

DIG PhD scholarship

Title	Fourth Industrial Revolution, Technological Change and Entrepreneurship
Theme	Innovations falling under the label of Industry 4.0, such as additive manufacturing (AM), artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain, and cyber-physical systems, have the potential to revolutionize various aspects of economic systems. This potential does not only reside in the separate use of single technologies, but rather in the combination of different related technologies and the exploitation of complementarities among them. If many observers think that the nexus of Industry 4.0 technologies will dramatically and irreversibly change both the ways work is organized and business conducted by large companies, we know relatively less on how these technologies may affect intrapreneurship and entrepreneurship dynamics.
	Questions such as the following are still far from being answered, despite their interest and the implications that may descend from their exploration:
	Can Industry 4.0 technologies leverage the creativity potential of individuals and their entrepreneurial spirit? How?
	Can Industry 4.0 start-ups and their technologies help meeting the sustainable development goals?
	How Industry 4.0 may change the initial phases of the entrepreneurial process, from the idea's conceptualization to prototyping?
	Can Industry 4.0 strongly disintermediate economies? And which are the consequences in terms of social welfare of this process?
	Can public policy carve out a role in accelerating the transition path towards this new massive technological change? Should the State intervene in the Industry 4.0 domain in order to foster entrepreneurial "creative destruction" dynamics?
	What's the future of cities and regions in the fourth industrial revolution?
	How will industry 4.0 shape the concept of work and employment?
	These are only few of the issues (among other possible) that could be addressed by the PhD scholarship, and represent only examples of possible directions to pursue.
	More generally, the PhD thesis project, starting from a micro-economic approach, aims at shedding light on how economies will change for the effect of the so-called Fourth Industrial Revolution, and under this general umbrella, it is open to explore a (selected) variety of themes, from both a theoretical and empirical perspective.
DIG professors involved	Luca Grilli
International collaborations	University of Utrecht, Skema Business School, University of Lund. Also see the H2020 RIA project: FIRES (projectfires.eu)