

Navigating Big Data: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to Transform Data into Valuable Insights in the Blue Economy

start time	end time	Welcome Networking Lunch				
12:00	13:00					
part 1: Marine Data for the Digital Age						
start time	end time	Presentation Title	Organization	Speaker Name	Speaker Function	Bio Speaker
		EMODnet EU Marine Data services for the the digital and global age	EMODnet Secretariat	Kate Larkin	Head	Kate Larkin is Head of Secretariat for the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), based at the InnovOcean campus, Oostende. Kate has a PhD in marine science and has worked for more than 15 years at the areas of ocean observation, marine data and the interfaces between science-policy-industry and society.
13:00	13:15		EMODnet Secretariat	Conor Delaney	Technical Coordinator	Dr. Conor Delaney, is the Technical Coordinator at the Secretariat of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODNET), . Conor has over 25 years of experience working across the disciplines of ICT and environmental science, he is a strong advocate of Open Data, and using Cloud Computing to improve access to Big Data from Earth Sciences
13:15	13:30	Feeding the Marine Knowledge Graph: leveraging data for the blue economy and beyond	VLIZ	Lennert Tyberghein	Head VLIZ Marine Data Centre	Lennert is manager of the VLIZ Marine Data Centre, that is accredited as a National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC) in the network the IODE programme of IOC-UNESCO. The Data Centre is involved in the development and management of international e-infrastructures and services. Lennert is a member of multiple management boards of European projects and involved in several United Nations Ocean Decade initiatives. He has a particular interest in Open Data and Open Science in general.
part 2: Research & Development (moderated by Ljiljana Platisa, business developer UGent)						
start time	end time	Presentation Title	Organization	Speaker Name	Speaker Function	
13:30	13:50	Navigating the cloud-native jungle when choosing edge-cloud enablers	UGent	Bruno Volckaert	Professor	Bruno Volckaert is a professor from the IDLab research group at Ghent-University / IMEC focusing on research into reliable, secure and scalable cloud-native applications. He will talk about the vast number of choices that have to be made when designing edge-cloud solutions.

13:50	14:10	Wind power forecasting using machine learning	UGent	Sofie Van Hoecke	Professor	Sofie Van Hoecke is associate professor at IDLab, Ghent University-imec. She is leading the PreDiCT research team within IDLab, consisting of more than 30 people, funded through Flemish, national and European industry-driven as well as fundamental research projects. The team focuses on designing hybrid AI methodologies, combining machine learning and semantic technologies, for predictive maintenance and predictive healthcare applications.
14:10	14:30	Trends, challenges and new developments in big data technology for decision making, past case study on sand extraction from the North Sea	UGent	Guy de Tré	Professor	Guy De Tré is full professor and head of the research group on Database, Document and Content Management of the department of Telecommunications and Information processing of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture of Ghent University. He was co-promoter of the TILES project, which handled Transnational and Integrated Long-term Marine Exploitation Strategies
14:30	14:50	Advanced models selecting containers to fight drug smuggling at ports	UGent	Christophe Vandeviver	Professor	Christophe Vandeviver is a tenure track Research Professor of Criminology (Ghent University Research Council BOFZAP) at Ghent University, Belgium and co-founder of i4S, the first IOF-funded business development consortium at the crossroads of crime and security, and digitization and technology. His research focuses on the spatial and temporal dimensions of crime and crime control. The research of Christophe and his team is supported by multiple competitive grants awarded by e.g., Horizon Europe, Research Foundation Flanders, Ghent University Research Council, and Belgian Science Policy Office.
14:50	15:10	AI enhances cybersecurity by using machine learning and data analysis to improve threat detection and response, bolstering overall security	Howest	Kurt Callewaert	Valorisation Manager	Kurt Callewaert is Valorisation Manager Digital Transformation at Howest University collaborating with research groups specializing in AI, AR/VR , Web3 (Blockchain , Solid) , Game Technology and Cybersecurity. Kurt is a member of the Flemish Cybersecurity Steering Group , the Belgian Cyber Coalition vzw and the IOG consortium i4S.
15:10	16:00	Networking break - Opportunity to visit The Reef: Digital Training Lab Blue Energy				
part 3: Business Cases and Challenges						
start time	end time	Presentation Title	Organization	Speaker Name	Speaker Function	
16:00	16:20	10 Mistakes in Data Programs	Dataminded	Kris Peeters	Founder and CEO	Kris is the founder and CEO of Data Minded, a data agency from Leuven which helps other organisations getting data done. We build sustainable and scalable data organisations that deliver on the promise of data and AI. Besides Data Minded, Kris is also an organiser of Data Science Leuven and he teaches about data engineering and big data at Solvay and Vlerick Business School

16:20	16:35	Data-driven meets process-based models, Helping engineers embrace data	PropheSea	Dr. Tomas Van Oyen	Founder	Tomas is Technical Lead and founder at PropheSea. After a career with a focus on mathematical models, he shifted a decade ago to data driven solutions. At PropheSea he evangelizes the advantages of combining both approaches and helps organizations improve by creating scalable predictive and prescriptive software	
16:35	16:50	Offshore and its data challenges	e-BO Enterprises	Steven Boucque	CTO	Steven Boucqué has 20+ years of experience in development and leading tech teams. He has a background in telecommunications and cloud-based video processing. Currently he serves as the head of the R&D team at e-BO Enterprises with a focus on technology, processes and people.	
16:50	17:05	How Toqua's AI models helped Euronav double the fuel savings potential of weather routing	Toqua	Casimir Morobé	Founder		
17:05	17:20	Unlocking the power of data for enhanced mine detection	Exail	Ward De Muer	Software Engineer	I started my professional career three years ago at Exail Robotics Belgium. At the company, I am responsible for AI and involved with real-time sonar image generation.	
17:20	17:35	Big 3D and 4D data (3D + time) as input for Xtended Reality-applications	ULiA	Mario Matthys	Founder at ULiA (UGent spin off)	Mario Matthys is an Architect and Urban Planner; in 2024 he will earn a joint PhD in Geography (UGent) and Interdisciplinary Urban Studies (VUB), made in free time. He received several innovation awards based on his work as a civil servant, lector, researcher and most recently as founder of the spin of UliA.	
17:35	17:45	Closing words					
17:45	19:00	Closing reception and networking					