University of St.Gallen

Institute of Behavioral Science
and Technology

ibt

Ph.D. position at the Institute of Behavioral Science and Technology at the School of Management at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

We are looking for a creative and bright individual with a passion for empirical research at the intersection of the behavioral-, computational-, and data sciences. The future of the behavioral sciences is diverse and multidisciplinary. Therefore, we are open to candidates from a variety of disciplines (e.g., psychological and other behavioral/social sciences, computer sciences, etc.) with a strong affinity to use computational and statistical approaches.

The Institute of Behavioral Science and Technology (IBT) is an interdisciplinary research institute at the School of Management at the University of St. Gallen, dedicated to conduct high-impact research and teaching at the intersection of the behavioral and technical sciences. In your position you will work as part of Prof. Stachl's team. We are looking for the perfect candidate. Hence the starting date is flexible, and the position remains open until filled.

Context:

You will be working with one of the largest non-commercial datasets on naturalistic human behavior that has been collected as part of a collaborative mobile sensing panel study with the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München and the Leipzig Institute for Psychology during 2020. The data has been collected over the course of 6 months and spans a wide range of longitudinal, naturalistic behaviors that have been recorded with Android smartphones and self-reports on psychological traits, states, and outcomes.

We are open to candidates from a variety of backgrounds including:

- the behavioral/social sciences (e.g., psychology, cognitive science, behavioral science, communication/media studies, econometrics) + strong affinity to statistics and computational approaches
- computer science, data science, or statistics + strong interest and affinity to research topics of the behavioral and social sciences
- an interdisciplinary field (computational social science, behavioral data science, symbolic systems)

Your (minimum) skills:

- Experience with a data science language (e.g., R, Python, Julia
- Solid statistical knowledge and skills (descriptive, inference)
- Some knowledge on predictive modeling/machine learning
- Master's degree (see above)
- Strong intrinsic motivation and an open mindset

Bonus skills:

- Experience with unstructured data/logs/sensor data
- Experience with real-world, noisy data
- Data science experience (e.g., data collection, cleaning, processing)
- Advanced computational techniques (e.g., machine learning, deep Learning for prediction and representation learning (NLP, Image)
- Longitudinal/Idiosyncratic modeling
- Graph Machine Learning/Network Analysis

Your application needs to include (as a single pdf):

- Letter of motivation outlining your research interest, qualifications, and your goals
- Detailed curriculum vitae
- Copy of your master's degree (officially translated to English or German) – or planned date of completion
- Transcript of Records (from bachelor and master)
- List of publications (if applicable)
- Example of scientific writing in English (e.g., paper, thesis)
- 3 references for recommendation

What we offer:

- Passionate supervision
- Structured Ph.D. program
- Access to an international network of researchers
- Extensive funding mechanisms for projects within the university and beyond
- Very active startup/spinoff scene (e.g., N26, VIU, Frontify)
- Dedicated support programs for Ph.D. students to foster excellence in research (e.g., writing retreats, writing lab, behavioral lab).
  More info here: https://www.unisg.ch/en/forschung/doktorat
- Great working environment with flexible hours and good work life balance.
- Very high standard of living (high salary, security, health insurance, center of Europe, direct train access to Zurich/International Airport, the alps and lake Constance.
- And yes, we also got fresh fruits and gourmet coffee/tea at your disposal.
- Funding can be provided, but candidates with equal qualifications, bringing their own funding will be preferred.
- For more information and with questions please contact clemens.stachl@unisg.ch.