



Special Issue

Artificial Intelligence, Spirituality and Analogue Thinking

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Summary

The development of machines and automation and their integration into daily life has often led to a deeper examination of human nature. In many ways, the farther progress has taken us, the greater our need to understand human condition. Today, the world around us is changing at a faster pace. Technological revolutions are happening closer and closer to each other. From the industrial revolution to the technological revolution, to the digital revolution, to the internet revolution, the gap between each step is half as long as the previous one. Communications, automation, medicine – in all fields, the milestones are happening closer and closer together.

Within this context, many people experience a feeling that transcends the self and evokes less immediate views and scopes. Our thirst for transcendence and introspection remains unwavering, despite technological breakthroughs, or perhaps because of them; despite the speed of these breakthroughs, or because of it; despite their diversity, or precisely because of it. That unwavering aspect is in no way a threat to progress, but a part of it: these transcendental experiences give us a sense of support and sustenance in our daily lives.

This special issue encourages a discussion of concepts that might, in principle, appear as two opposite poles or two layers of the same reality, but which probably constitute two interwoven elements defining a single context or two aspects of a particular viewpoint: mutually dependent and difficult to understand separately. We invite contributors to explore this emerging world in which the promise of superintelligent systems raises great hopes and great fears, at the same time, and where issues such as the spiritual life and transcendence will probably acquire new meaning and functions, provided that they can still work as sources of meaning and hope.

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Suggested Topics

- Coexistence of digitalisation and spirituality
- Compatibility of technological development with philosophical views
- Digital representation of spirituality
- Analogue rituals in a virtual world
- Artificial cognition and spiritual intelligence
- Cognitive science of religion and AI
- Automatic thinking and humanism
- Artificial intelligence and theology
- Artificial life and transcendence
- Ethics, morals, and big data
- Intimacy, intrusion, privacy, and identity in the context of big data
- Transcendent feeling and digital interaction
- Religion and online interaction
- Manipulation of genetic information

Submission process and Important Dates

A paper proposal with 1) a draft title, 2) authors' list and 3) abstract (up to 300 words) will be sent to the editors (daniel.burgos@unir.net) with the subject: "[IJIMAI-AIandSpirituality] Proposal of paper". The abstract will then be reviewed by the guest editors of the special issue.

If the proposal is accepted, the authors will develop the full paper within a 3-month period. A blind peer-review of the full paper will follow by, at least, two reviewers, within the next 2 months. If accepted, the paper will be published in the journal right after. The special issue will be closed by **March 2021**. The last paper proposal should be received by **October 2020**.