

PhD researcher in textual information extraction & machine learning

The Dept. of Information Technology at Ghent University - iMinds in Ghent, Belgium invites applications for a fully funded Ph.D. position in the field of textual information extraction and machine learning. The position is with the Information Retrieval and Extraction (IR/IE) team at the research group IBCN, and will be supervised by Chris Davelder and Thomas Demeester (e.g., for an overview of recent publications, see <http://users.atlantis.ugent.be/cdvelder> and <http://www.thomasdemeester.be/>).

Research area

As a PhD candidate, you will perform research in the area of information extraction from text documents, using and developing machine learning techniques. The focus will be on fundamental research in the area of deep learning for textual information extraction, with applications such as relation extraction, sentiment mining, event detection, etc.

While grounded in fundamental academic research, as a PhD candidate you will also participate in collaborative research with industrial partners in Flanders and/or on a wider geographic scale, in the framework of new/ongoing projects. These include major (Flemish) media companies and upcoming big data oriented companies. The exact scope of the PhD will be defined together with the supervisors.

Profile and requirements

Applicants must have obtained a master's degree in computer science or a closely related area, before joining the PhD program at Ghent University.

In addition, a successful candidate should have:

- strong mathematics skills;
- strong programming skills;
- knowledge and a special interest in modern machine learning methods; experience in information retrieval/extraction is a plus;
- strong analytical skills to interpret obtained results;
- the ability to plan and execute tasks largely independently, committing to deadlines;
- excellent oral and written communication skills in English.

Job offer

We offer the opportunity to do full-time research in an international environment (with over 17 nationalities at IBCN), a friendly working environment, and with a competitive salary at Ghent University. The successful candidate will gain excellent data scientist skills, with the direct support and supervision from experienced researchers, and access to extensive computing facilities (iLab.t and UGent HPC).

How to apply?

Applications should be sent to Chris Develder (chris.develder@intec.ugent.be) or Thomas Demeester (thomas.demeester@intec.ugent.be). Applications should include (1) a CV, (2) a personal motivation letter, and (3) transcripts of study results.

Application closing date: October 15, 2015

Starting date: Autumn/Winter, 2015

Duration: 4 years.