



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name: Pieter Adriaan Flach
Date of birth: 8 April 1961
Nationality: Netherlands
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EDUCATION, CURRENT AND PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2018 – now Turing Fellow, *The Alan Turing Institute*
2018 – now President, *European Association for Data Science*
2010 – now Editor-in-Chief, *Machine Learning*, published by Springer Nature
2003 – now Professor of Artificial Intelligence, University of Bristol, UK
2000 – 2003 Reader in Machine Learning, University of Bristol, UK
1997 – 2000 Lecturer in Computer Science, University of Bristol, UK
1995 PhD in Computer Science (*cum laude*), Tilburg University, the Netherlands
1988 – 1997 Assistant Professor in Computer Science, Tilburg University, Netherlands
1987 – 1988 Scientific Researcher, Philips Research Laboratories Eindhoven, Netherlands
1987 MSc in Electrical Engineering (*cum laude*), Twente University, the Netherlands

SHORT BIO

Peter Flach is Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of Bristol. An internationally leading researcher in the areas of mining highly structured data and the evaluation and improvement of machine learning models, he has also published on the logic and philosophy of machine learning, and on the methodology of data science. He is author of *Simply Logical: Intelligent Reasoning by Example* (John Wiley, 1994) and *Machine Learning: the Art and Science of Algorithms that Make Sense of Data* (Cambridge University Press, 2012), which has, to date, sold over 15,000 copies and has established itself as a key reference in machine learning with translations into Russian, Mandarin and Japanese.

PUBLICATIONS

Prof Flach's current [Google Scholar profile](#) lists more than 300 publications that have accumulated around 11,500 citations and a Hirsch-index of 52 (March 2020). He publishes regularly in the leading machine learning, data mining and artificial intelligence journals including *Communications of the ACM*, *Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery*, *Machine Learning*, and *Neurocomputing*; and conferences including AAI, ACM SIGKDD, AISTATS, ECAI, ECML-PKDD, ICDM, ICML, IJCAI, NeurIPS (all in the past four years).

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Prof Flach is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Machine Learning* journal, one of the two top journals in the field which has been published for over 30 years by Kluwer and now Springer Nature. He was Programme Co-Chair of the 1999 *International Conference on Inductive Logic Programming*, the 2001 *European Conference on Machine Learning*, the 2009 *ACM Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining* (KDD'09), and the 2012 *European Conference on Machine Learning and Knowledge Discovery in Databases* in Bristol. He was a founding board member of the *European Association for Data Science* (EuADS.org) and was elected President in 2018. He is a Fellow of the *Alan Turing Institute for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence*. From April 2019 he directs a newly established UKRI-funded *Centre for Doctoral Training in Interactive Artificial Intelligence*.

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

Prof Flach has been teaching since 1988 on a wide range of computer science courses. Current teaching concentrates on the Interactive AI CDT (machine learning, natural language processing, artificial intelligence). He has supervised seven PhD students until submission, with five more ongoing. He has supervised twelve postdocs in the past, with five ongoing.

COLLABORATIONS

Prof Flach has a strong track record of collaborations both in academia and in industry. In Bristol he collaborates mainly with colleagues in Engineering on the SPHERE project, and with colleagues in Population Health Science in the MRC-funded Integrated Epidemiology Unit. In the UK, collaborations include the Alan Turing Institute and the University of Manchester; internationally they include the Polytechnic University of Valencia, the University of Strasbourg, the University of Tartu, and several universities in Brazil. Non-academic partners include LV=, Thales, the Centre for Sustainable Energy, as well as over twenty partners in the Interactive AI CDT. Prof Flach is a member of the Advisory Boards of Adarga and XMOS.

FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Only projects above £50k are listed. The projects marked with an asterisk are those where Prof Flach was PI or international coordinator.

- 2020 – 2023 ICT-48-2020 Research and Innovation Action *Trustworthy AI through Learning, Optimisation and Reasoning* (€12m total funding, £250k to Bristol).
- 2019 – 2024 *UKRI *Centre for Doctoral Training in Interactive Artificial Intelligence*, one of 16 funded in the most recent CDT exercise (£6.84m).
- 2019 – 2021 *The Alan Turing Institute pilot project *Towards a Measurement Theory for Data Science and Artificial Intelligence* (£147k).
- 2019 – 2020 Innovate UK Catapult project *Development of a machine learning algorithm to automate diabetes self-care decisions co-designed with users* (£297k to Bristol).
- 2018 – 2019 **FAT Forensics toolbox*, funded by Thales UK (£90k).
- 2013 – 2021 EPSRC-funded Interdisciplinary Research Collaboration *Sensor Platform for HEalth in Residential Environments* (IRC-SPHERE, SPHERE next steps, £15.3m total). PF leads the Data Fusion and Data Mining workpackage.
- 2013 – 2023 MRC-funded *Integrative Epidemiology Unit*. PF co-led the Bioinformatics and Data Mining cross-cutting theme in the first quinquennium.
- 2013 – 2016 *CHIST-ERA project *Rethinking the Essence, Flexibility and Reusability of Advanced Model Exploitation* (€9.39k total, €466k to Bristol)
- 2011 – 2013 TSB project *Generating value from smart electricity meter data* (£100k)
- 2006 – 2010 *EPSRC Research Grant *Learning the morphology of complex synthetic languages* (£366k)
- 2004 – 2009 Applied Research collaboration with GCHQ (£1.28m total funding for UoB, £261k to Computer Science)
- 2000 – 2003 *EPSRC Research Grant *Efficient first-order probabilistic models for inference and learning* (£51k)
- 2000 – 2002 Framework V RTD Project 11495 *Data mining and decision support for business competitiveness* (2m ECU total funding, 175k ECU to Bristol)
- 1998 – 2002 *Esprit IV Long Term Research Project 26357 *A meta-learning assistant for providing user support in machine learning and data mining* (1.5m ECU total funding, 335k ECU to Bristol). PF was project coordinator from January 2001.
- 1998 – 2002 *EU-funded European *Network of Excellence ILPnet2* (network co-ordinator, 200k ECU total funding, 20k ECU to Bristol).