

EuADS Symposium -

Translating data, from humans to machines and back again



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To develop a learner algorithm we must tell the algorithm what and/or how to learn, which goes for supervised (labelling), reinforcement (machine-consumable goal) and unsupervised (choice of the training data, objective function). This requires a dedicated effort in translation, transforming relevant natural language concepts that inform the specific data science quest into variables, datasets and/or mathematical functions.

The act of translation results in the use of proxies that stand for whatever concept we aim to operationalise. As machine learning and data science cannot work with human concepts one could say the domain is ruled by proxies and the output of an ML system will necessarily depend on the choice of the proxies. Subsequently the output must be rendered, explained and often 'sold' in human language, again requiring an act of translation. In this lecture I will investigate to what extent the rule of proxies is a game of 'Chinese whispers' and how this may affect the reconfiguration of real life challenges.

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Tuesday, 14.06.2022

13h00-14h00 **Registration and Coffee**

14h00-15h00 **Opening and Welcome**

Marc Hansen

Minister Delegate for Digitalisation

Peter Flach

EuADS President

15h30-17h00 **Sabine Krolak-Schwerdt Public Lecture**
The Whisper Challenge – The Rule of Proxies
Mireille Hildebrandt

Professor at Vrije University Brussels, Belgium

17h00 **Welcome Reception**

Please refer to
euads.org for
eventual updates and
changes due to the
ongoing pandemic!



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**The Symposium on Tuesday is
free, but a registration is required:**
contact@euads.org

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