
Contract type: Public service fixed-term contract  
Level of qualifications required: Graduate degree or equivalent  
Fonction: Temporary scientific engineer

About the research centre or Inria department

The Inria Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée center counts 37 research teams and 9 support departments. The center's staff (about 600 people including 400 Inria employees) is composed of scientists of different nationalities (250 foreigners of 50 nationalities), engineers, technicians and administrators. 1/3 of the staff are civil servants, the others are contractual. The majority of the research teams at the center are located in Sophia Antipolis and Nice in the Alpes-Maritimes. Six teams are based in Montpellier and a team is hosted by the computer science department of the University of Bologna in Italy. The Center is a member of the University and Institution Community (ComUE) "Université Côte d'Azur (UCA)".

Context

Hosting team: WIMMICS (http://wimmics.inria.fr/) is a research team of Université Côte d'Azur - INRIA. The research fields of this team are graph-oriented knowledge representation, reasoning and operationalization to model and support actors, actions and interactions in web-based epistemic communities.

Location: I3S laboratory, Sophia Antipolis, France. Regular visits to the Accenture team in Dublin (Ireland) have to be planned.

Assignment

--- Research Context ---

Robots helping humans in performing their everyday activities are becoming nowadays very popular, given the valuable impact they may bring on society, e.g., robots assisting elderly people in their places to support them in their everyday tasks. However, in order to concretely interact with humans, intelligent systems are required to show some human-like abilities such as the ability to explain their own decisions.

The research question we target for this position is "how to explain and justify machine decisions to humans?". The domains are Artificial Intelligence, and more specifically Machine Learning, Argumentation (as KRR formalism intended to explain decision making) and Semantics (knowledge graphs).

This position grounds has for research context the ALOOF project. In a nutshell, one of the goals of ALOOF is to equip autonomous systems with the ability to learn the meaning of objects, i.e., their perceptual and semantic properties and functionalities, from externalized knowledge sources accessible through the Web. More details may be found here: https://project.inria.fr/aloof/

--- Business Context ---

Accenture, as a service and consulting company, is bringing innovation to its clients through various forms e.g., co-innovation through workshops, rapid prototyping, piloting or R&D delivery. All journeys of innovation starts by understanding our clients, their industry, value, limitations and impact on the marketplace. Accenture The Dock in Dublin, as the Accenture innovation hub in Europe, has been designed to showcase the best of Accenture innovation and inspire our clients. The number of clients attracted by The Dock and its visits has grown exponentially over the past 12 months. Unfortunately not all client requests to understand innovation in Accenture can be granted due to numerous requests and preparation needed to showcase relevant technologies, projects, innovations and people
behind the innovation. Such a limitation is due to the huge manual effort in preparing a client visit and understanding its needs in term of innovation (in its particular industry).

We aim at addressing this problem by developing machine-assisted innovation touring. The machine, interfaced by Softbank Pepper, will be responsible for guiding clients to relevant projects, team, people, prototype, asset by understanding the client industry, its value, limitations and impact on the marketplace. Data will be collected internally to gather Accenture projects and assets, and externally to consolidate it with the Web of data. The machine will be able to justify its decisions (e.g., showcase of a project, team or asset) through real-time interaction, ensuring a seamless machine to human (client) journey across innovation in Accenture.

**Main activities**

The objectives of this position are:

- The gathering of bibliographical content to constitute a solid basis for working on the following development.
- The definition of an Information Extraction module to extract information from the raw data provided as input by the Accenture company, and definition of a Semantic module able to construct the knowledge graph based on the output of the Information Extraction module.
- The definition of a Decision Making module, so that given the goal of the client and his own background, a plan is elicited to be executed, i.e., the specific tour in the company building.
- The definition of an explanation module, such that the decision is explained and justified to the clients by means of an argumentation framework grounding on the generated knowledge graph.

**Skills**

The candidate must hold a Master in Computer Science, with a specialization on Artificial Intelligence or Data Science. He must have strong skills on the field and possibly in some frameworks and languages related to it, knowledge on the Natural Language Processing field might also help. An experience with Machine Learning frameworks is strongly advised. Finally, he must have good English skills in writing and communication.

**Benefits package**

- Subsidised catering service
- Partially-reimbursed public transport
- Social security
- Paid leave
- Flexible working hours
- Sports facilities

**Remuneration**

From 2632 euros gross monthly (according to degree and experience)

**General Information**

- **Theme/Domain**: Data and Knowledge Representation and Processing Information system (BAP E)
- **Town/city**: Sophia Antipolis
- **Inria Center**: CRI Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée
- **Starting date**: 6/1/18
- **Duration of contract**: 12 months
- **Deadline to apply**: 3/31/18

**Contacts**

- **Inria Team**: WIMMICS
- **Recruiter**: Villata Milanesio Serena / serena.villata@inria.fr
Conditions for application

Defence Security:
This position is likely to be situated in a restricted area (ZRR), as defined in Decree No. 2011-1425 relating to the protection of national scientific and technical potential (PPST). Authorisation to enter an area is granted by the director of the unit, following a favourable Ministerial decision, as defined in the decree of 3 July 2012 relating to the PPST. An unfavourable Ministerial decision in respect of a position situated in a ZRR would result in the cancellation of the appointment.

Recruitment Policy:
As part of its diversity policy, all Inria positions are accessible to people with disabilities.

Warning: you must enter your e-mail address in order to save your application to Inria. Applications must be submitted online on the Inria website. Processing of applications sent from other channels is not guaranteed.