

HEC Liège is looking for a PhD student (M/F) in A.I. / Data Science

(ref. HEC-DL18005)

The **HEC Digital Lab** is the transdisciplinary centre of excellence, within HEC Liège, spearheading research & education in Digital Technologies. As part of its expansion, it is now looking for a PhD student to work for an industry-sponsored PhD research project. A description of the lab can be found at www.digitallab.be.

The PhD project will fall within the realm of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and natural language processing. Those technologies are expected to have significant ramifications for society in general, and is foreseen to bring about disruptions to classical professions, such as medical practitioners, lawyers and auditors. For the latter, the business is based on the analysis of many sources of documents, which are internal or external to the audited companies, such as accounting documents for instance. These data sources provide insights into business risks, enabling auditors to highlight potential crucial issues. Furthermore, the data sources are relatively structured with clearly defined fields and columns, from which the required information can be easily extracted. Specifically, the research project takes an approach to understanding the way an auditor can detect weak signals from huge volumes of structured and less structured data in the context of an audit process based on AI solutions.

Sponsored by a leading audit company, the project has various applications in the managerial world, as well as important academic implications. The problematic will be further refined once the PhD student has started, in alignment with the sponsor.

ABOUT HEC LIEGE

HEC® Liège is the management school of the University of Liège. HEC® Liège is one of the leading Belgian university business schools for graduate and postgraduate programs with more than 115 full-time faculty members and researchers and more than 2500 students. HEC® Liège is a dynamic institution that heavily promotes an active pedagogy leading students to contribute actively to their own education. The international vision of HEC® Liège translates into multiple research activities in management and economics, numerous partnerships with worldwide companies and universities, and growing internationalization of its programs and faculty.

A thorough description of the management school and its work environment can be found at: <http://www.hec.ulg.ac.be/en/home>

JOB DESCRIPTION

As a full-time PhD Student at HEC Liège, you will be affiliated to the strategic research field **Supply Chain Management and Business Analytics** at HEC Liège. There is no teaching load associated to this position. You will attend a doctoral programme offered by HEC Liège in collaboration with Belgian partner universities. Regular interaction with the sponsor's team of practitioners is expected.

You will represent the HEC Digital Lab in the international scientific community through (for instance) the participation in scientific conferences and workshops.

YOUR PROFILE

- You have a strong Master's degree in a field relevant to the project (computer science, commercial engineer, civil engineer)
- You have a good understanding and practical experience with state-of-the-art methods in machine learning, statistics (e.g. regularization, GLM), NLP or other data science subfields
- You have prior experience in managing a research project
- You have a keen interest in management, marketing and digital transformation
- Prior work experience within the audit and/or financial services industry is a plus
- You have good communication skills

CONTRACT

The doctoral researcher will be hired for a period of 4 years. The candidate will start on September, 1st, 2019.

APPLICATION PACKAGE

- Cover letter showing your motivation and eligibility for the PhD position;
- CV showing your past experience and expertise in the PhD area;
- An example of your written academic work;
- A copy of your undergraduate and postgraduate degrees;
- A recommendation letter, to be sent directly by the person recommending you.

Interested candidates should send their application by email to Dr. Nicolas NEYSEN, Director HEC Digital Lab (nicolas.neysen@uliege.be) and to Prof. Ashwin ITTOO (ashwin.ittoo@uliege.be).

Applications should be received **before 15th June 2019**.

Incomplete applications will be automatically rejected. Further information can be obtained by sending an email to Prof. Ashwin ITTOO.