Beyound Buzzwords

What good can Artificial Intelligence (AI) do in philanthropy? Just hot air or a groundbreaking innovation? With our initiative «AI in Everyday Philanthropy», we aim to enable a fact-based engagement and open an informed discussion.

Together with the University of Geneva and the SwissFoundations association, we are cautiously paving the way for meaningful use of AI in philanthropy through this initiative. The focus is on the questions: How can algorithms efficiently connect funders and applicants and simplify the often complex coordination process? And how can a good, meaningful balance of technology and ethical values be ensured? Because reliable data for effective AI use is still lacking, we are establishing a secure experimental platform on stiftungschweiz.ch. This allows partners to apply, test, and continuously improve AI within strict security guidelines and data protection regulations.

The heart of the initiative is our Learning Journey with an introductory day and 4 workshops, where we explore the potential of AI in philanthropy with technically interested representatives from nonprofits, funders, and experts.

An applied executive education

Just like every journey broadens the horizon and opens up new perspectives, the Learning Journey with its application-oriented approach promises that participants will not simply accumulate knowledge, but can also apply it concretely. Bring your own data – that's the motto! In a total of five thematic workshops, participants have the opportunity to experience AI in practice and work with concrete prototypes that have been carefully prepared by our IT specialists for specific philanthropic issues.

The learning journey enables a personalized experience with a focus on specific questions. Each of the maximum of 15 participants brings specific needs into the learning process. We focus on experiencing, experimenting and applying, but also on the literacy and self-confidence of all participants.

The learning journey will partly take place in English. The first and last modules are face-to-face events; the other three modules can also be completed online. The following applies: Chacun parle sa langue. Participation in individual workshops is possible (workshops can be selected when registering).
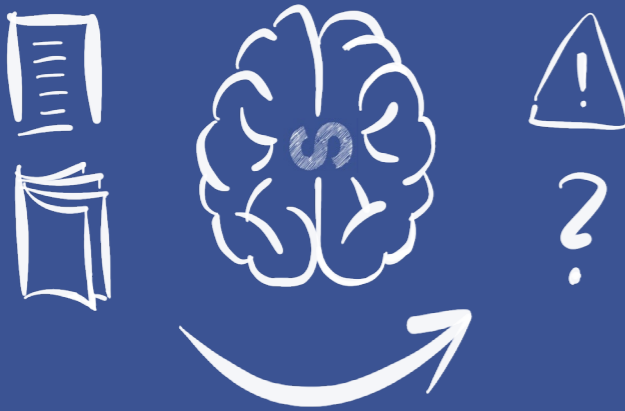
Basics   Power & Potential   Tools & Techniques   Data

The Basics

During this Proof of Concept session, you will discover the many ways in which AI can empower philanthropy by discovering real applications (Impact) so you can start envisioning the perfect AI application for you (customization and trust). After a brief overview of AI subtypes and open source models in the frame of their potential applications, we will have a hands-on session experimenting with both structured and unstructured data.

Bring your own Data: Having played with the data we prepared for the hands-on, now it's the turn to feed AI with your own data and start gathering AI-driven insights. The aim of the Basics-Workshop is also to get the sandbox on stiftungschweiz.ch ready.

Data to bring

▪ A project proposal and an annual report
▪ Invite a first project partner to enrich its profile
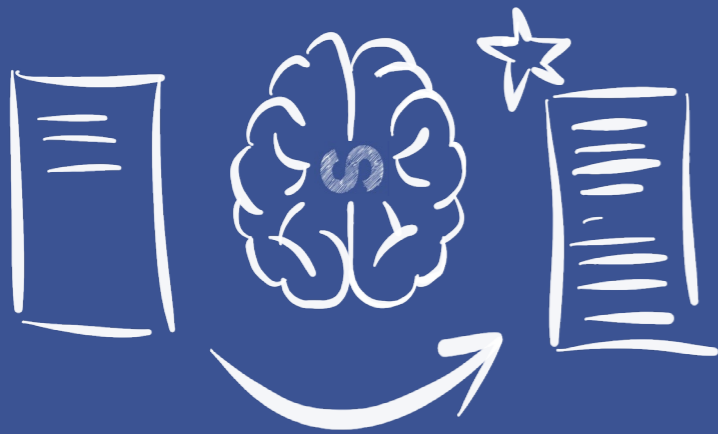
Lead: Lucia/Stefan

Data

Tools & Techniques

Power & Potential

Basics

Better Applications

Nonprofits particularly hope that artificial intelligence will improve the chances of success of an application. That's why we start with the following first real time application: approving the cover letter of an application. We present a command line Beta, exclusively for the use of the Learning Journey.

We use the data of the platform enriched by sandbox data and experiment with crawled data from foundations websites. We use good an bad examples of applications to explore how the results change. Based on these experiments, we are developing further use cases for artificial intelligence, for example for creating and submitting progress reports or for stakeholder engagement.

Data to bring

- Good and bad examples of applications
- …

Lead: Harry/Stefan

Data

Tools & Techniques

Power & Potential

Basics

Better Match

Nonprofits particularly hope that artificial intelligence will improve the chances of success of an application. That's why we start with the following first real time application: approving the cover letter of an application. We present a command line Beta, exclusively for the use of the Learning Journey.

We use the data of the platform enriched by sandbox data and experiment with crawled data from foundations websites. We use good an bad examples of applications to explore how the results change. Based on these experiments, we are developing further use cases for artificial intelligence, for example for creating and submitting progress reports or for stakeholder engagement.

Data to bring

- As much as you can eat: More proposals and annual reports
- Again: Invite project partners to enrich their profiles
- …

Lead: Siddhartha/Stefan

Data

Tools & Techniques

Power & Potential

Basics

Better Decisions

We use a new feature established as a beta into the application management: a preview and pre-evaluation tool for grant seekers to check their applications before sending them. This feature is exklusively available for the participants of the Learning Journey. In addition, we discuss other reference frameworks for pre-evaluation, such as the 2030 Agenda.

Technically we have a deep dive on structured data. How does the game change and how trustful are the suggestions made by AI with different levels of datasets available. We use different language models to see which model performs best.

Data to bring

- Confidential strategy information on your foundations focus', confidential criteria lists, lists of approved and rejected applications
- Invite project partners to enrich their profiles and supply project proposals

Lead: Niniane/Stefan

Data

Tools & Techniques

Power & Potential

Basics
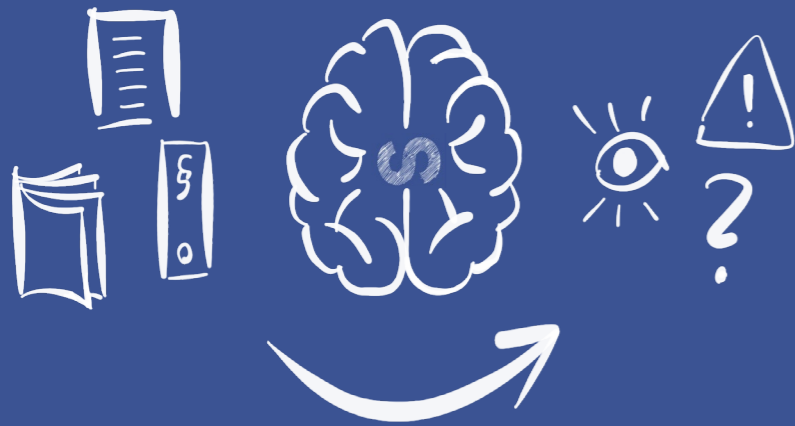
Better Philanthropy?

Now we go for all-in. What other specific data could be used to leverage the insights we have on the impact and value of philanthropic activities in Switzerland?

Technically we are the first users of a next level AI implementation on StiftungSchweiz to leverage the previously established tools and techniques. With this final workshop we want to define the development direction and set sail for future improvements for AI in Everyday Philanthropy.

Data to bring

- Bring the annual reports you submit to the foundation supervisory authority
- We establish a repositorium on the «How to» of philanthropy, including all previously published issues of «The Philanthropist»

Lead: Claudia/Stefan

Data

Tools & Techniques

Power & Potential

Basics

General innovation adoption knowledge you will have gained:

- Rogers Innovation Adoption and 4 Stages Model
- Strategies and influencing techniques to fast-track AI adoption

Models you will know (some by heart) afterwards:

- Anthropic's **Claude**
- Google's **Bard**
- Meta's **LLaMa-2-chat**
- OpenAI's **ChatGPT**
- AlpineAI's **SwissGPT**

Approaches you will be able to distinct:

- Structured data
- Unstructured data
- Machine learning
- Large Language Models (LLMs)
- AI Agents
- Retrieval-augmented Generation (RAG)
- Generative AI
- Prompting, prompting, promting..
- Learning from Human Feedback (RLHF)
- Webcrawling

Sandbox on stiftungschweiz.ch you will have populated:

- Refinement of structured data on your organization (and organizations you have been supporting)
- Upload of unstructured data like reports, project proposals, …
- Experiment with the data and the resulting assistive intelligence services – most of them to be developed through the journey

Use-Cases you will have co-shaped:

- First and foremost: the use case we develop and discuss within the journey using building blocks of information and technology
- AI optimizes applications and increases their chances of success.
- AI predicts the chances of success of an application before submission.
- AI facilitates automated preliminary reviews of applications.
- AI assesses the need for funding, suggests topics, and identifies gaps.

What exactly is in?

Two Tracks

Our program offers two flexible tracks: the Live-Track for **in-person engagement** (with the option of online participation for workshops 2-4), focusing on personal application, and the **Online-Track enabling asynchronous participation with pre-recorded inputs** and a separate late afternoon online discussion session. Each participant is assigned a dedicated seat in one track, with the option to switch if they cannot attend their scheduled sessions (Online- to Live-Track depending on availability).

Live Track

1 Live introduction to the models or technological approaches used

2 Live experience of prototype using the data provided in advance

3 Personal area of application around the prototype by the individual participants, in groups

4 Ethical and fundamental implications of technology examined, for specific contexts and in general

5 Further development of prototype and AI use cases in philanthropy

Online Track

1 Recorded introduction to the models or technological approaches used

2 Recorded experience of prototype using the data provided in advance

Online-Session

3 Online discussion around the application of the prototype and the various use cases; this includes ethical and fundamental implications of technology examined, for specific contexts and in general; we present the planned further development of the prototype established so far

Faculty

Lucia Gomez, AI expert with Center for Philanthropy at University of Geneva. Lucia co-leads the initiative from an scientific perspective.

Fabio Duó, IT expert and founder of Freihandlabor GmbH. Fabio sets the stage for data experiments, the journeys backbone.

Niniane Paeffgen, co-founder Büro für Wagemut. Niniane is an expert in digital ethics and forms the bridge to SwissFoundations.

Claudia Dutli, communication lead at StiftungSchweiz and «The Philanthropist». Claudia translates technical aspects to human language.

Siddhartha Jha, AI and digital inno-vation lead, Fondation Botnar. Siddhartha brings a sound funders perspective into the initiative.

Harry Witzthum, Head digital transformation at Caritas Schweiz. Harry brings a hands-on nonprofit perspective into the journey.
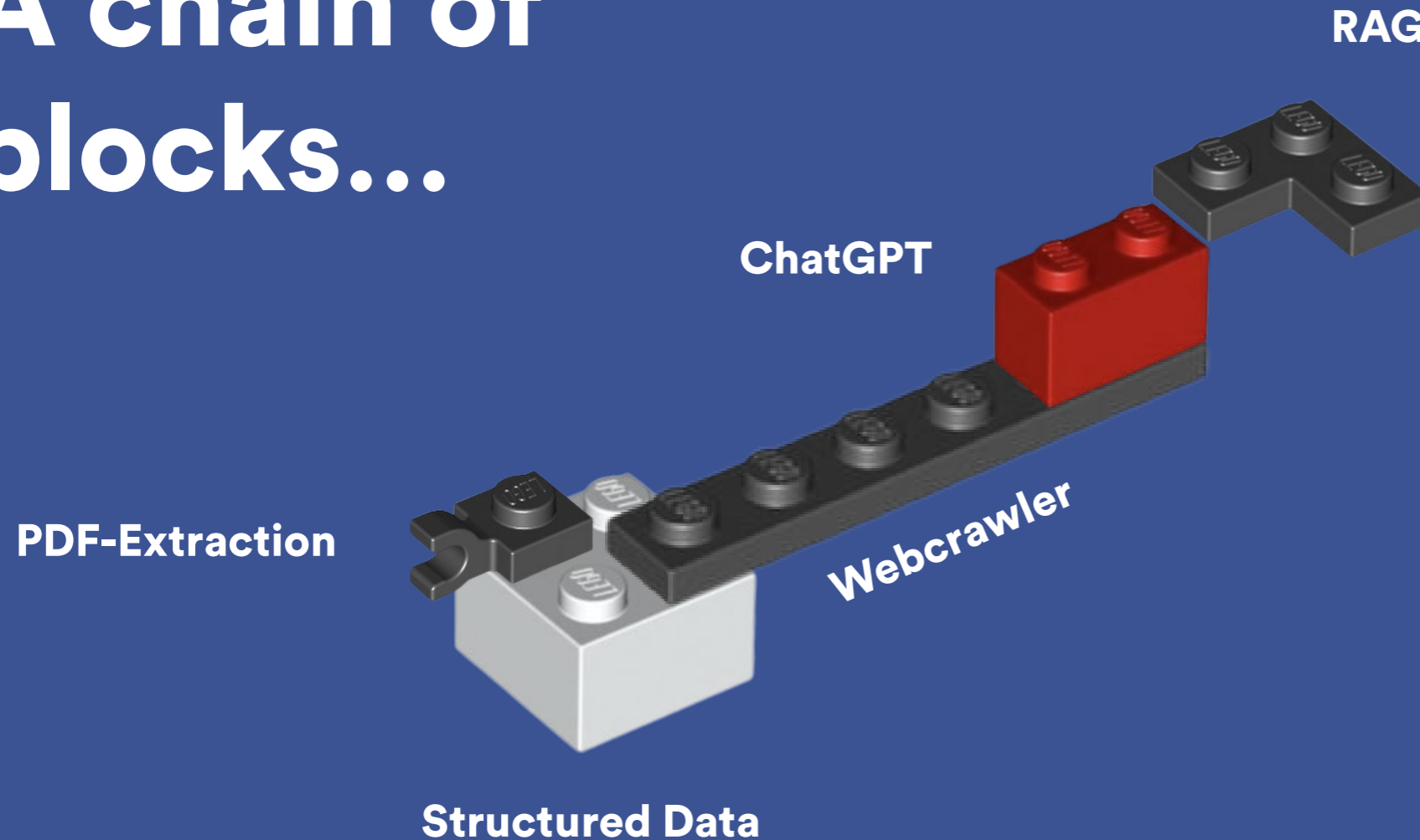
Stefan Schöbi, faculty lead / CEO StiftungSchweiz. Stefan takes care nobody runs out of ideas neither sight.

We are passionate exploring the potential of AI for philanthropy!

A chain of blocks...

RAG

ChatGPT

PDF-Extraction

Webcrawler

Structured Data

The development of the prototype commences with the start of our journey. In the second workshop we will present an initial version. This prototype will then be a central focus for discussion with participants, allowing us to either make changes or further build upon it based on their feedback. This interactive and evolving approach ensures that our prototype development is both participant-driven and responsive to the insights and ideas gathered during our journey.

Benefits

Focused Expertise

Insights into AI application in the nonprofit sector, led by passionate industry experts.

Practical & Personalized

Real application of AI with your own data and individually tailored learning experiences.

Exclusive Tech Experience

Exclusive access to beta tools and newly developed AI applications in a pioneering environment.

Deepened AI Competence

Intensive learning about various AI models and practical literacy development in AI.

Networking & Co-creation

Building valuable networks and actively shaping the future of philanthropic AI applications.

Ethics & Innovation

Engaging with ethical issues and data protection in the context of AI and philanthropy.

The smallprint

- Applications for Live-Track are accepted through Nov. 15th – applications closed now

- Applications for Online-Track are accepted throughout the entire journey <u>here</u>

- Attendees are included in the final confirmation of the focal cases examined in Workshops 2 to 5 within the 1st workshop

- Live-Track: 1st and 5th Workshop are in person, others hybrid; Online-Track: all sessions recorded and online

- Applying for single Workshops is possible, including a special On-/Offboarding Session online

- Tution fee for the whole journey:

  - For Live-Track at CHF 4500 (Funders&Experts*) or 2500 (Nonprofits*);

  - For Online-Track at CHF 2500 (Funders&Experts*) or 1500 (Nonprofits*).

  - A few scholarships are awarded upon application; the application to the scholarships is made as part of the registration process.

- Tution fee for a single Session at CHF 1500 for Live-Track or, for Online-Track, at CHF 550 (Funders&Experts*) or 350 (Nonprofits*).

- Chacun parle sa langue; presentations will usually be held in English; a separate track for Romandie might be added (please leave a comment in your application in case you're interested)

* Funders = grantmaking organizations (Förderorganisationen); Experts = Consultants and other individuals; Nonprofits = grantseeking organizations (operative Projektträger)

Danke.
Thank you.
Merci.
Grazie.

Faculty Lead

Stefan Schöbi

stefan.schoebi@stiftungschweiz.ch

+41 61 278 93 86