Quarterly digest

Welcome to the fifth edition of InstaDeep's quarterly newsletter.
We've kept busy and are proud to share our updates with you below. Enjoy!

INSTADEEP OPENS SIXTH OFFICE IN CAPE TOWN

In February, the day finally arrived when we could unlock the doors to our first office in South Africa! The new office in Cape Town marks InstaDeep's sixth office and we are proud to now span the African continent from North to South. The office expansion is part of a long-term strategy to build out our AI operations on the African continent and strengthen the company's position as Africa's leading AI company.

Joining InstaDeep's SA team are two of the country's finest researchers with plenty of experience below their belts including presenting at ICML and NeurIPS, namely Dr Arnu Pretorius and Elan van Biljon. Supported by intern Tom Makkink, the pair will be working with our AI Research team across our other locations. After two months in action, the team is thriving! With high expectations for the expansion, InstaDeep is anticipating rapid growth with further exciting job opportunities for talented engineers down the line.

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INSTADEEP RANKED AMONGST TOP 100 AI COMPANIES GLOBALLY

In March, CB Insight published their fourth annual AI ranking, listing InstaDeep amongst the 100 most promising private artificial intelligence companies in the world! Of the companies on the list, 65% are based in the US and only 15 in Europe, placing InstaDeep not only as top 100 globally but also at the very core in Europe.

InstaDeep was appraised in the prestigious category of Research & Development, where CB Insight highlighted our jointly published research paper last year with Google DeepMind on a novel reinforcement learning algorithm called AlphaNPI.

The AI 100 companies were selected from nearly 5,000 companies based on several factors including patent activity, investor quality, news sentiment analysis, proprietary Mosaic scores, market potential, partnerships, competitive landscape, team strength, and tech novelty. The incredible achievement was recognised by media publications across the globe, including The Business Times.

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FOUR INSTADEEPERS SPEAKING AT GDG MENA

Sunday 22 March saw Mena Digital Days, a Google Developer Group set-up out of Dubai, kick-off a four-month-long initiative of workshops and live talks on their YouTube channel. The Digital Days are focusing on a range of topics including technology and leadership. With multiple Google Developer Experts in-house, InstaDeep was asked to give not only one but five talks during the first few weeks, with additional talks to follow throughout the event. Proud to represent our company as GDG Machine Learning experts were:

- CEO and Co-Founder Karim Beguir on 'How to Think AI-First'
- Research Engineer Amel Sellami on 'Computer Vision Demystified' and 'AI for Women's Online Safety'
- Research Engineer Youssef Ben Dhieb on 'Accelerating Training Pipelines in TensorFlow 2.0'
- Research Engineer Rihab Gorsane on 'General advice on Reinforcement Learning'

Make sure you check out the talks who are available to stream in full here.

INSTADEEP SPONSORS AFRICA'S FIRST ONLINE INTER-CAMPUS ML HACKATHON

This spring has seen the Coronavirus hit the global community, and with this many events has been cancelled. Not all, however! The clever minds at Zindi, the leading African online competition platform, decided to turn Umojohack into a digital event instead, gathering more than 1,000 students from over 70 universities in 18 African countries to participate in an Inter-campus hackathon remotely.

The students were tasked with crowd-solving real-life challenges in health, education, environmental conservation, and business through the day-long UmojaHack Africa competition. It is encouraging to see the communities coming together in times of uncertainty and create positive and safe environments to engage through. InstaDeep was one of the companies who recognised the important initiative and decided to sponsor the event. "Despite the challenging environment we experience across the globe at this point, we believe it's our duty to sponsor this event and create channels for African AI talents from all the continent's universities to participate", says CEO and Co-Founder of InstaDeep, Karim Beguir. **READ MORE**
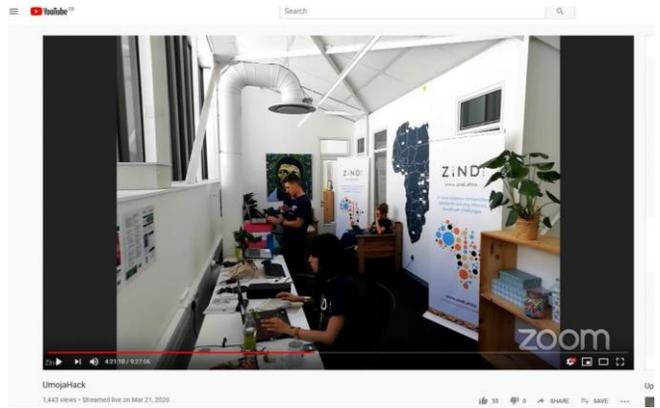
NEW EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP WITH DAUPHINE UNIVERSITY

As part of InstaDeep's ongoing focus on attracting top students, we have added another renowned university to our list of talent acquisition partners, namely L'Université Paris-Dauphine.

The partnership with Dauphine Tunis follows the university's growing focus on AI with the launch of an AI specialisation Master Study in 2018. InstaDeep will support the curriculum as an industry leader by holding workshops and seminars, and work on research topics with the university. Additionally, InstaDeep and the Paris-Dauphine University Tunis will work on joint AI research projects with a view to publishing quality scientific articles. We see great synergy with Dauphine University as their ambition is to deliver the best AI courses in Tunisia, and look forward to welcoming aspiring students to InstaDeep's internship program.

INSTADEEP HONOURED WITH SMART TUNISIA LABEL

Q1 saw InstaDeep receive the Smart Tunisia label, a recognition from the national program that supports the growth and development of digital investment to foster the IT ecosystem and create the best ground for valuable innovative IT champions in the country and abroad. More specifically it means that the government will support our business to ensure future growth and development. Co-Founder and Chief Digital and Visualization Officer, Zohra Slim, took part in the official ceremony where the label was presented.