



Dear MMM members,

We hope this first MMM newsletter finds you well. We would like to take the opportunity and update you about recent developments within and around MMM.

With kind regards,

Hanna Voudouri & Dennis Küster (MMM Office)

Latest MMM News

We warmly invite all MMM members to an **MMM retreat** in February 2022. We are hoping to be able to hold the retreat in person. Please save 17/18 February and 24/25 February (including an overnight stay), and let us know by 23 September which dates suit you: <https://terminplaner4.dfn.de/mlaijhGeAXbMpyyY> We will be happy to welcome many of you and discuss ongoing and future research directions.

We also welcome a couple of **new projects** at MMM:

- Michael Beetz and Yildiray Ogurol will set up IntEL4CoRo – an integrated learning environment for Cognitive Robotics funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).
- Tanja Schultz and Manfred Herrmann will join forces with KIT and Giessen University in the DFG-funded Research Training Group KD²School, to study IT-based systems for supporting economic decision-making.
- Rainer Malaka coordinates MUHAI – Meaning and Understanding in Human-centric AI, an EU Horizon 2020 project that tackles how responsible human-centric AI can deal with meaning

Great news from Nicole Megow's group: Franziska Eberle was awarded the Dissertation Award 2021 of the Society for Operations Research for her thesis "Scheduling and Packing Under Uncertainty" – congratulations!

We aim to improve our **news-coverage** for Minds, Media, Machines! Do you have a recent new project that you would like to see featured on our website and/or this newsletter? Do you have any visual contents or job ads from your lab to share? Please do not hesitate to contact us.

MMM Funding Opportunities

The third round of the **MMM-Seed Grants** introduces two separate lines of funding opportunities, one for MMM-PIs and one for MMM PostDocs.

The **MMM PI-Seed-Grant** aims at promoting scientific collaborations among MMM members.

The new round of our seed-grant initiative will be tailored to allow sufficient funding of a PhD- or Postdoc-position through collaborations among at least two MMM PIs (EUR 38k per working group). With view towards this substantially increased funding, the project's contribution to MMM, academic excellence of the work program, and the expertise of the PIs with respect to the proposed project will be very prominent features of successful applications in this funding line. The funding decision will be reached by the MMM Executive Board. Further information concerning the submission details will follow soon. We welcome applications until 15 October 2021.

The MMM Postdoc Individualized Funding aims at supporting MMM Postdocs in strengthening or expanding their individual profiles as rising Early Career Researchers, and in becoming visible experts in the field within and beyond their scientific community. Further information concerning the available budget and call for application will follow soon, applications are to be submitted by 15 November 2021.

External Funding Opportunities (Selected Calls)

EU:

- Call for Proposals for ERC Synergy Grant (ERC-2022-SYG): [link](#)
- HORIZON-CL4-2021-DIGITAL-EMERGING-01; 17 open calls ([link](#)), deadline 21 October 2021, e.g.:
 - [AI, Data and Robotics at work \(AI, Data and Robotics Partnership\) \(IA\)](#)
 - [AI, Data and Robotics for the Green Deal \(AI, Data and Robotics Partnership\) \(IA\)](#)
 - [Pushing the limit of robotics cognition \(AI, Data and Robotics Partnership\) \(RIA\)](#)
 - [European Network of Excellence Centres in Robotics \(RIA\)](#)
- A HUMAN-CENTRED AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL AND INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES 2021 (HORIZON-CL4-2021-HUMAN-01); 24 Open Calls ([link](#)), deadline 21 October 2021; e.g.:
 - [AI to fight disinformation \(RIA\)](#)
 - [eXtended Reality for All – Haptics \(RIA\)](#)
 - [Tackling gender, race and other biases in AI \(RIA\)](#)
 - [Cognitive Cloud: AI-enabled computing continuum from Cloud to Edge \(RIA\)](#)

DFG:

- The DFG is launching the tenth Young Investigators Academy in Medical Technology (NAMT-10) under the motto "Artificial Intelligence in Radiology". Deadline: 30 October 2021:
https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/info_wissenschaft_21_72/index.html
- Priority Programme "Daring More Intelligence – Design Assistants in Mechanics and Dynamics" (SPP 2353): The research in the established Priority Programme shall aim at the development of design assistance systems combining methods from optimisation, artificial intelligence, and dynamics/mechanics to assist in and partially automate the interdisciplinary design of engineering systems. Deadline: 2 November 2021:
https://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/announcements_proposals/2021/info_wissenschaft_21_59/
- Priority Programme "Hundert plus – Verlängerung der Lebensdauer komplexer Baustrukturen durch intelligente Digitalisierung" (SPP 2388). The aim of this priority program is the methodical development of an adaptive, intelligent and digital representation (digital twin) of real, physical objects (structures), which is linked across lifetimes by measurement data from structure monitoring and centrally provides compressed information for predictive, digital structure management. Deadline: 22 October 2021:
https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/info_wissenschaft_21_56/index.html
- Priority Programme "Disruptive Memory Technologies" (SPP 2377). The aim of this Priority Programme is therefore to explore the potentials of ongoing developments in the field of main memory technologies and architectures. Deadline: 9 November 2021:
https://www.dfg.de/foerderung/info_wissenschaft/info_wissenschaft_21_52/index.html

BMBF:

- New guideline for funding projects on the thematic focus "Increasing the proportion of women in STEM research and innovation: strengthening self-efficacy, initiative and creativity" (MissionMINT- Frauen gestalten Zukunft): Deadline: 29 October 2021:
<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2021/08/2021-08-19-Bekanntmachung-Mint.html>
- Funding of joint projects in the field of "Neue Methoden und Technologien für das Exascale-Höchstleistungsrechnen". Deadline: 15 November 2021:
<https://www.bmbf.de/bmbf/shareddocs/bekanntmachungen/de/2021/08/2021-08-26-Bekanntmachung-SCALEXA.html>

Early Career Researchers

MMM-Members, please forward to the Postdocs and PhD students when applicable:

For postdocs or doctoral students who are planning to go for funding, consider, the 2-hour workshop "[Drittmittelakquise für die Postdoc-Phase](#)" held by the university's HR development group. It offers a helpful overview on individual funding opportunities (in German).

For postdocs or doctoral students who are in the state of preparing a proposal, consider to get in touch with the MMM science manager Dr. Dennis Küster for individualized feedback and advice on their proposals.

Falling Walls is offering a free two-day online workshop "FROM PHD TO INNOVATOR" for PhD students and postdocs from all disciplines of Young Entrepreneurs in Science. The online workshop will take place on September 23 and 24, 2021 via zoom between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm in English. <https://falling-walls.com/yes/online-workshop-grundkurs/from-phd-to-innovator-hamburg-23-24-09-2021/apply/>

Recent Press Releases

The latest DFG Infobrief has been discussing the personnel expansion in clusters of excellence as its top item ([DFG Infobrief 2/2021](#)).

The BMBF funds large-scale representative [survey](#) at LifBi in Bamberg on digital and data-related skills as part of the German government's data strategy.

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