From Individual Discomfort to Collective Solidarity

Choreographic Exploration of Extractivist Technology

TEI '24: Eighteenth International Conference on Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction Proceedings

@ Cork, Ireland

Organizers

Joana Chicau, Creative Computing Institute, University of the Arts London;

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Call for participation

We invite human-computer interaction and technology practitioners to join us in the collaborative exploration of discomfort associated with technology in the age of surveillance capitalism. With the help of body-based exercises inspired by choreography we will articulate the discomforts of living and designing with extractivist technology. Our studio is aimed at technology practitioners of a broad range of expertise who have experienced discomfort in relation to data- driven extractivist systems.

In the first part of the studio, participants will share their experiences of resisting such systems as users and technology creators. In the second part, participants will engage in an ideation session to propose forms of countering existing technologies.

Embodied methods and choreographic approaches will be used for making digital discomfort tangible and for guiding the exploration of the topics at stake. As an outcome, participants will collectively design a toolbox to conceptualise discomfort in a tangible, embodied way, and form a network to continue discuss these matters post-studio in an online community discussion group.

Participants will learn:

- mechanisms for growing awareness and articulating discomfort in technological production;
- embodied methods and processes for making discomfort tangible to guide ideation and the design of a toolkit;
- the opportunities and challenges of collective mobilisation, co-operation and solidarity in contrast with individual resistance;
- how discomfort can inform participants' practices in HCI and technological production.

Furthermore, participants will be invited to join an online community discussion group, to contribute to a studio report to be published in the website as well as potential future publications.

We welcome anyone with an interest in the workshop topic and/or body-based methods. We are especially interested, but not exclusively, in practitioners working within Human-Computer Interaction in areas such as:

○ Digital Product and Software Development;
○ Algorithmic Experience;
○ Somaesthetic Design and Interaction;
○ Ethics in Technology;
○ Sustainability;
○ Digital Rights and Tech Labour Rights;
○ Privacy and Data Governance;
○ Feminist and Decolonial approaches to HCI and technology;
○ Pedagogy and Education;

Workshop Schedule

The workshop takes place on Sunday, 11th February, from 09:00 - 13:00
with a 30 min break.

▶ 09h00 Introduction
▶ 09h30 Group mapping exploration;
▶ 11h00 Group ideation and intervention;
▶ 12h30 Reflective discussion;
▶ 13h00 End of studio session;

Expression of Interest

Please fill in this form (note: availability is limted/subject to
capacity).

Important: After filling in the form above, we will get in touch over
email with more information on how to register for the studio using
TEI'24 conference registration system.

If you have any questions, contact Kristina < kpopova@kth.se >

We hope to hear from you!