

Workshop Program

STEPPING INTO THE FUTURE OF AI-DRIVEN HUMAN-VR INTERACTION

Location: University of Graz, Department of Psychology

Dates: Thursday, 19th June – Saturday, 21st June 2025

Thursday, 19th June 2025

9:00 – 9:15 | Introduction

9:15 – 10:45 | Invited Workshop: Steinmaurer, Silva, Soleimani, Dennerlein (IT:U – Interdisciplinary Transformation University, Linz, Austria): *Conversational Agents in Virtual Reality - Using Large Language Models for Immersive Educational Experiences*

10:45 – 11:15 | Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:45 | Workshop: Ertl, Eisenlauer, Fink (UniBw München, Germany): *Virtual Field Trips*

12:45 – 13:45 | Lunch Break

13:45 – 14:15 | Talk: Klug (Brandenburg University of Technology, Germany): *Adaptive VR - Beyond Reality - How Neuroadaptive Technology can shape XR technology*

14:15 – 14:45 | Talk: Gehrke (TU Berlin, Germany): *Neuroadaptive Haptics: Adapting XR systems by Reinforcement Learning from Neural Signals*

14:45 – 15:15 | Coffee Break

15:15 – 15:45 | Talk: Berger (University of Graz, Austria): *Ethical Considerations of AI-Driven Human-VR Interaction*

15:45 – 16:15 | PhD Presentation: Rabe (Brandenburg University of Technology, Germany): *Identifying Neural Indicators of Category Learning: Progressing from 2D to Virtual Reality*

16:15 – 16:45 | PhD Presentation: Pan (Brandenburg University of Technology, Germany): *MIND-TO-ACTION: Automatic Intent Decoding in VR Gaming*

16:45 – 17:15 | PhD Presentation: Pachner (University of Graz, Austria): *Syncing Minds: Exploring Inter-brain Synchrony in Virtual Reality and the Real World*

18:00 | **Social Event:** Buffet and Networking at the Conference Site

Friday, 20th June 2025

9:00 – 9:15 | Welcome and Recap

9:15 – 9:45 | Talk: Kober (University of Graz, Austria): *The Potential Persuasiveness of AI-Driven Virtual Reality and How to Counteract It*

9:45 – 10:15 | Talk: Si-Mohammed, Van Der Lee (University of Lille, France): *Towards an Automatic Signature of Vection for the Prevention of Cybersickness*

10:15 – 10:45 | Talk: Pillette (French National Centre for Scientific Research, Rennes, France): *BCIs to Assess User Experience in Virtual Reality*

10:45 – 11:15 | Coffee Break

11:15 – 11:45 | PhD Presentation: Lefeuvre (French National Centre for Scientific Research, Rennes, France): *How Sensory Capacities Influence Human Learning in VR-based Neurofeedback*

11:45 – 12:15 | PhD Presentation: Gürtl (Technical University of Graz, Austria): *Integrating Small Language Models into Introductory Computer Science Education: Instructor-Focused Tools for Feedback and Evaluation*

12:15 – 13:15 | Lunch Break

13:15 – 13:45 | Talk: Macher, Paechter, Petzl, Pöschko, Reiß, Skliris, Gruber, Schleicher, Steinbach (University of Graz, Austria): *(Para)social Interaction, Presence, Trust, and Satisfaction: Comparing Human Tutors and AI Tutors*

13:45 – 14:15 | PhD Presentation: Pöschko, Soleimani, Dennerlein, Paechter, Steinmaurer (University of Graz, Austria): *Learning Computational Thinking with AI-Based Pedagogical Agents: Learners' Perceptions and Preferences*

14:15 – 14:45 | PhD Presentation: Soleimani, Pöschko, Paechter, Dennerlein, Steinmaurer (IT:U – Interdisciplinary Transformation University, Austria, Linz, Austria): *From Perception to Pedagogy: Designing a Scripted Peer Tutor Conversational Agent for Collaborative Computational Thinking*

14:45 – 15:15 | Coffee Break

15:15 – 16:45 | Workshop: Steinbach, Ertl, Fink (UniBw München, Germany): *AI Avatars*

16:45 – 17:00 | Conclusion and farewell

Saturday, 21st June 2025

Optional: 9:30 City Tour (start at Main Square Graz, for participants who wish to join – details to follow).
