

## Message



In the 16th century, Sir Francis Bacon declared that “information is power”. This is as true today as then. However, in the 21st century we can also, surely, assert that “data is power”.

Our lives have been transformed by innovations in ICT, data science, data analysis, and many other fields. AI is now commonplace (although many media outlets still claim advances that are simply not true). Machine intelligence is coming into areas that we would never have dreamed of. Smart devices, the so-called Internet of Things, and new data capture methods are ubiquitous.

Areas such as healthcare have been transformed dramatically, with ICT used in better analysis, imaging, detection, diagnosis, treatment, robot-assisted surgery, and even significant advances in sharing health records. Data collected is used to train AI-based systems with machine learning so that we can better diagnose critical conditions and even identify patients who are at a higher risk of succumbing to various diseases, both inherited and contracted.

More and more, multiple devices are used to collect data about us, our environment, our friends and family, while wireless and wired telecommunications are used to share this data (raw or processed) through the cloud and social media, with us, with our colleagues and with companies and organizations that provide us with services based on the data they collect. Often, they provide us with useful apps, access to information, etc. But they will also use the data they collect to sell us other products and services and to improve their knowledge of us. The world is becoming increasingly a cyber-physical-social system.

With all of the benefits this brings, it also brings concerns about how data is used, morals and ethics, and issues of security and privacy and how data is managed, maintained, and preserved. We are facing significant and growing threats from cybercriminals and terrorists using these same technologies to threaten our society. There is also growing concern about how technology, and robotics and AI in particular, will replace the current workforce.

IEEE UK & Ireland Section is delighted welcome ICATCM 2019 to London. We congratulate Amity University on being the first university from India to host an IEEE event in London. We wish the event every success and all participants a truly enjoyable experience.



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