



SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

WHO: **DR. AMIT KUMAR PANDEY**
Chief Robotics and AI Officer
Rovial Space, France
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WHAT: **AI, Robots and Society: Challenges and Opportunities for Social Innovation**

WHEN: **Thursday, 25 May 2023, 12:30–13:30**

WHERE: Via Claudio, Bldg 3, Floor 1, Room Softel



Abstract — Never before in history, Robots, Avatars, AI and IoT, all together have been so close to us, in our society. It is a revolution towards a new ecosystem of living with technology. The intention is to facilitate a smarter, healthier, safer and happier life. Such technologies are getting used in energy, space, education, healthcare, retail, entertainment, art, science, and even to improve our understanding about ourselves, the human being, and the universe. The talk will focus on some of such potential use cases, provide R&D, innovation and applied perspectives. The talk will open the floor by highlighting the multidisciplinary nature of the domain, and the huge career opportunities in the domain, the challenges we need to address as a community, and the need for a bigger collaborative ecosystem.

Biosketch — **AMIT KUMAR PANDEY** (PhD, Robotics and AI) is a robotics and AI scientist, thought leader and strong believer of technology for humanity. At present he is serving as the **Chief Robotics and AI Officer** of **Rovial Space**, France, an innovative company dedicated to build a Sustainable Space for Humanity through AI enabled Robots in the Space. He was the *Co-founder, CTO and Chief Science Officer* of **beingAI**, the world's first transmedia AI company. He has also served as the **President, Chief Science Officer (CSO) and CTO** of **Hanson Robotics**, the company created one of among the most expressive humanoid robots: **Sophia**. He was the **Head Principal Scientist (Chief Scientist)** at **SoffBank Robotics Europe** (formerly **Aldebaran Robotics**), Paris, France, the creator of the mass produced sociable humanoid robots **Pepper** and **Nao**. He has also served as the President Collaboration for AI and Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK), Bengaluru, India. He is also founder of other initiatives in this sector including Socients AI and Robotics, Global Institute for Robotics and AI. His research interests include Socially Intelligent agents (robots, avatars, characters) and Society. He aims to address societal needs to achieve innovation through scientific advancements, new technologies and collaborative ecosystem creation, as well as through training and upskilling. On these aspects, he has been actively contributing as the principal investigator, researcher, and industrial scientific coordinator in more than 13 large scale national, international and European Union (EU) projects on various themes including healthcare, education, and services, has published more than 60 research papers, and delivered more than 100 invited talks/keynotes/lecture in international venues. He was appointed as the General Chair of IEEE/RSJ/KROS International Ro-Man 2019 conference, one of the oldest international conferences in the domain, with the theme: *Responsible Robotics and AI for the Real World*. Among other responsibilities, he is the founding coordinator of euRobotics (the European Union Robotics Community) Topic Group (TG): *Socially Intelligent Robots and Societal Applications (SIRO-SA)*, and active contributor in the *Multi-Annual Roadmap (MAR)* and *Strategic Research Agenda (SRA)* of euRobotics, which the aim to shape the future of robotics in Europe in collaboration with European Commission (EC) through PPP SPARC (one of the largest civilian-funded robotics innovation programme in the world). He is serving as the Robot Design Competition Chair of the International Conference on Social Robotics (ICSR). He is also serving on the advisory boards of several global initiatives. Previously he has worked as a researcher in Robotics and AI at LAAS-CNRS (French National Center for Scientific Research), Toulouse, France. His other recognitions include three best PhD theses in Robotics in Europe; Innovation Leadership Award; Global Excellence Award; Achievers Award; Non-Residential Bihari Pravashi Bihari Honour Award.