MBZUAI Research Statement Guide:

The research statement is a document summarizing the potential research project an applicant is interested in working on and clearly justify the research gap which the applicant would like to fill in during the course of his/her study.

It must be presented in the context of currently existing literature and provide an overview of how the applicant aims to investigate the underlying research project as well as predict the expected outcomes. The proposal should include both high-level motivations/impact as well as a technical approach on how the problem can be addressed.

It should also mention the relevance and suitability of the applicant's background and experience to the project and highlight the project's scientific significance, and potential impact in industry/society. The research statement should include the following details:

- ✓ Title (Define an exciting technical research topic)
- ✓ Motivation (What is the high-level goal? Why is it relevant?)
- ✓ Problem definition (What is the technical problem?)
- ✓ Literature review (What are prior work that are relevant, and what is it not solving?)
- ✓ Proposed research/methods/solution (How are we going to solve the problem? Incorporate new ideas and research directions, and potential approaches. It is expected that the proposal includes technical details.)
- ✓ Study timeline (a table, figure or a small paragraph presenting your plans for the four years of the PhD program) (Make a technical plan by breaking down the problem into multiple projects)
- ✓ List of references (Provide citations: papers, books, website articles, code links, etc.)

Applicants are expected to write the research statement independently. MBZUAI faculty will NOT help write it for the purpose of the application.

The MBZUAI Admission Committee will review the submitted document and use it as one of the measures to gauge and assess applicants' skills.

Note: The proposal should be 4 to 8 pages, excluding references and format should be according to NeruIPS style file (e.g., given here https://www.overleaf.com/latex/templates/neurips-2022/kxymzbjpwsqx).

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