banking   Government and public policy   Education   Smart Cities and digital twins

Assistant Professor Malika Bendechache
University of Galway

Based at the University of Galway with a focus on the development and validation of new analytics, metrics, and tools to support automated Data Governance and AI Governance.

Research Area:
- Automated Data Governance and AI Governance
- Data integration and Quality
- Machine Learning
- Privacy and Ethics
- Data security

Education   Government and public policy

Assistant Professor Rob Brennan
University College Dublin

Rob's main research interests are data governance, cybersecurity risk, data protection, data value, data quality, knowledge graphs, and AI governance. Rob is an Assistant Professor in the School of Computer Science, University College Dublin and a Principal Investigator of the EMPOWER data governance spoke. He is the founding Chair of the DCU MA in Data Protection and Privacy: Law & Computing. As a Funded investigator in ADAPT, Rob leads the Value and Risk challenge in the Transparent Digital Governance research strand.

Research Area:
- Data governance
- Cybersecurity risk
- Data protection
- FAIR data
- Data quality
- Knowledge graphs
- AI governance.

Has Media Experience

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Education   Government and public policy

Personalised human-agent interactive systems

Professor Vincent Wade
Trinity College Dublin

Professor Vincent Wade is co-founder of the ADAPT Centre and holds the Professorial Chair of Computer Science (Est. 1990) in School of Computer Science and Statistics, Trinity College Dublin as well as a Personal Chair in Artificial Intelligence. He is also co-director of the DREAL Centre for Research Training. His research focuses on intelligent systems, AI and Personalisation. He has authored over 350 scientific papers in leading peer-reviewed journals and international conferences and is also the founder of several successful Trinity campus companies, including EmpowerTheUser, currently valued at $50 million.

Environment and sustainability · Education · Government and public policy · Entertainment and media · Retail and e-commerce

Research Area:
- Artificial Intelligence
- Behavioural Analysis
- Data Analytics
- Data Representation
- Deep Learning
- Digital Humanities
- Emotion
- Human Computer Interaction
- Knowledge & Data Engineering
- Linked Data / Semantic Web / Knowledge Graphs
- Machine Learning
- Multimodal Interaction
- Personalisation
- Speech

Media Experience Examples:

| ADAPT Radio |
| ADAPT Radio |

Professor Owen Conlan
Trinity College Dublin

Owen's research focuses on empowering users in understanding and interacting with complex information and media. He has published 180+ scientific peer-reviewed papers and international journal articles receiving over 3000 citations. He is Head of the Artificial Intelligence discipline in the SCSS at TCD and co-director of the Research Centre for Digital Humanities.

Finance and banking · Healthcare · Environment and sustainability · Education · Government and public policy · Entertainment and media · Retail and e-commerce

Research Area:
- Personalisation
- Digital Humanities
- Empowering users in understanding and interacting with complex information and media

Media Experience Examples:

| FOR TECH'S SAKE |
| ADAPT YouTube |

Associate Professor Ben Cowan
University College Dublin

Associate Professor at UCD's School of Information & Communication Studies, his research lies at the juncture between psychology, human-computer interaction and conversational AI in investigating how design impacts user perceptions and dialogue behaviour in social, collaborative and communicative technology interactions. His recent research has focused specifically on how theory and quantitative methods from psychological science can be applied to understand and design more user centered conversational AI technologies. He is co-founder of the ACM Conversational User Interfaces (ACM CUI) conference, the leading international research conference on user centered conversational AI technologies, and is an ACM Distinguished Speaker.

Research Area:
- Artificial Intelligence
- Human Computer Interaction
- Dialogue
- Conversational User Interfaces
- Psycholinguistics
- Multimodal Interaction
- Speech
- Statistics

Media Experience Examples:

ADAPT Radio

ADAPT Radio

Finance and banking | Healthcare | Environment and sustainability | Education | Government and public policy | Entertainment and media | Retail and e-commerce

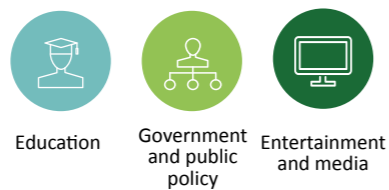## Assistant Professor Brendan Spillane
University College Dublin

Expert in the impact of the visual presentation of news on the perception of bias in news articles. He has developed tools to detect and warn users of disinformation. He is a PI on the EU VIGILANT project that will equip European Police Authorities with advanced technologies from academia to detect and analyse disinformation campaigns that lead to criminal activities.

Research Area:
- Human Computer Interaction
- Behavioural Science and Information Science with an interest in bias, credibility, mis/disinformation, news, and information security
- Personalisation.

Media Experience Examples:

ADAPT YouTube

HCI @ UCD Podcast

Education | Government and public policy | Entertainment and media

Virtual and augmented reality

Lecturer Niall Murray
Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest

Based at Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest, his research interests include immersive (AR & VR), human-centric AI, multisensory multimedia communication and applications, multimedia signal processing, quality of experience, and wearable sensor systems.

Research Area:
- Immersive (AR & VR)
- Human-centric AI
- Multisensory multimedia communication and applications
- Multimedia signal processing
- Quality of experience
- Wearable sensor systems.

Healthcare　Entertainment and media　Retail and e-commerce

Media Experience Examples:

ADAPT YouTube

ADAPT YouTube

Associate Professor Rachel McDonnell
Trinity College Dublin

Her research interests include Computer Graphics, Character Animation, and Perceptually-Adaptive Graphics. The aim is to make the appearance and motion of these types of virtual avatars more realistic, through perceptual experiments and developing new algorithms based on real human movement.

Research Area:
- Animation and Graphics
- Emotion
- Human Computer Interaction
- Machine Learning
- VR and AR.

Education　Entertainment and media

Media Experience Examples:

HCI @ UCD Podcast

ADAPT Radio

Assistant Professor Andrew Hines
University College Dublin

Andrew's research interests are in applying machine learning for multimedia applications, particularly in speech, audio, and video signal processing. His research group, QxLab, specialises in Quality of Experience for Listening and Media Technologies. Active research projects are investigating the use of computer models in a variety of domains including tele-meetings, virtual reality, audio, video, health and security. Dr Hines projects range from models for stroke rehabilitation in a European Consortium to music and speech quality models for Google. He has contributed to the Irish Law Gazette on ChatGPT, RTE Primetime on using AI in video surveillance and RTE Brainstorm about current research into why people use subtitles while streaming movies. He is a member of the Royal Irish Academy Engineering and Computer Sciences Committee.

Research Area:
- Applying machine learning for applications in speech, audio and video signal processing
- AI driven quality prediction
- Leveraging ChatGPT for digital assistants
- Speech synthesis
- AR/VR/XR for hearing impaired listeners.

Media Experience Example:

Silicone Republic

Healthcare　Entertainment and media

Speech and video processing

Professor Naomi Harte
Trinity College Dublin

Professor in Speech Technology at the School of Engineering in TCD, Naomi's specialist area is Human Speech Communication, where her industrial background has enabled her to bring real-world relevance to her research. Prof Harte originally worked in high-tech start-ups in the field of Digital Signal Processing Systems Development, including her own company. Her research focuses on leveraging our understanding of human speech-based interaction in AI-driven speech technology. She is the Chair of the world's largest speech technology conference, INTERSPEECH, taking place in the CCD in Dublin in August 2023.

Research Area:
- Audio-visual Speech Recognition
- Speech Synthesis Evaluation
- Multimodal Interaction
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Speech Quality
- Deep Learning
- AI

Media Experience Examples:

Tech Central

ADAPT Radio

Finance and banking | Healthcare | Retail and e-commerce | Education | Entertainment and media

Assistant Professor Giovanni Di Liberto
Trinity College Dublin

Giovanni's scientific interests centre on understanding the neural mechanisms underlying speech communication. In his work, he develops data analysis methods for investigating how the human brain transforms sounds into abstract meaning. He then applied his research to study speech and language processing across the lifespan (e.g., infants, ageing) and deficits impacting speech and language functions, such as hearing impairment and dyslexia. He has published 35+ scientific peer-reviewed papers and international journal articles receiving over 2500 citations.

Research Area:
- Neural Data Analysis
- Speech Processing
- Music Processing
- Perception
- Neurophysiology
- Linguistics
- Human Computer Interaction
- Machine Learning
- Natural Language Processing

Media Experience Examples:

Research Works Podcast

ean News

Education | Government and public policy | Entertainment and media

Professor Rozenn Dahyot
Maynooth University

Her research interest are in pattern analysis and machine intelligence with signal processing applications such as remote sensing, computer vision, and computer graphics.

Healthcare   Smart Cities and digital twins   Education

Research Area:
- Animation and graphics
- Data visualisation
- Deep learning; AR and VR.

Media Experience Examples:

Tech Central

ADAPT YouTube

Dr Aidan Meade
TU Dublin

His research concentrates on the development of data treatment, machine learning and AI pipelines for clinical, biological, and imaging data, with a deep focus on novel hyperspectral imaging (HSI) data derived from human tissues. The motivation of his activity is to develop imaging solutions for precision oncology.

Healthcare

Research Area:
- Machine learning and AI pipelines for clinical, biological, and imaging data
- Predictive analytics
- AI

Has Media Experience

Intelligent Machine Translation

Deputy Director/Professor Andy Way
Dublin City University

He has published over 400 peer-reviewed papers and has a 30 year career spanning industry and academia. In 2019 he received the extremely prestigious Award of Honour from the International Association for Machine Translation for his services to the community and was ranked first globally among researchers who have published on MT in Scopus-indexed publications 2000-2018

Education   Government and public policy   Retail and e-commerce

Research Area:
- Artificial Intelligence
- Languages
- Linguistics
- Machine Learning
- Machine Translation
- Natural Language Processing

Media Experience Examples:

KantanAI

EU Science Media Hub

Teresa Clifford
Dublin City University

After coming into the ADAPT Centre in DCU as an annotator, she is now working as a research assistant. She is working on research and outreach for the eSTÓR, a nationally funded project that enables people working in public administration across Ireland to collect and share language data via a dedicated online platform.

Finance and banking   Healthcare   Environment and sustainability   Education   Government and public policy   Entertainment and media   Retail and e-commerce

Research Area:
- Languages
- Linguistics
- Irish Language
- Language Data

Information Retrieval

Professor Gareth Jones
Dublin City University

His research encompasses an extensive portfolio of activities in information retrieval, ranging from fundamental technologies to diverse areas of application. Prof Jones has published extensively, with more than 400 papers covering many topics in multimedia and multilingual information retrieval. His work encompasses a broad range of areas including speech and multimedia search, multilingual search, personalisation in search, search for personal information archives, legal and patent search, and more generally information retrieval models and evaluation.

Research Area:
- Information retrieval and search technologies

Media Experience Examples:

FOR TECH'S SAKE

ADAPT YouTube

Education   Government and public policy   Entertainment and media   Retail and e-commerce

Professor Cal Muckley
University College Dublin

Cal is Professor of Operational Risk in Banking and Finance at the UCD College of Business and a Fellow at the UCD Geary Institute. His research is in areas of financial misconduct, mitigating financial fraud, ethical algorithmic lending and the information content of corporate dividends.

Research Area:
- Artificial Intelligence
- Business and Finance
- Data Analytics
- FinTech
- Machine Learning
- Predictive Analytics

Media Experience Examples:

ADAPT Radio

UCD Business Impact Podcast

Finance and banking

Professor Cathal Gurrin
Dublin City University

Professor at the School of Computing at DCU, and head for ADAPT in DCU. He has developed WWW search engines, multimedia content mining tools and spent over a decade investigating digital twins and the Quantified Self. He has published over 350 research papers on these topics and his research has been covered in many international media venues such as Discovery Channel, BBC Click and the Economist magazine. He is within the top 5 researchers in the world on the topics of Quantified Self and lifelogging.

Research Area:
- Data analytics
- Digital Twins
- Lifelogging
- Wearable sensors
- Information Retrieval

Media Experience Examples:

eHealth 360 Summit

elder

Education   Government and public policy   Entertainment and media   Retail and e-commerce

Professor Mark Little
Trinity College Dublin

Mark is Fottrell Professor of Nephrology, School of Medicine, Trinity Translational Medicine Institute, Fellow of TCD and of the Royal College of Physicians (London), and a Consultant Nephrologist in Tallaght and Beaumont Hospitals. Prof Little's research interests include novel model systems for investigating the pathogenesis of ANCA vasculitis, biomarker development and application of data science techniques in the study of autoimmunity. In 2015, he established the Chronic Disease Informatics Group, going on to establish several EU consortia focused on data linkage and predictive analytics in the medical sphere. He leads the ADAPT Health Working Group

Research Area:
- Health informatics

Media Experience Examples:

ImmunoTea Podcast

RTE

Healthcare

Environment and Sustainability

Associate Professor Caroline Brophy
Trinity College Dublin

Her biostatistics research is in developing and applying statistical models predominantly in agriculture, ecology and biology. She is particularly interested in developing statistical methodologies to improve the sustainability of agricultural practices.

Research Area:
- Data analytics
- Data visualisation
- Predictive analytics
- Statistics

Environment and sustainability

Media Experience Examples:

ADAPT Website

Trinity News

Assistant Professor Marcus Collier
Dublin City University

Prof Marcus Collier is Assistant Professor in Urban Nature-based Innovation at TCD. Fascinated by the human-nature interface and specialising in social-ecological systems thinking. In recent years he has published extensively on contested issues such as novel ecosystems and nature-based solutions.

Research Area:
- Environment
- Sustainability
- AI
- Citizen Science

Environment and sustainability

Media Experience Examples:

Think Nature

ADAPT Radio

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