

Community Sessions

Monday 16 December	Tuesday 17 December	Wednesday 18 December	Thursday 19th December
Registration & Lunch 12.00 - 13.00	Refreshments & Registration 8.45 - 9.10	Refreshments & Registration 8.45 - 9.10	Refreshments & Registration 8.45 - 9.10
Drinks Reception & Demonstration Session 17.30 - 20.30	Panel Session 15.40 - 16.10	Panel Session 15.40 - 16.10	Lunch & Departure From 13.00
	Posters & Pizzas 17.30 - 20.30	Conference Dinner From 18.30	

We have a selection of community sessions with the aim of bringing together all delegates into engaging, participatory events, activities and demonstrations. Find out more below.

Discussion Panels:

Panel Session: Beyond Academia: Delivering AI for Net Zero

Tuesday 17 December



Sam Young

Sam is the AI Practice Manager at the Energy Systems Catapult. He is focused on maximising the energy sector's ability to use AI to benefit society. His work ranges from helping others apply AI to specific energy problems to leading cross-sector initiatives to identify and remove barriers to the effective use of AI.



Rachel McInnes MinstP

Rachel has been an integral part of the Met Office for over 14 years, holding numerous positions across Weather, Climate, Foundation, and Applied Science. Rachel's current role is Co-Director of the Joint Centre for Excellence in Environmental Intelligence (JCEEI). The JCEEI is an innovative partnership between Exeter University and the Met Office, focusing on harnessing advanced data science and artificial intelligence to tackle environmental challenges.



James Scott

James is a Senior Advisor in the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology's (DSIT) Responsible Technology Adoption Unit. His work is focussed on developing and highlighting tools and approaches to support the responsible development and implementation of AI tools and systems. Most recently he was lead author of a report setting out the UK governments approach to the effective assurance of AI systems.



Simon Gardner

Simon is Head of Digital Environment at the NERC within UK Research and Innovation. He co-authored NERC's first Digital Strategy and led the delivery of a number of NERC programmes in the area of emerging technologies, focused on innovation in environmental monitoring, quantum sensing and the use of digital twins of the natural environment.



Amy Binner

Amy is an environmental economist at the University of Exeter's LEEP Institute, specialising in techniques of spatial analysis, statistics, and economic modelling, and their application to the study of land-use based decision-making. Her recent work focuses on the development of spatially explicit agent-based models in an environmental context using complex computational techniques.

Panel Session: Should we Trust AI for Net Zero?

Wednesday 18 December



Cassandra Bird

Cassandra is a researcher focusing on the topic of ethical AI for decision making, primarily on the question of how statisticians can (and, in theory, should) engage with this topic. She is interested in the responsibilities that fall on statisticians who produce, deploy and advise decision makers through the use of complex systems. In particular, her work investigates the ways in which practitioners can utilise aspects of statistical philosophy and Bayesian uncertainty quantification to produce actionable mathematical frameworks that can enable ethical decision-making processes in areas such as climate science.



Emily Robinson

Emily is an interdisciplinary researcher at the intersection of computational social and political data science. Her work focuses on understanding how emerging technologies evolve within society, with particular attention to the role of public values and ethical considerations in shaping these innovations. Her most recent research investigates how public discourse, shapes and reflects societal values around new climate technologies like electric vehicles.

Emily is passionate about the responsible design and governance of emerging technologies, ensuring they align with societal needs and values. Her work bridges computational science, communication theory, and social science, offering critical insights into the integration of technology into public life.



Jessica Symons

Jess is Director of Visioning Lab, an R&D consultancy developing products and services using emerging technologies to tackle social and environmental issues. She is leading the design and delivery of Ontology Maker, an AI-enabled process for producing multilingual controlled vocabularies and glossaries to resolve miscommunication in projects and teams. Recently she developed glossaries for the international network group, the Metaverse Standards Forum and the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Centre in South Korea. To talk about AI enabled wordsets, please contact her on Jessica@visioninglab.com



Edward Pope

Ed is a Met Office Science Fellow developing approaches to make use of weather & climate information for risk-based decision-making, linked to food, water and energy security, and defence. Recent research activities include: co-leading the joint Met Office/NERC TWInning Capability for the Natural Environment (TWINE) programme, developing causal seasonal prediction models, exploring the potential for correlated climate risks to agriculture in the UK, China and sub-Saharan Africa, and developing methods to quantify the economic value of seasonal forecasts.



Veronica Bowman OBE

Ronni is a Fellow of Data Science at the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory. She specialises in uncertainty calculation and communication and Bayesian inference. In particular, she has spent many years applying Bayesian methodology and data fusion techniques to real decisions, working with academia to enable decision making under uncertainty. Her current work focusses on delivering impact from digital twins for defence.

Welcome Drinks and AI for Net Zero Demos Monday 16 December, from 17.30

To start the conference with a warm welcome, please join us for an early evening event on Day 1 of the conference. A chance to meet other delegates, speakers and maybe even colleagues you have only ever met in online meetings, over a welcome drink. We will have a number of Demonstration stands and exhibits in the hall. A perfect chance to find out more about some of the amazing work being undertaken by the UKRI AI for Net Zero Projects and even try out some of the interactive exhibits.



Venue: The Forum, University of Exeter Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4PZ

Poster and Pizza Session Tuesday 17 December, from 17.30 for pizza and 18.30 for the Poster Session



Venue: The Forum, University of Exeter Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4PZ

To round off Day 2 of the conference, we would like to invite conference delegates to take part in our Poster and Pizza Session.

After a busy day of talks, panel sessions and discussions, we would like to offer delegates refreshment: pizzas and drinks will be available for all.

Once refreshed, we will have our conference Poster Session. With more than 20 posters to view and a chance to discuss the research with members of the research team, this promises to be an engaging and thought-provoking evening of AI for Net Zero discussion.

Conference Dinner Wednesday 18 December, refreshments available from 17.30, Dinner from 18.30

All delegates are invited to join a Conference Dinner on the evening of Wednesday 18th December. The dinner will be held at the lovely Reed Hall, a 5-10 minute walk from the conference venue. Reed Hall is a stunning grade II listed building at the heart of campus. Every December Reed Hall is beautifully decorated with trees and decorations to provide a festive and cosy backdrop to the meal.



Venue: Reed Hall, Streatham Drive, University of Exeter Streatham Campus, Exeter EX4 4QR