Digital Convergence and Human Intelligence

Michael Resch, HLRS Russian Supercomputing Days, online, September 27, 2021



Roadmap

- What is it that makes us human?
- A western approach to the world (Francois Jullien)
- A logical extension to Jullien into simulation technology and artificial intelligence
- Digital comes back to human





What is it that makes us human?

- Human vs nature
 - Separation of "human" and "nature" (subdue the earth)
 - Human as part of nature
- Separating human from animal (Frans de Waal would perhaps disagree)
 - Language?
 - Logic?
 - Intelligence?
 - Frans de Waal, Mama's Last Hug: Animal Emotions and What They Tell Us about Ourselves, Norton & Company, 2020



Francois Jullien (French philosopher and Sinologist)

- Western culture people are looking for an ideal (eidos -Plato) which is defined as a goal (telos)
 - Eidos allows to define a model
 - The model (of eidos) allows to devise a plan
 - The plan includes methods
 - The methods can be carried out to achieve telos

Francois Jullien, Über die Wirksamkeit, Merve, 1999



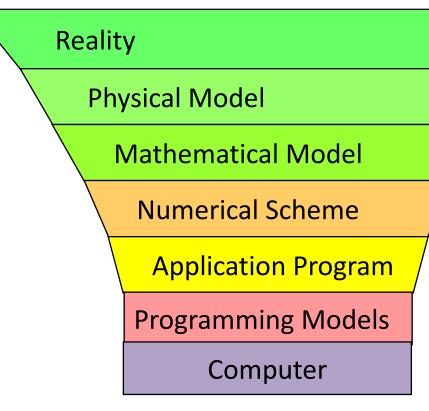
Computer Simulation and Al

- The model allows us to describe the world in mathematical terms
- Mathematical terms allow us to use a calculation machine (computer)

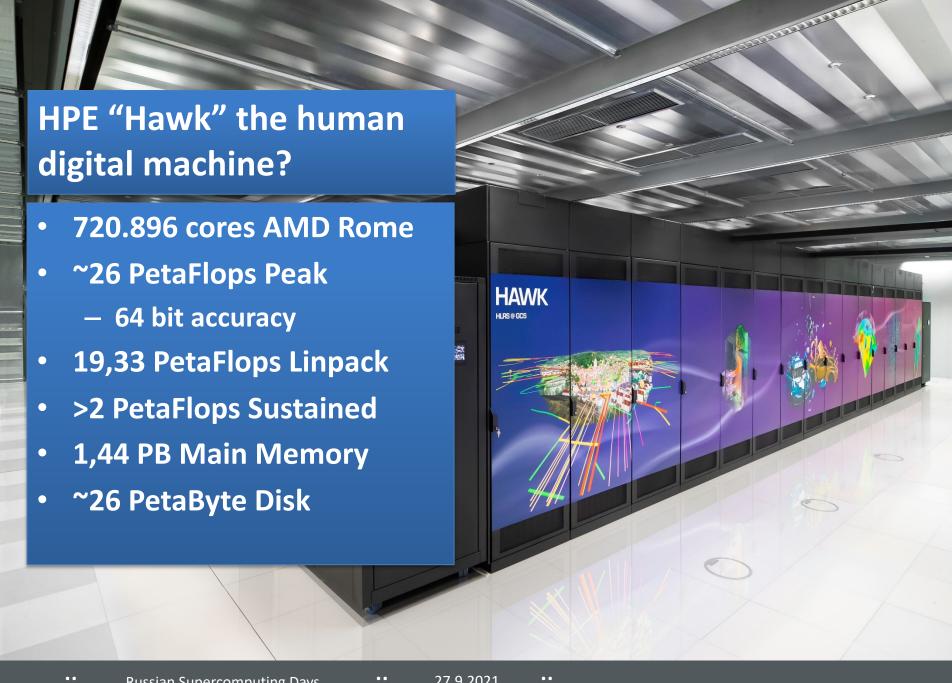




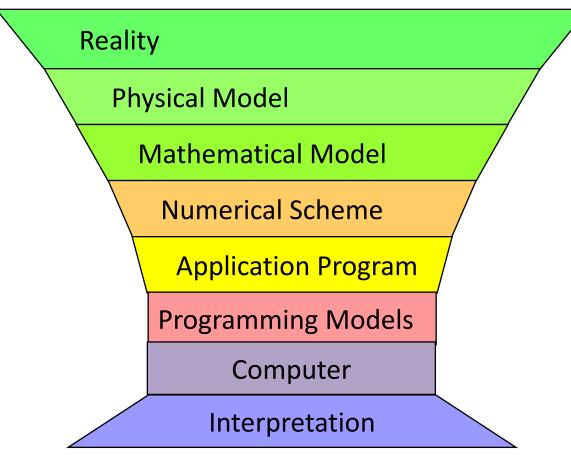
Computer Simulation







Computer Simulation







Interpretation / Al

- Simulation creates Data
- Data can be analyzed
 - Data Analysis (DA)
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- But what is "Intelligence"?
 - Divine spark
 - Ability to interpret rules and follow them in a creative way





The digital human

- Human has steadily been defined according to the concept of eidos, model, and telos
 - Idea of the "tool" as an improvement of the human (about 2 Mio years ago)
 - Self improvement in protestant ethics (1518)
 - Human driven by ratio "cogito ergo sum" (1637)
 - Measuring human physical properties phrenology, anthropometry, ergonomics, ... (19th century)
 - Measuring human non-physical properties intelligence, emotional intelligence, ... (since 19th century)



... our tools shape us

 We become what we behold. We shape our tools and then our tools shape us,

John Culkin (1967, March 18). A schoolman's guide to Marshall McLuhan. Saturday Review, pp. 51-53, 71-72





Human – Digital Convergence

- eidos oriented thinking
- Model oriented thinking
- Telos oriented thinking
- Process oriented thinking





Further Thinking

Peter Weibel says:

"Die Exo-Evolution ist die wahre Revolution" "Exo-Evolution is the true revolution"

Further Thinking:

The universal machine is limiting us trough its own limitation. Human intelligence has to overcome these limitations.

Questions

