Computers and machines have been developed as tools that are directed and controlled by human users. Emerging sensing technology, activity recognition, and AI enable the creation of systems that can proactively support or even lead the human towards achieving her goals. However, such a development also requires carefully balancing gains against a loss of control. In this talk, I will present examples of digital companions providing the basis for discussing the implications and challenges of moving forward with this technology.

Florian Michahelles is a Professor of Ubiquitous Computing at the Artifact-based Computing research unit and special interest group leader of Human-Centered AI at the Center of AI and Machine Learning at TU Wien. His research interests comprise human-computer interaction, Internet of Things, and Human-Centered AI. His team’s and his central research question is what is it the human can do, and what is it the machine can do in order to effectively collaborate on a joined task. This involves conceptualizing, prototyping, and evaluating novel concepts based on a diversity of technologies. His current grand challenge comprises the development of a self-balancing bicycle as an affordable, efficient and fun mode of transportation.

Towards Shared Control

Florian Michahelles