MANOLO
CLOUD-EDGE EFFICIENT & TRUSTWORTHY AI

December 13, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

MANOLO gathers 3rd hybrid project meeting in Nuremberg, Germany!

The MANOLO project organised its 3rd consortium meeting on December 3-4, 2024, in Nuremberg, Germany. The meeting, **hosted by Fraunhofer IIS**, brought together all the project partners to discuss progress and future directions towards the implementation of the project.

Day 1 Highlights:
The meeting began with a warm welcome from Fraunhofer IIS at its premises. The first day included collaborative sessions focused on co-creating MANOLO solutions, sharing ideas, defining requirements, setting goals, and reviewing milestones and responsibilities.

One notable moment of the meeting was the **introduction of the new Project Officer (PO),** who shared a brief CV and insights into his field of expertise. Additionally, a **workshop with the members of the MANOLO Industrial and Ethical Advisory Board** was conducted to present the **MANOLO architecture and solutions**, offering valuable feedback to the entire consortium, significantly benefiting the project and its outcomes.

Highlights from the main sessions also included:

- Discussing the updates from Use Cases' Design and Planning (PAL ROBOTICS, ARX.NET, BIT&BRAIN). **The four Use Cases are ready for deployment in their specific domains**. They have identified the actor types along with their roles, responsibilities and skills, technical and non-technical requirements each Use Case should meet (e.g., human-robot interaction, object manipulation, etc.), potential challenges during their deployment, and "issues" that need to be considered in terms of Trustworthy AI design.
- Aligning the next steps about MANOLO Architecture & Benchmarking Framework with all technical partners,
- Analysing the progress and future actions about HW-aware Meta-Learning and Optimisation, from Fraunhofer IIS, NUIDUCD – CeADAR, INRIA.

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Day 2 Highlights:

The second day focused on the cloud-edge continuum considerations, tackling federated learning to cloud-edge resource management and optimal allocation. The discussion continued with addressing issues regarding the MANOLO benchmarking framework, as well as the models' validation in terms of explainability and robustness.

The meeting included **a tour at Fraunhofer's premises**, showcasing the unique technologies developed by our partner.

During the tour, the consortium visited two key stations. The first was **the L.I.N.K. Test and Application Center**, which offers a realistic environment for developing and evaluating pioneering technologies in positioning, navigation, and communication. Next, they explored demonstrators **featuring Fraunhofer's advancements in Edge AI and Neuromorphic Computing, allowing participants to interactively experience the capabilities of these innovative technologies.**

At the meeting's closure dissemination, communication, and exploitation strategies were discussed, as well as opportunities for synergies with other projects and initiatives.

The MANOLO consortium, under the leadership of **Ireland's National Centre for Applied AI, CeADAR,** is composed of 18 partners across 8 European countries: Ireland, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Romania, and Spain. The consortium members include: NUIDUCD-CeADAR, UPC, ATOS IT, EVIDEN RO, TUBS, NCSR "D", FDI, INRIA, Fraunhofer IIS, UPSaclay, ARCADA, KU Leuven, LAUREA, PAL ROBOTICS, BIT&BRAIN, ARX.NET, Q-PLAN, and EIT DIGITAL.

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