2019-01436 - Post-Doctoral Research Visit F/M Low-Latency Machine Learning Prediction Services

**Contract type:** Public service fixed-term contract  
**Level of qualifications required:** PhD or equivalent  
**Fonction:** Post-Doctoral Research Visit

**About the research centre or Inria department**

Inria is a national research institute dedicated to digital sciences that promotes scientific excellence and transfer. Inria employs 2,400 collaborators organised in research project teams, usually in collaboration with its academic partners. This agility allows its scientists, from the best universities in the world, to meet the challenges of computer science and mathematics, either through multidisciplinarity or with industrial partners.  
A precursor to the creation of Deep Tech companies, Inria has also supported the creation of more than 150 start-ups from its research teams. Inria effectively faces the challenges of the digital transformation of science, society and the economy.

**Context**

This postdoc is in the framework of Nokia Bell Labs - Inria joint lab.  
The research activity will be carried out at Inria Sophia Antipolis Méditerranée, but periodic visit to Nokia Bell Labs, Paris, are envisaged.

**How to apply:**

Applications will be evaluated on a rolling basis. Starting date could be as early as May 2019.  
Send to Giovanni Neglia (giovanni.neglia@inria.fr) your application containing:

- CV  
- Motivation letter  
- PhD thesis if already completed,  
- Your most representative publication  
- Contact information of potential referrers 

**Assignment**

Many deployed applications, like recommendation systems, voice assistants, and ad-targeting, need to serve predictions from machine learning (ML) models in less than 20ms [1]. Future wireless services like connected and autonomous cars, industrial robotics, mobile gaming, augmented and virtual reality have even stricter latency requirements, often below 10 ms [2] and below 1ms for what is now called the tactile internet [3]. A key element to satisfy such constraints is to run these services closer to the user.  
In particular, it will be needed to run ML prediction services at the edge of the network without the computing and storage capabilities of the cloud. 

The postdoc will investigate how the quality of the predictions can be traded off with latency through two different approaches. The first one is to cache at the edge ML answers to previous queries. Cached answers to "close enough" queries can then be provided to new queries. Local sensitive hashing is a possible way to evaluate the distance between queries [4]. The second approach is instead to train a complex ML model in the cloud, but then run a down-scaled version at the edge. To this purpose, transfer learning techniques can be used to generate models with different time-space complexity [5].  

The duration of this postdoc is 18 months.


**Main activities**

Research activities.

**Skills**

Competences in probability, statistics, optimization, and mathematical modeling are essential. Solid programming and IT skills are necessary, along with strong communication abilities.  
Ideally, we are looking for two possible profiles:
Benefits package
- Subsidized meals
- Partial reimbursement of public transport costs
- Leave: 7 weeks of annual leave + 10 extra days off due to RTT (statutory reduction in working hours) + possibility of exceptional leave (sick children, moving home, etc.)
- Possibility of teleworking (after 6 months of employment) and flexible organization of working hours
- Professional equipment available (videoconferencing, loan of computer equipment, etc.)
- Social, cultural and sports events and activities
- Access to vocational training
- Social security coverage

Remuneration
Gross Salary: 2650 brutto per month

General Information
- Theme/Domain: Networks and Telecommunications
- System & Networks (BAP E)
- Town/city: Sophia Antipolis
- Inria Center: CRI Sophia Antipolis - Méditerranée
- Starting date: 2019-05-01
- Duration of contract: 1 year, 6 months
- Deadline to apply: 2019-10-31

Contacts
- Inria Team: NEO
- Recruiter: Neglia Giovanni / Giovanni.Neglia@inria.fr

About Inria
Inria, the French national research institute for the digital sciences, promotes scientific excellence and technology transfer to maximise its impact. It employs 2,400 people. Its 200 agile project teams, generally with academic partners, involve more than 3,000 scientists in meeting the challenges of computer science and mathematics, often at the interface of other disciplines. Inria works with many companies and has assisted in the creation of over 160 startups. It strives to meet the challenges of the digital transformation of science, society and the economy.

Instruction to apply
Application file: Applications must be submitted online on the Inria website. Collecting applications by other channels is not guaranteed.

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.