

RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

Nov. 13, 2025 | 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm | Teams

Present: Noah Schwartz, Cynthia Thomson, Garry Fehr, Ash Lalani, Ronald Adjekum, Victoria Surtees, Lin Long, Shawn Geniole, Opeyemi Adesina, Trevor Beugeling, Janelle Sztuhar, Joanne Robertson, Christine Elsey, Simon Lambek, Ismail El Sayad, Geetanjali Gill, Tetsuomi Anzai, Kathleen Rodgers, Keith Carlson

Recorder: Natalie Vanderleest

Regrets: Kim Albert, Cindy Jardine, Irwin Cohen, Jacob Spooner, Lenore Newman, Shelley Canning, Jatinder Mann, Janice Nagtegaal, Kim Daley, Leona Oakman, Yvette Fairweather, Allyson Jule, Amanda Wurz, Anastasia Anderson, Barnabe Assogba, Brianna Strumm, Chris Schinckus, Harley Gordon, Homa Rafiei Milajerdi, Irwin Cohen, Jacob Spooner, Jon Thomas, Juliana Schneider Medeiros, Lara Duke, Lauren Erland, Lenore Newman, Luisa Giles, Mariano Mapili, Martha Dow, Martin Warkentin, Masud Khawaja, Michael Hitch, Olav Lian, Paul Fontaine, Rita Dhungel, Shelley Canning, Wade Deisman, Andrea Sator, Zina Lee, Nikki Martyn, Nipuni Jayetileke, Marlie Murphy

Welcome and Introductions

1. Items for Adoption

Agenda: Nov. 13, 2025

1:30 **1.1** MOTION: THAT the agenda for the March 20, 2025, RAC meeting be approved as presented.

Christine Elsey, Joanne Robertson

CARRIED

Minutes: Sept. 18, 2025

1.2 MOTION: THAT the minutes from the Sept. 18, 2025, RAC meeting be approved as presented.

Christine Elsey, Joanne Robertson

CARRIED

2. Business

2.1

3. Discussion

1:33 3.1 ROSA/Major Grant Holder Changes – Garry Fehr

- In the past, you could apply for a Research Option or a Scholarly Activity and be eligible for a Major Grant Holder Release.
- We now have close to double the number of people applying for ROSA's, plus we don't have the same sources of funding. Some established researchers holding Tri-Council funding were getting two releases and some early career researchers were not able to secure a Research Option release. There is now a tightening of budgets over the past few years and there is less funding available to pay for releases. The changes have been made to provide more faculty with the opportunity to secure time for their research,

instead of limiting the opportunities to a few established researchers.

- The Major Grant Holder Release application is simple, it is not competitive, and you do not need to submit a report like the ROSA.
- Faculty can no longer hold both the Major Grant Holder Release and an additional ROSA at the same time. The Major Grant Holder application has not changed.

1:50 3.2 AI in Research – Simon Lambek & Opeyemi Adesina

- Opeyemi Adesina presented a power point presentation titled “Ethics of Artificial Intelligence”. Discussion followed. Power point presentation slides are attached.
- Simon Lambek presented a power point presentation titled “Generative AI and Democracy”. Discussion followed.
- Both Opeyemi and Simon are willing to present their work on AI in anyone’s courses.

2:54 3.3 University's Open Education Strategy feedback – Janelle Sztuhar

- Janelle Sztuhar presented a power point presentation called “Building an Open Education Strategy for UFV”.
- Power Point was attached to Agenda Package
- Collecting feedback through Padlet. The link was put on the Teams chat and the QR code is on the power point slides. The library is hoping to collect all feedback by the end of November.
- If anyone has further comments or questions, please contact Janelle Sztuhar or Claire Hay.

4. Reports

3:02 4.1 Research Office report – see attached

4.2 Human Research Ethics Board report – no report

4.3 Teaching and Learning Advisory Council report – see attached

4.4 Senate Research Committee report:

"The Senate Research Committee has discussed and formed the Research Excellence Award Selection Committee"

- December 1, 2025 is the deadline for nominations

3:06

5. Roundtable Discussion (time permitting)

6. Information Items

3:11 6.1 Sabbatical Applications – Due Nov. 15, 2025

6.2 Microlectures and Centre Showcase– February 26, 2026

7. Adjournment: 3:13pm

MOTION to Adjourn – Cynthia Thomson, Shawn Geniole

7.1 Next meeting: Jan. 15, 2025, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Please see the [Research Office website](#) for more information on events and funding opportunities.

Ethics of Artificial Intelligence

Dr. Opeyemi Adesina
Associate Professor & Director
School of Computing

Territorial Acknowledgment

“Long before Canada was formed, the Stó:lō (people of the river) occupied the land on which UFV is located. They lived in the Fraser Valley and lower Fraser Canyon of British Columbia and they spoke Halq'eméylem, also known as the upriver dialect.”

(Source: Xwexwílmexwawt)





Source: https://stockcake.com/i/robot-plays-chess_225348_42360

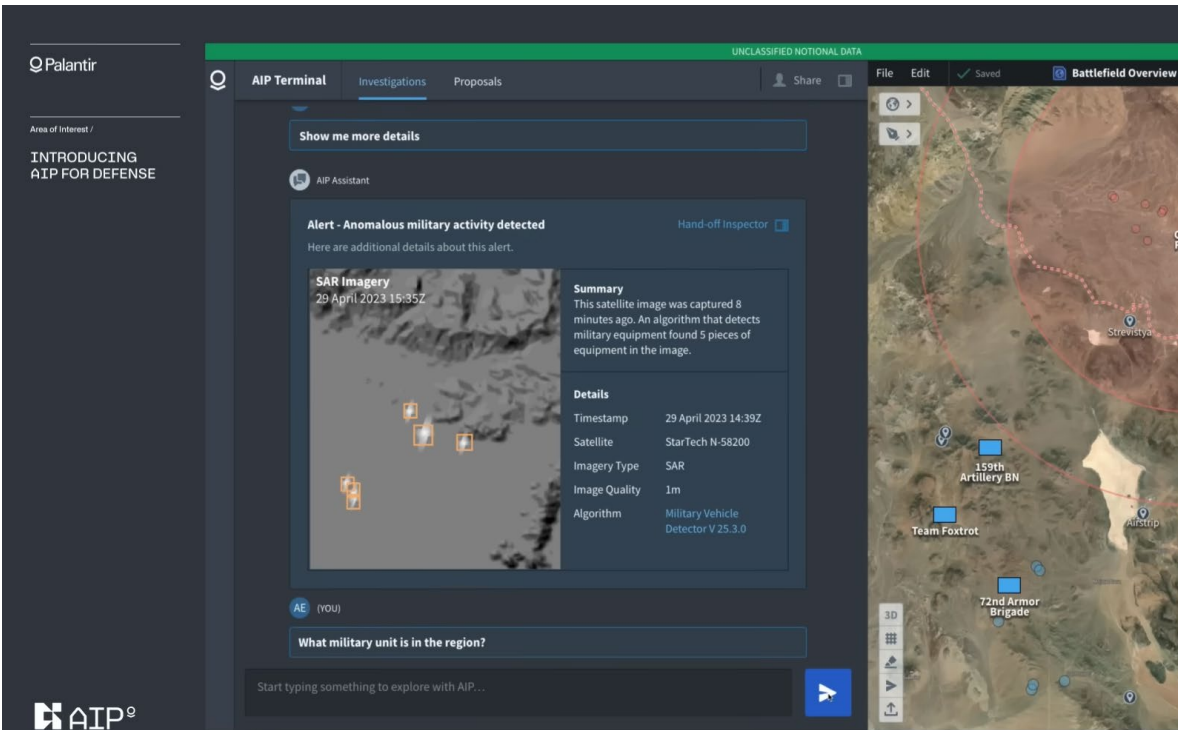
What is AI?

“... the simulation of human intelligence by a system or a machine.” (Xu et al., 2021)

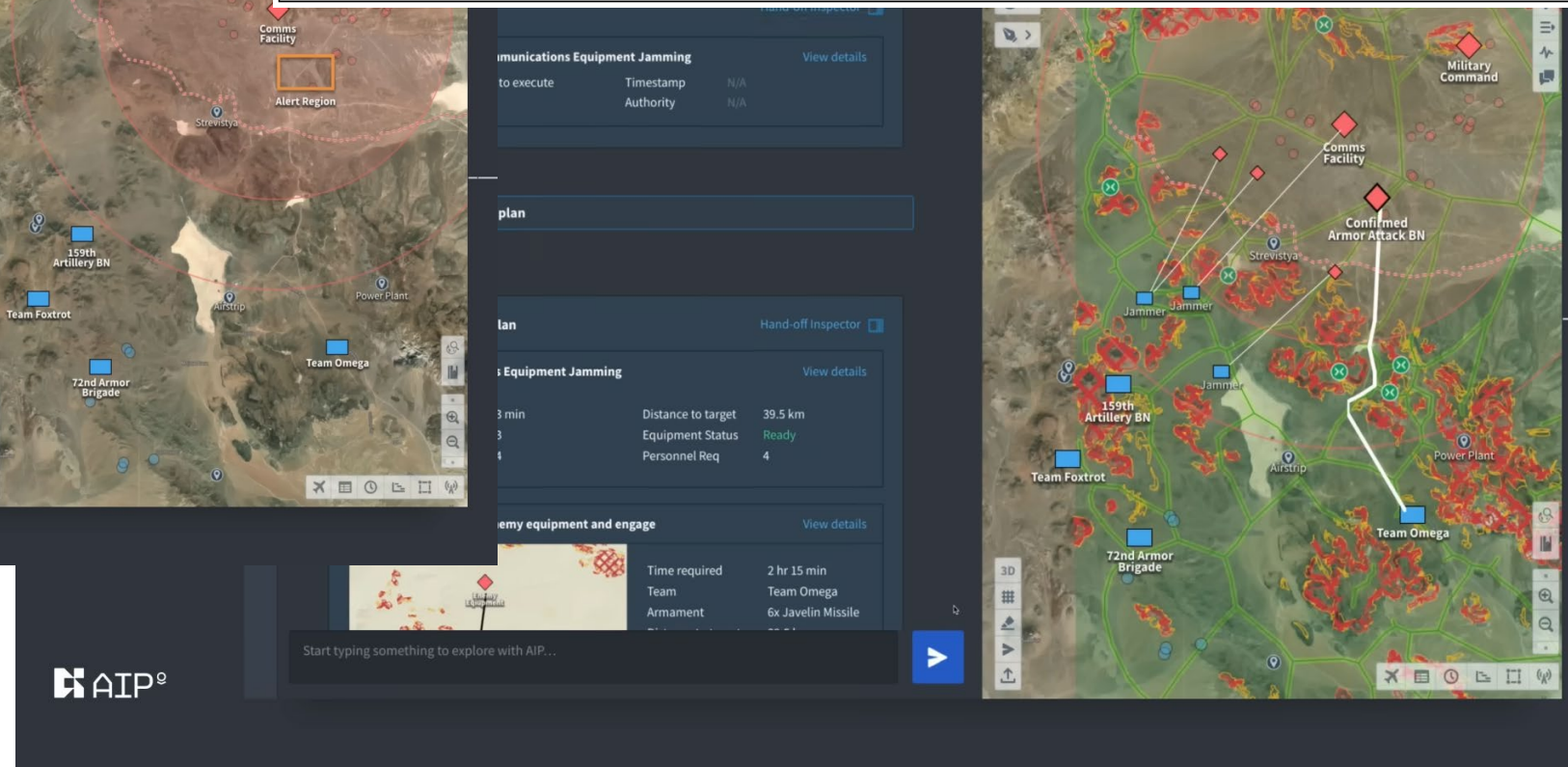
Benefits of AI?

- Efficiency (resource optimization)
- Improve productivity and QoS/Output
- Accelerates innovation
- Enhanced safety
- Reliability than humans in some tasks
- ...

Use Cases: Defense

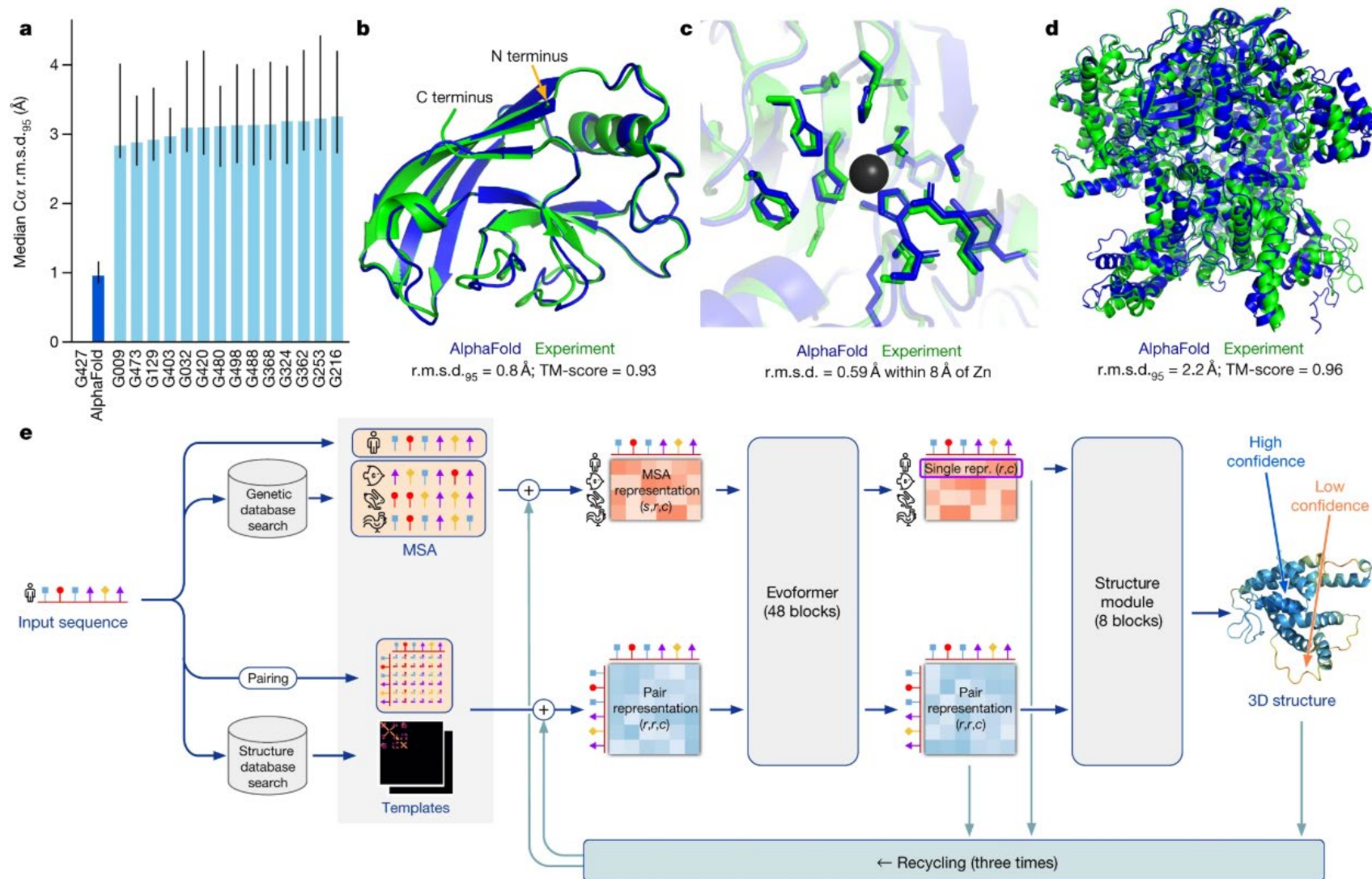


(Unaudited)	Third Quarter	
	Amount	
Revenue	\$	1,181,092
Year-over-year growth		63%
	Amount	Margin
Income from Operations	\$ 393,256	33%
Adjusted Income from Operations	\$ 600,540	51%
Cash from Operations	\$ 507,664	43%
Adjusted Free Cash Flow	\$ 539,862	46%
Net Income Attributable to Common Stockholders	\$ 475,599	40%
Adjusted Net Income Attributable to Common Stockholders	\$ 528,709	
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 606,515	51%
GAAP EPS, Diluted	\$ 0.18	
Adjusted EPS, Diluted	\$ 0.21	

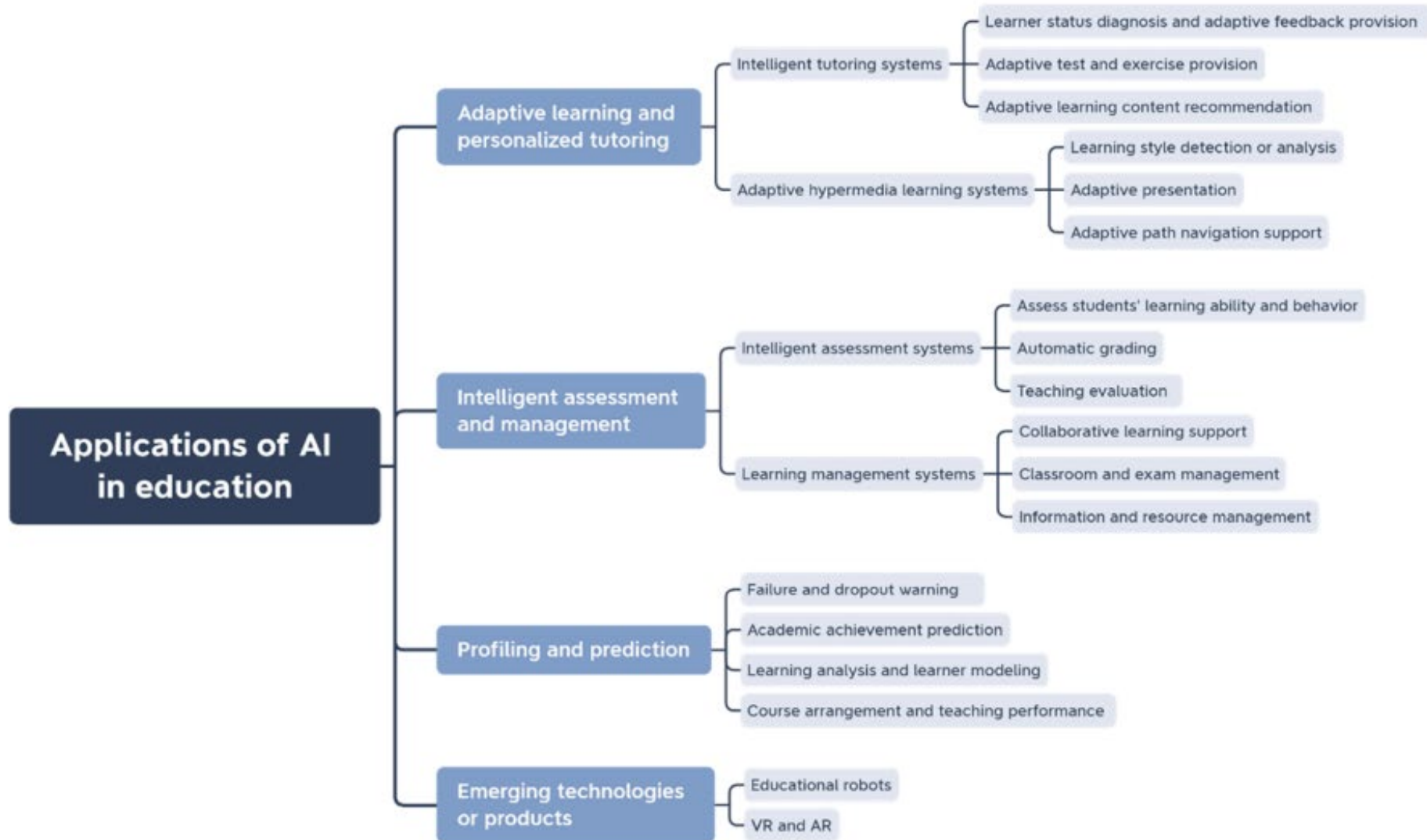


**Market Cap:
416 (billion USD)**

Use Cases: Healthcare



Use Cases: Education



Use Cases: Research

- Idea development and research design
- Content development and structuring
- Literature review and synthesis
- Data management and analysis
- Editing, review, and publishing support
- Communication, outreach, and ethical compliance



Responsible AI development & usage

Minds and Machines (2020) 30:99–120
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11023-020-09517-8>



The Ethics of AI Ethics: An Evaluation of Guidelines

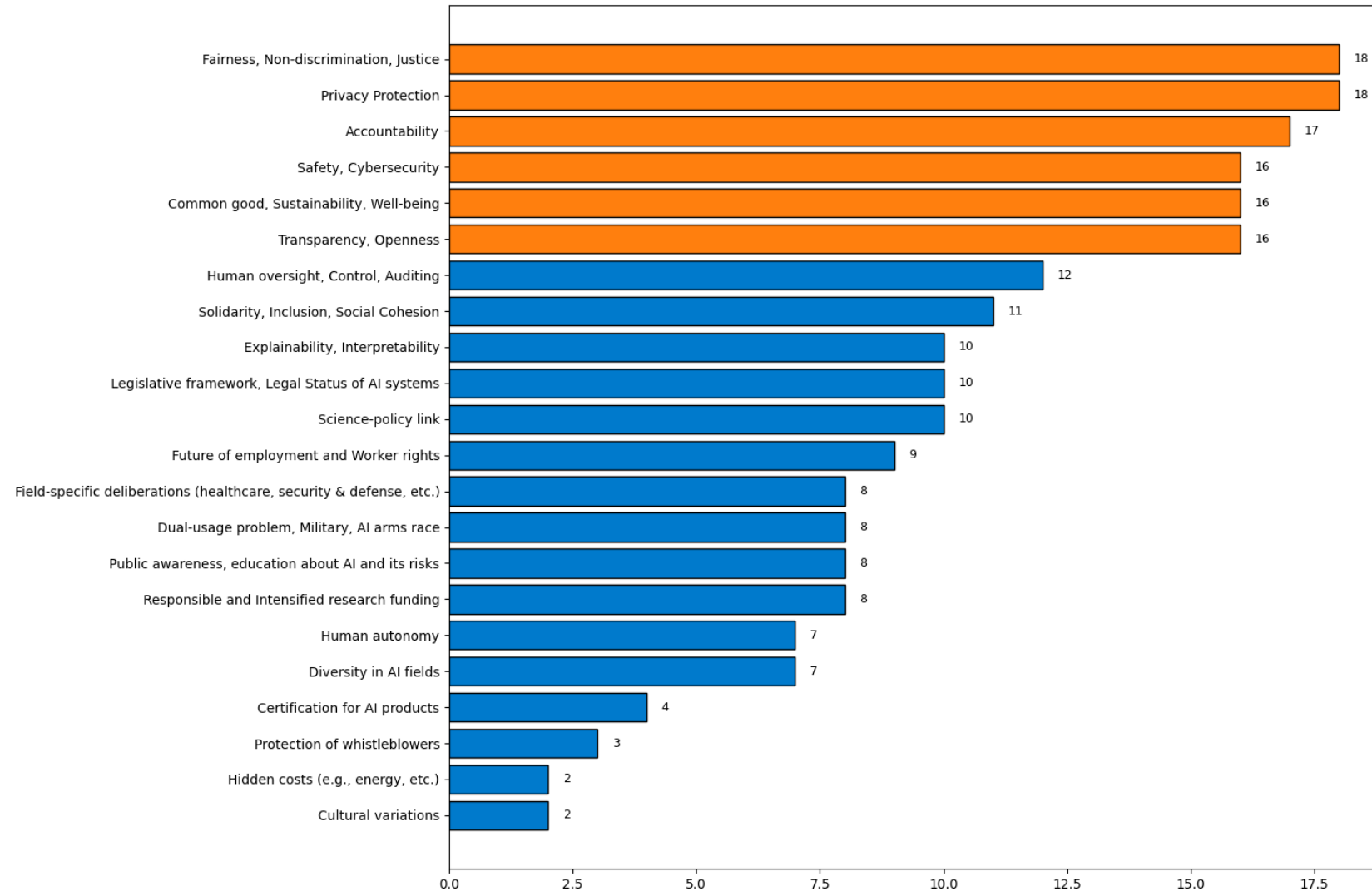
Thilo Hagendorff¹

Received: 1 October 2019 / Accepted: 21 January 2020 / Published online: 1 February 2020
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Abstract

Current advances in research, development and application of artificial intelligence (AI) systems have yielded a far-reaching discourse on AI ethics. In consequence, a number of ethics guidelines have been released in recent years. These guidelines comprise normative principles and recommendations aimed to harness the “disruptive” potentials of new AI technologies. Designed as a semi-systematic evaluation, this paper analyzes and compares 22 guidelines highlighting overlaps but also omissions. As a result, I give a detailed overview of the field of AI ethics. Finally, I also examine to what extent the respective ethical principles and values are implemented in the practice of research, development and application of AI systems—and how the effectiveness in the demands of AI ethics can be improved.

Keywords Artificial intelligence · Machine learning · Ethics · Guidelines · Implementation



Source: Hagendorff (2020), The ethics of AI ethics: an evaluation of guidelines

The real issues?

- Practitioners rarely use ethical guidelines
- Ethical considerations have been politicized
- Lack of enforcement mechanisms
- Tech firms' internal structure fails to ensure accountability
- Lack of practical implementation strategies for guidelines
- Ethical guidelines are perceived to stifle activities and developments
- Lack of value-driven adoption and usage of AI systems

The next big thing?



Meta's vision is to bring personal superintelligence to everyone. We believe in putting this power in people's hands to direct it towards what they value in their own lives.

This is distinct from others in the industry who believe superintelligence should be directed centrally towards automating all valuable work, and then humanity will live on a dole of its output. At Meta, we believe that people pursuing their individual aspirations is how we have always made progress expanding prosperity, science, health, and culture. This will be increasingly important in the future as well.

The intersection of technology and how people live is Meta's focus, and this will only become more important in the future.

If trends continue, then you'd expect people to spend less time in productivity software, and more time creating and connecting. Personal superintelligence that knows us deeply, understands our goals, and can help us achieve them will be by far the most useful. Personal devices like glasses that understand our context because they can see what we see, hear what we hear, and interact with us throughout the day will become our primary computing devices.

We believe the benefits of superintelligence should be shared with the world as broadly as possible. That said, superintelligence will raise novel safety concerns. We'll need to be rigorous about mitigating these risks and careful about what we choose to open source. Still, we believe that building a free society requires that we aim to empower people as much as possible.

“Artificial super intelligence (ASI) is a type of AI surpassing human intelligence and can potentially solve problems beyond human capabilities” (Google Cloud)

– Mark

<https://www.meta.com/superintelligence/>

July 30, 2025

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Conclusion



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/neilsahota/2024/07/29/the-dark-side-of-ai-is-how-bad-actors-manipulate-minds/>

“... A[G|S]I systems may be **ethically neutral**, but it will always be in the hands of people that aren't.”
(OECD Education and Skills)