

HKU AI&DS Dept Seminar on

From Digital Human to Humanoids

**Date & Time:**

13 Oct 2025 (Mon), 10:00–11:00

**Venue:**

Room 301, 3/F, Run Run Shaw Building

About Speaker

**Prof. He Xiaodong**

Dr. Xiaodong He is IEEE Fellow, Senior Vice President of JD Group (JD.COM), and managing director of JD AI Research. He is the recipient of the Wu Wen-Jun AI Science & Technology Outstanding Contribution Award. He has published more than 200 papers with over 60,000 citations, and has received awards including the IEEE SPS Best Paper Award, ACL Outstanding Paper Award, and CIKM Test-of-Time Award. Since joined JD.com in 2018, he has led JD's AI effort and developed JD's JoyAI Large Language Model, and has incubated various AI products including JD's intelligent customer service and multimodal digital human Live Streaming, etc. These products and technologies have been deployed across industries including retail, logistics, finance, and healthcare. Before joining JD.com, Dr. Xiaodong He worked with Microsoft Research Redmond as Principal Researcher and Head of the Deep Learning Technology Center (DLTC). Dr. He holds a bachelor's degree from Tsinghua University and Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He serves as Affiliate Professor at the University of Washington (Seattle) and other institutes.

Abstract

Thanks to significant technological improvements in artificial intelligence over the last decade, especially the recent development of large language and vision models that enable AI systems to communicate with humans in a very natural manner, we are now able to create high quality “digital humans” that can be deployed for various business tasks. Moreover, by integrating these models into robots and other devices, we are able to build humanoids that can listen, watch, and talk to users, serving us in a broad range of scenarios. In this talk, I will introduce our latest breakthroughs and applications in these areas and demonstrate how AI technology profoundly changes business models and user experiences while creating societal value.