

IBM et le futur de Watson : Un symposium universitaire pour une nouvelle génération d'innovateurs

Des étudiants de la Carnegie Mellon University et de l'University of Pittsburgh vont réfléchir au futur du fameux ordinateur d'IBM et rencontrer l'ordinateur lors du premier Symposium Universitaire sur Watson

Paris - 30 mars 2011: Watson, l'ordinateur développé par IBM au cours des quatre dernières années, a été conçu afin de rivaliser avec la capacité humaine à répondre à des questions posées dans un langage naturel, avec vitesse et précision. Les capacités d'analyse et de réactivité de Watson ont récemment été mises à l'épreuve lors de sa participation au célèbre jeu télévisé américain Jeopardy !. A l'issue des trois manches l'opposant aux deux plus grands champions de Jeopardy!, Watson s'est imposé, démontrant ainsi l'étendue de ses capacités. Au-delà du défi que constituait cette expérience, elle a permis de dévoiler le champ des applications possibles de Watson. Après avoir annoncé l'adaptation du système informatique au secteur clé de la santé, IBM poursuit ses efforts afin de développer l'application du système à d'autres domaines. Dans ce but, IBM accueille aujourd'hui un Symposium dédié à Watson, en partenariat avec la Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) et l'University of Pittsburgh. Cette initiative vise à rassembler certains des plus grands esprits académiques du monde afin de partager et développer des idées sur les possibilités offertes par la technologie Watson dans les domaines de la santé, de la justice, des affaires, des sciences et de l'ingénierie informatique, et bien plus. Par ailleurs, des étudiants de la CMU et de l'University of Pittsburgh mesureront leur talent lors d'une démonstration des capacités de Watson. Pour la première fois, des étudiants vont avoir la chance d'affronter les puissantes capacités analytiques de Watson lors d'un match de démonstration.

IBM Watson Goes to School to Engage Next Generation of Innovators

Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh Students to Brainstorm Watson's Future, Meet Watson at First Watson University Symposium

ARMONK, N.Y. and PITTSBURGH – March 30, 2011: IBM (NYSE: [IBM](#)) today will host a Watson symposium with Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and the University of Pittsburgh, bringing together some of the brightest academic minds in the world to share ideas about what's possible with Watson technology in the areas of medicine, law, business, computer science and engineering, and more.

In addition, teams of students from CMU and the University of Pittsburgh will put their skills to the test in a demonstration of IBM Watson's question and answer (QA) capabilities. This is the first time students will

have the chance to face Watson's powerful analytical capabilities in a practice round exhibition game.

Select symposium sessions and interviews will be webcast live at www.livestream.com/IBMWatson beginning at 11:00a.m. Eastern time.

IBM chose to host the first Watson university symposium in Pittsburgh because of Carnegie Mellon's key contributions to the development of Watson – led by Eric Nyberg, professor, Language Technologies Institute, CMU School of Computer Science – and the university's role as a leading center for computer science research and education. In addition, the University of Pittsburgh has a very long and productive partnership with IBM in research projects such as cloud computing, carbon nanotubes, and smarter healthcare research around pandemic disease outbreaks and tissue regeneration.

By bringing this technology to the university community, IBM aims to inspire the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs to think about how technology like Watson can benefit society. The event will also discuss the skills students need to drive future innovation.

"This is the first time we're bringing together Watson, IBM scientists, faculty, and students to prepare for the next evolution in computing," said Bernie Meyerson, vice president of innovation and university programs for IBM. "Watson will transform how technology is applied to assist doctors, business people and more, and our hope is that seeing Watson first hand will spark innovation from the leaders of tomorrow so that together we can continue to build a Smarter Planet."

"Machines that think have been Carnegie Mellon's stock in trade since the first artificial intelligence program was invented here more than 50 years ago," said Jared L. Cohon, president of Carnegie Mellon University. "IBM and Carnegie Mellon have been frequent collaborators during that period and, over the past decade, have enjoyed particular success in building question-answering machines. The recent triumph of Watson has been gratifying for the faculty and students involved, and we are pleased that our student body today will be the first to see this technological breakthrough in person."

"The Deep Question Answering technology that underlies IBM Watson's ability to extract, organize, analyze, and assess massive quantities of information at record speeds has far-reaching implications across a wide range of sectors, among them education, business, law, and medicine," said University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Mark A. Nordenberg. "The real-world applications of this cutting-edge technology – such as assisting healthcare professionals in evaluating complex and multiple diagnostic and patient treatment options – have the extraordinary potential to enhance the human condition and transform lives. Pitt is delighted to play an important role in this symposium and to once again join forces with our academic partner Carnegie Mellon University and industry leader IBM as it celebrates its landmark centennial anniversary."

Watson, named after IBM founder Thomas J. Watson, was built by a team of IBM scientists who set out to

accomplish a grand challenge – build a computing system that rivals a human’s ability to answer questions posed in natural language with speed, accuracy and confidence. The *Jeopardy!* format provides the ultimate challenge because the game’s clues involve analyzing subtle meaning, irony, riddles, and other language complexities in which humans excel and computers traditionally do not.

Watson represents a major leap forward for computer science. With its combination of sheer data processing power, natural language recognition and machine learning, the system demonstrates that technology has the potential to help humans improve the performance of many endeavors — everything from medicine to education, law and environmental protection. The technology itself was developed in collaboration between IBM’s Watson Research team and the academic community including CMU.

A team of researchers from CMU, led by Professor Nyberg, assisted IBM in the development of the Open Advancement of Question-Answering Initiative (OAQA) methodology for Watson. CMU also made two direct contributions to Watson: a source expansion algorithm which identifies the best text resources for answering questions about given topic, and an answer-scoring algorithm which improves Watson’s ability to recognize when a candidate answer is likely to be correct.

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For more information about the [Watson computing system](#), please visit: <http://www.ibmwatson.com>. To view the press kit for Watson, go to: <http://www.ibm.com/press/watson>. More information about IBM’s University Programs and Academic Initiative is available at www.ibm.com/press/university.

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