



## **YCCSA Seminar Series Summer 2017**

An interdisciplinary seminar series hosted by the York Centre for Complex System Analysis aimed at researchers from all disciplines

### **Nature needs AI needs Nature**

**Dr Drew Purvis**

**Google DeepMind**

**26 May 2017  
Ron Cooke Hub, RCH/204 at 13:30**

#### **Abstract:**

The biosphere is a stupendously complex and poorly understood system, which we depend on for our survival, and which we are attacking on every front. Worrying. But what has that got to do with Machine Learning and AI? After outlining some of the ways in which ML and AI could transform our ability to manage and protect Nature (Nature needs AI), I will shift to discussing the less orthodox idea that progress in AI depends on an understanding of Nature (AI needs Nature). In particular, I will argue that simulations of ecological tasks in naturalistic environments could be an important test bed for developing AI.

The seminar includes a refreshment break

***Ron Cooke Hub is on Heslington East Campus – accessible by free bus services  
Nos. 66 and 44 running at frequent intervals from Heslington West.  
The YCCSA Seminar room is on the second floor***