

**Gastvortrag im Rahmen der Ringvorlesung
„Digitale und vernetzte Arbeitswelten“
am 19.04.2021**

Beginn: 16.15 Uhr, Ort: Zoom-Meeting

Prof. Dr. Niels Taatgen

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Science and Artificial Intelligence, University of Groningen*

**Everyone can multitask — and most of the time it is
even productive**

It has been argued in the popular press that people are unable to multitask. However, experiments show that people are perfectly capable of it, depending on the tasks and the amount of experience they have had with the tasks. The theory of Threaded Cognition, which Dario Salvucci and I developed, is able to predict when tasks go well together, and when they lead to multitasking conflicts in terms of errors or extensive loss of time. My next line of research focussed on the question why people have such a strong urgency to multitask, and under what circumstances they choose to do it. This research revealed that people multitask almost all the time, leading to the conclusion that people are not incapable of multitasking, but of single tasking.

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