# AGENDA

**RIKEN, NII, AIST and**
**The Alan Turing Institute (ATI) Robotics & AI (RAI)**
**Research Workshop @ University of Edinburgh**

**17th and 18th September 2019**

## 17TH September 2019 — Informatics G.07 and Atrium

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| **12:00-13:00** | **Registration and Lunch** |
| **13:00-13:30** | **Introduction to Edinburgh Centre for Robotics, Alan Turing Institute (ATI) and Bayes Centre**<br>Introduction, Edinburgh Centre for Robotics and The Alan Turing Institute<br>Prof. Sethu Vijayakumar<br>Bayes Centre presentation \| Cristian Novotny |
| **13:30-13:50** | **RIKEN Presentation**<br>TBC |
| **13:50-14:10** | **AIST Presentation**<br>TBC |
| **14:10-14:30** | **NII Presentation**<br>TBC |
| **14:30-15:00** | **Coffee/Tea Break** |
| **15:00-16:30** | **Topics of Interest related to the Workshop Themes**<br>All participants to present 2 slides for discussion |
| **18:00-21:00** | **Dinner** — **Playfair Library**<br>Welcome speech by Principal/Vice-Chancellor<br>Professor Peter Mathieson |

## 18TH September 2019 — Informatics G.07 and Atrium

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| **9:00-9:30** | **Pastries with Coffee/Tea** |
| **9:30–11:00** | **Discussion and agreement on topics/challenges of interest**<br>All participants to select one of the three themes/breakout groups |
| **11:00-11:30** | **Agreement on long-term Core Research Topics (low TRL)** |
| **11:30:12:00** | **Agreement on Industry focused (short-term) research (high TRL)** |
| **12:00-13:00** | **Lunch** |

# UK-JAPAN Robotics and AI Research Collaboration Workshop

Professor Sethu Vijayakumar has been recently announced as Programme Co-Director for Robotics and Artificial Intelligence (RAI) at The Alan Turing Institute (ATI). The ATI RAI hub is based at the University of Edinburgh where the workshop will take place.

The Alan Turing Institute (ATI), the UK's national institute for data science and artificial intelligence, has initiated agreements with AIST (the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology), one of the largest research institutes in Japan focusing on bridging the gap between research ideas and commercialisation, NII (National Institute of Informatics), an inter-university academic research institute working to advance research and development in informatics-related fields and the RIKEN Center for Advanced Intelligence Project, funded by the Japanese government to advance AI technologies and explore their ethical, legal and social impact.

The Turing's collaborative agreements with Japan are part of a wider UK government announcement relating to new scientific collaborations between UK and Japan in the fields of robotics, AI and the ethical use of data.

Joint activities between the Turing and the three organisations will include researcher exchange placements, developing joint proposals for academic low-Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) research as well as industry-driven high-TRL research. There will also be networking and knowledge exchange activities.

This is the first workshop to identify the collaboration topics and as such a very important first step to create concreate outcomes from the signed agreements and MoUs. Following this workshop in Edinburgh there will be an Industry workshop at ATI, London to align the high-TRL research focus with industry interest. One of the main objectives of the Industry-focused research is to get companies to support research on Robotics and AI.

The proposed 3 key themes for the workshop are:

- Scalable Algorithms under Constraints
- Methods for efficient multi-agent computations
- Verifiable, Robust and Explainable decision making for multimodal RAS assets

It would be great if all participants prepare 2 slides for discussion about their research interest and if they propose any other themes for the research topics.

The expected outcomes of the Edinburgh workshop are:

- List of research topics grouped around key themes
- Agreement on Industry focused research (high TRL)
- Agreement on long-term Core Research Topics (low TRL)
- Research Exchange Mechanisms
    - Short-term Internships
    - UK and Japanese Government backed Research Funds