



An Examination of the Neural Basis of Social Media “Addiction”

14 December 2023

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (HKT)

Abstract

Some Internet users present signs that have been labeled by researchers as an “addiction” to the use of specific applications on the Internet. Even though these so-called “addictions” seem to be prevalent (e.g., to videogames, Facebook, mobile email), it is not clear what their neural bases, if any, are. This set of studies therefore adheres to calls made by the research community and the American Psychiatric Association to examine the neural basis and the potential viability of technology-related so-called “addictions”. In this talk, I will present findings from multiple studies conducted over the last 10 years, attempting to uncover various neural and psychiatric aspects of social media “addiction”. These studies used fMRI, DTI, MRI, and behavioral experiments techniques. I will discuss the emergent picture, as well as several open research questions.

ZOOM



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Speaker



Dr. Ofir Turel is a professor of information systems management within the School of Computing and Information Systems at The University of Melbourne. His research interests include a broad range of behavioral, biophysiological and managerial issues related to information systems and technologies. Turel has published over 200 journal papers in information systems, business, psychology and psychiatry journals. He has been recognized in the top 2% of researchers worldwide in a study conducted by Stanford University. His research has been featured in numerous media outlets, including the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, LA Times, Chicago Tribune, CBC, ABC, Times Higher Education, The Rolling Stone, and PBS. Turel is currently a senior editor for the MIS Quarterly.

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