

## Participate as a company

Be a sponsor, a supporter or take on an active role.

Financial donations and other support such as infrastructure, hardware, and software, are highly welcomed while mutual benefit is aimed at. For each party, a certain participation and/or collaboration mode is elaborated.

Examples:

- Reserve a timeslot where you can present your company to a world-wide audience, pose interesting technical challenges and provide insight into real-world applications and opportunities.
- Take over a certain section of the lecture on robotics or intelligent software development presenting real-world applications and providing the research community with insight into private industry.
- Share your ideas with a world-wide community.

## Your next step:

If you are interested in participating, send us mail or call us directly:

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## Project updates

You can always find the latest information about the project and download the most recent version of this brochure at <http://shanghailectures.org/>  
This is version 2008-08-27.



University of Zurich



An experiment in mixed-reality global teaching, intercultural collaboration and community building

The Shanghai AI Lectures on natural and artificial intelligence will be broadcast by videoconference from Jiao Tong University in Shanghai together with universities around the globe, complemented by virtual 3D collaborative environments and other community-building activities to promote cross-cultural interaction and cooperation among the participants.

Fall semester 2009

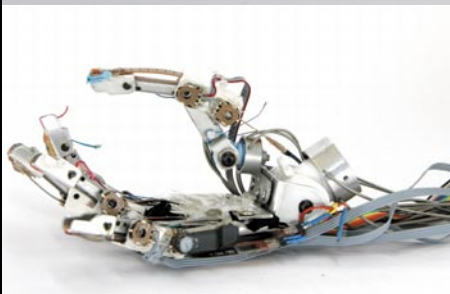
ai lab

## Motivation and Goals

The ShanghAI Lectures project is designed to contribute to the fundamental goal of making education and knowledge on cutting-edge scientific topics accessible to everyone. On the basis of state-of-the-art technology and novel methods of knowledge transfer and community building, it attempts to overcome the complexity of a multi-cultural and interdisciplinary learning context and bring global teaching to a new level.

We believe that global teaching can be an efficient tool to create an intercultural discourse: to bring people from different backgrounds together, who would not otherwise share common activities.

The ShanghAI Lectures will be about intelligence—natural and artificial—because humans, from the very beginning of their history, have always been fascinated by the topic and it is highly valued by our society.

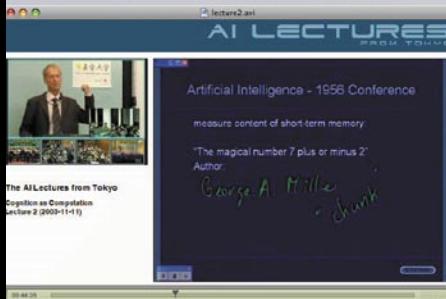


Embodiment, a concept which studies the role of the body in the development of intelligent behavior, has implications not only for science and technology—robotics, artificial intelligence, behavioral and neuroscience—but also for society at large. It will change the way we view ourselves and the world around us.

## Background

The idea of the ShanghAI Lectures originates from a previous experiment on global teaching, “The AI Lectures from Tokyo” in

2003/2004. The lecture series, broadcast from the University of Tokyo, was held by Rolf Pfeifer, the director of the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the University of Zurich, whose main research topic is embodied intelligence. In addition to the live audience in Tokyo, students in Zurich, Munich, Warsaw, Lodz, Jeddah, and Beijing were participating interactively via videoconference. The lectures could be followed via live



webcast and viewed afterwards as streaming and downloadable video on demand. Now, six years later, we would like to step it up a few notches.

## Program

In the Fall term 2009, Rolf Pfeifer will deliver 8 to 10 lectures about Embodied Artificial Intelligence/Robotics at Jiao Tong University in Shanghai. Similar to the “AI Lectures from Tokyo”, universities from different continents will be connected via interactive videoconference, creating a “global virtual lecture hall”. The lectures are also available as a live webcast on the internet for anyone in the world to follow. In addition to Rolf Pfeifer’s presentations, lecturers from other sites can give talks in the context of the “ShanghAI Lectures”.

To acquire credit points, students have the opportunity to engage in collaborative tasks in globally distributed teams: they will work together on specific assignments (such as programming a robot to achieve a particular

goal, experimenting with animal locomotion, or elaborating a theoretical or philosophical problem such as the Turing Test or Searle’s “Chinese Room” thought experiment).



In order to facilitate collaboration among the students who are located far away from each other (e.g. one in Shanghai, one in Zurich, one in Jeddah), this project work will be done largely in a virtual 3D environment, based on an open source platform.

At the end of the lecture series, the students will present their research projects either locally (i.e. at one of their group member’s universities) via videoconference, or collaboratively in the virtual 3D environment.

## Who can participate?

Individuals, Research Groups and Institutions such as universities, companies, and other organizations are invited to participate in this project. Contributions can be at various levels, while the operating mode can be discussed and individualized so as to match your needs and expectations.

## Participate as an institution

(such as a university, department, research group or science hub):

Join the videoconference (ShanghAI) event together with partner sites connected via videoconferencing during the real-time sessions, with active participation in the lectures. Example: An expert from your institution might want to talk (live, in the

videoconference) about a topic related to embodied intelligence, or record a 30–45 minute lecture on a selected topic, which would be made available in the “media library” and thus become part of the curriculum. Students of your institute may get credit points for active participation.

## Participate as an individual

(such as student or lecturer):

Participate in intercultural project work by joining a virtual team and expert meetings. Depending on your expertise and field of interest, you define, at your convenience, the level of your contribution. Comment on the lectures, interact with others in the virtual space, watch and download interesting content.

## Participate as a researcher

(at a university, company, lab, or private):

We aim to bring together researchers from various disciplines, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, computer science, management science, pedagogy, social psychology, communication and media science, engineering and other fields of research. You are invited to join an international community of interdisciplinary researchers who will explore the virtual collaboration facilities offered by the project and use them as a research platform to study aspects of intercultural collaboration, knowledge-source building, and global teaching.

