



THE MACHINE STOPS TO THINK

GEOAI IS ALREADY HERE BUT RAPID ADVANCEMENTS MEAN THAT ITS ADOPTION IS HARDER THAN IT NEEDS TO BE

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It would be wrong to say that artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies have been quietly changing the geospatial information industry, since so many vendors have been keen to shout about their AI credentials at every opportunity, but the past decade has seen big changes brought about in how data is obtained and processed, thanks to innovations in this area.

So big has the transformation been, it has naturally acquired a name with a 'geo' prefix: GeoAI. However, as with all technologies that have expanded 'under the radar', different vendors have gone about their work in different ways. We're now at a crossroads where the industry needs to pause, perhaps even stop slightly, so that vendors can work together on standards for integrating GeoAI technologies with each other, as well as different technologies, particularly so they



can be used for different business processes without users having to start from scratch.

On page 30, Simon Chester and Kyoung-Sook Kim, a co-chair of the OGC GeoAI Domain Working Group, discuss what needs to be done to achieve this. In particular, machine intelligences are no different from their human counterparts – they learn from what they sense around them. Feed them bad data and their idea of the world will be skewed...

I hope you enjoy the issue.



HOW TIME FLIES!

WITH EVER MORE POWERFUL TOOLS AT OUR DISPOSAL, WE HAVE THE ABILITY TO GATHER, PROCESS, ANALYSE AND SHARE DATA AS NEVER BEFORE. IN SO DOING, THE RESPONSIBLE AND ETHICAL USE OF THAT DATA FALLS INCREASINGLY UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

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It was in the second issue of this Magazine in 2002 that we carried an article on the decline of marine species in Northern Ireland's Strangford Lough, and how GIS was being exploited by the National Trust and others to present complex information to a wide audience.

Almost 20 years on, and Strangford Lough again comes under the spotlight on page 48 of this issue. This time, the threat is from an invasive species of grass and, once again, geotech is helping shape the response for the National Trust and partner bodies. Drones, cloud storage, Web apps and smartphones were all going to come in 2002. How times have changed!

The Locus Charter, which featured

in our last editorial, seems to have struck a chord, with the likes of the RGS-IBG, AGI and RICS all signing-up as supporting members in recent weeks.

Dr Christopher Tucker, Chairman of the American Geographical Society and Locus Charter Collaborating Author, remarked at the speed at which the initiative has spurred global interest and reiterated the message: "We hope every organisation considers the transformational role of location and geospatial technologies in their business or mission and raises their voice around the importance of their responsible and ethical use by joining in support of the Locus Charter."

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DISCOVER
Accutenna[®]
Dual-Feed
Patch
PCV ± 10mm



DISCOVER
Lightweight
UAV
Antenna Line
PCV ± 3mm



DISCOVER
VeroStar[™]
Rover
Antenna
PCV ± 2mm



DISCOVER
VeraPhase[®]
Base Station
Antenna
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