**3rd Annual Research Symposium on Complexity and IT**

**6th -7th July 2015,**

**Montpellier, France**

Theme: **Innovating with Digital Technology in a Complex world** ([Symposium Website](http://www.montpellier-bs.com/international/faculty-and-research/research-center/research-at-mbs/research-symposium-on-complexity-and-it))

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Venue: **Montpellier Business School**: <http://www.montpellier-bs.com/>

Deadline for submission of extended abstracts for the Symposium: **April 30th, 2015**

**Conveners:**

**Huseyin Tanriverdi**, McCombs School of Business

**Ning Nan**, University of British Columbia

**Youngjin Yoo**, Temple University

**Hind Benbya**, Montpellier Business School

**Keynote Speakers:**

**Peter Allen**, Cranfield Business School

**Raghu Garud**, Smeal College of Business

**Panel Experts:**

*Prof. Yasmin Merali* (Hull university Business School, UK),

*Prof. Iris Vessey* (University of Queensland Business School, Australia)

*Prof. Dorothy Leidner* (Baylor University, US)

*Prof. Munir Mandiwalla* (Temple University, US)

*Prof. Richard Vidgen* (Hull University Business School, UK)

**About the Complexity and IT symposium**

The complexity and IT symposium is an annual event, originally launched in 2013 to bring together researchers and practitioners to make sense of IT-induced complexity in business and IT-enabled solutions to business complexity and build a community of scholars and practitioners who are interested in complexity and IT.

*Past years Symposium information*:

1st see <https://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/Departments/IROM/CAS-IS-Symposium>

2nd see <http://www.sauder.ubc.ca/Faculty/Divisions/Management_Information_Systems_Division/Events/Program>

The objective of the 3rd complexity and IT symposium is to bring together: members of the editorial board of a proposed special issue to [*MIS Quarterly*](http://www.misq.org/)on “Complexity in IS Research in emerging digital environments”, complexity experts and a selected group of scholars to interact in depth and share insights on the state of the art complexity theories and methods and how we can advance complexity in IS research.

**About complexity as a research field**

Complexity science is order-creation science (McKelvey 2001). It offers a rich perspective to shift the historical managerial emphasis away from equilibrium and certainty towards non-linear dynamics of open evolving systems, inter-dependence of phenomena and the emergent structure and outcomes which arise from agent interactions. Rooted in general systems theory and theories of nonlinear dynamical systems, complexity science in general, and complex adaptive systems theory (a branch of complexity science) in particular has been used across a variety of scholarly disciplines including biology (Kauffman, 1993), chemistry (Prigogine and Stengers, 1984), computer science (Holland, 1975; Simon, 1962), physics (Gell-Mann, 1994) and economics (Arthur, 1989). These applications have led to new theories regarding how (1) order can arise from the action of interdependent agents who are purposefully pursuing individual plans based on local knowledge and continuously adapting to feedback about the actions of others, (2) the nonlinear interplay of tension and connectivity which yields to various scalable and extreme outcomes, and (3) the mechanisms through which micro-level events and interactions can give rise to macro-level system structures, properties and behaviors.

In addition to theory development, complexity science has promoted methods that are suited to examinations of structural dynamics (connections and interactions among elements, their similarity, their degrees of freedom), emergent processes (the mechanisms that elucidates how they adapt, learn, morph and transform over time) and diverse novel outcomes of a CABS. Approaches such as computer simulations and agent-based modeling allow researchers to generate insights into whole-part relations and experiment with some consequences of the phenomenon of complexity (e.g., Carley and Wallace 2001). Large scale network dynamics, narratives and longitudinal case studies (e.g., Chiles et al. 2004) also provide a useful toolkit for exploring emergent, non-linear dynamics that are the mainstay of complexity theory. Incorporating other methods using large-scale quantitative analysis inherent in digital environments to generate novel insights provides a promising direction to extend complexity research along with more explicit linkage of the theory to the empirical reality of digital environments.

**Suggested Topics**

We invite full and work-in-progress papers that explore a range of themes, including but not limited to the following:

* Role of digital technology in complex settings;
* Explaining the relationship between digital technology and various outcomes from a complexity approach;
* Multilevel studies of the evolution, adoption, implementation, use and outcomes of digital technology;
* Emergence and transformation of complex socio-technical networks;
* Dynamics of online communities, multi-sided markets, digital ecosystems using a complexity lens;
* Role of digital technology in facilitating change and adaptation as a self-organizing process;
* Role of digital technology as an enabler of emergent phenomena (i.e. large-scale social change and collective actions);
* Discovering and then learning how to deal with the nonlinear (skew-distributed) of emergent IS networks and consequent changes in agents’ and companies’ performances;
* Different ways organizations cope with complexity induced by digital technology in their business;
* The role of design in dealing in internal and external environments.

**Submissions**

Please submit your extended abstract through the following link: [Abstract Submission form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/19l471ugint0beQCJcZKDigoEUN87JZAx4qlimWfXORs/viewform). Please fill the form and upload your submission. The total length (including title page, references, figures and tables) should be 1,500-3,000 words, single spaced, with standard fonts and margins. You will be able to submit your extended abstract between the **1st and the 30st of April 2015.**

Submitted abstracts will be screened by the symposium conveners for fit. Selected submissions will be invited to present their research to the symposium. Registration to the symposium will all also be open to a limited number of participants (non-presenters).

For further information please contact one of the symposium conveners:

Huseyin Tanriverdi, ([huseyin.tanriverdi@mccombs.utexas.edu](mailto:huseyin.tanriverdi@mccombs.utexas.edu));

Ning Nan, ([ning.nan@sauder.ubc.ca](mailto:ning.nan@sauder.ubc.ca)), Youngjin Yoo, ([yxy23@temple.edu](mailto:yxy23@temple.edu)), Hind Benbya, ([h.benbya@montpellier-bs.com](mailto:h.benbya@montpellier-bs.com))

**Deadlines**

* April 30th, 2015: Deadline for submission of extended abstracts (completed and work-in-progress papers)
* May 15th, 2015: Notification of accepted papers
* June 7th, 2015: Registration deadline for accepted papers
* July 6th and 7th Complexity and IT symposium in [Montpellier Business School](http://www.montpellier-bs.com/international/)

**Symposium Organizers:**

This symposium is organized by the Information Technology and Innovation Group of Montpellier Business School and Montpellier Research and Management

• Nassim Belbaly

• Régis Meissonier

• Emmanuel Houzé

• Hind Benbya

• Mathijs Den Besten

• Anis Khedhaouria

• Calin Gurau

• Philippe Giuliani

• Autcharaporn Somsing

• Clémence Cheruy

**Symposium Venue**

Montpellier Business School: [map](http://www.montpellier-bs.com/international/mbs/maps-contact-details/how-to-get-here) & [contact information](http://www.montpellier-bs.com/international/mbs/maps-contact-details/how-to-get-here). Note that t**ramway line 3** (stop Hôtel du Département) and **bus line n°7** offer a direct access to the business school campus.

**Participation and Expenses**

A small fee of 200 Euros will be associated with the participation to the symposium, the fee will cover your meals and refreshments during the symposium.

**About Montpellier**

- Take the opportunity to discover Montpellier in a [**virtual city tour**](http://www.montpellier.fr/212-visites-virtuelles-de-montpellier-decouvrez-la-ville-en-ligne.htm).  
- [**Montpellier Tourist Office**](http://www.ot-montpellier.fr/) and [**Hérault Department Tourist Office**](http://www.herault-tourisme.com/) offer information on accommodation and tourism.

- **Practical guides** for preparing your travel and stay in Montpellier: [**Le guide Montpellier**](http://www.leguidemontpellier.com/) and some [**impression of Montpellier and its region**](http://www.montpellier-photos.com/)**.**

- **Transportation**: [**tramway & bus**](http://www.montpellier-agglo.com/tam/)**,**[**Montpellier Mediterranée Airport**](http://www.montpellier.aeroport.fr/).

**Accomodation**  
[**http://ww.mercure-montpellier-antigone.com**](http://www.mercure-montpellier-antigone.com/) (A special rate to the workshop will be notified upon registration)

[**http://www.oceaniahotels.com/h/hotel-oceania-le-metropole-montpellier/presentation**](http://www.oceaniahotels.com/h/hotel-oceania-le-metropole-montpellier/presentation)  
[**http://www.kyriad.com/fr/hotels/kyriad-montpellier-centre-antigone**](http://www.kyriad.com/fr/hotels/kyriad-montpellier-centre-antigone)  
[**http://www.accorhotels.com/fr/hotel-1391-ibis-montpellier-centre/index.shtml**](http://www.accorhotels.com/fr/hotel-1391-ibis-montpellier-centre/index.shtml)  
[**http://www.suitenovotel.com/fr/hotel-6017-suite-novotel-montpellier/index.shtml**](http://www.suitenovotel.com/fr/hotel-6017-suite-novotel-montpellier/index.shtml)