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Job Description – Senior Biostatistician

Location: Oxford, UK or Hørsholm, Denmark

Type: Full-time, permanent

Job Ref Nr: SYN-BS-01/20

Reporting To: Haja Kadarmideen, Chief Technology Officer

Synomics aims to transform the efficiency of the agri-food industry by improving animal and crop production efficiency, and the economics and sustainability of the entire production value chain for multiple species. Our platform is a revolutionary advance in the analysis of high-throughput genotypic, phenotypic, and environmental data to accurately measure and analyse protein production efficiency, health, accelerate genetic progress, and deliver more sustainable protein production from animals and plants. We're a small but rapidly growing AI enabled genomics, breeding and precision agriculture company with global ambition and partnerships with some of the largest international livestock breeding companies and research institutes.

We're located near Oxford, UK and in Hørsholm (near Copenhagen), Denmark and were founded by a diverse team of highly experienced animal production & health, genomics, breeding, bioinformatics, AI and computer science leaders.

We have a fantastic opportunity for Senior Biostatistician to join our team, reporting to our CTO, Professor Haja Kadarmideen. We are looking for someone who have extensive experience in the life sciences or agricultural areas, working with data analytical projects and analyzing large and comprehensive datasets on performance phenotype, health and genomics from both commercial environments and academic research. The ideal candidate will have educational qualifications in statistics or biostatistics, with strong expertise in biostatistical modelling and data analysis with the use of both standard statistical models as well as new computational tools such as AI/machine learning. Biostatistician is ideally comfortable working in agricultural industry and help other team members to innovate and potentially commercialise novel correlations within large and complex life science and animal phenotypic and genomic datasets.

You will furthermore be involved in close cooperation with quantitative geneticists, bioinformaticians, computational biologists and software engineers assisting with programming efforts, genomic and bioinformatics software tool development, data design and workflow management.

This is an exciting opportunity to help shape the direction of the business as a key member of the team and to help accelerate technology change, improve animal production, efficiency, welfare and reduce carbon emissions across a globally significant industry.

Responsibilities

- With statistical and data science tools, be responsible for the QA/QC, preparation, analysis and visualisation of datasets. It is expected that successful candidate will at least work in R environment but preferably also in Python.

- Support for writing statistical analysis plans, summarizing results in various reports, scientific presentations, and support to product defense.
- to provide expertise and guidance to quantitative geneticists, bioinformaticians, computational biologists and software engineers in the selection of methods for specific projects and products
- to contribute to the identification and/or development of new analytical methods for building best products in commercial environment and help in creating insight and value from complex datasets
- to use good communication of technical and analytical subjects between different specialities within the business, with outside partners and with customers
- to work with the Executive Team and others within the business to include new analytical methods in product roadmaps and subsequent development as required
- to bring best practice and methodologies to the QC of data and results
- to ensure IP opportunities arising from research are identified
- to act as an expert internally and externally in relation to the analysis of data using company products
- to write-up and publish new methods and results
- where appropriate, to provide mentorship and advise in (bio)statistics to the wider company

This job description is not exhaustive and will be subject to periodic review. It may be amended to meet the changing needs of the business

Key Requirements

- MS/MSc. or Ph.D. in statistics or biostatistics or a relevant technical field, or 3+ years' experience in a relevant role
- Experience in experimental design, (non)-linear models, multivariate / multi-trait analyses, Bayesian statistics, predictive modelling and expertise in modern visualization tools/methods for complex data visualisation in life or agricultural science areas.
- Familiarity with one or more of the following statistical software packages SAS, SPSS or Asreml or GENSTAT or similar
- Experience with Python, or R and/or C++ programming
- Experience in quality assessment/control, data clustering techniques and exploratory and meta-analyses
- Ability to develop algorithms for processing and statistical analyses in proof of concept and commercial projects
- Ability to solve analytical problems using quantitative approaches
- Knowledge with developing (in addition to applying) computational tools and algorithms in the fields of bioinformatics, machine learning, statistics or other related field

Key Attributes

- Good communication and presentation skills including in English (min. of equivalent of CEFR level C1)
- A strong passion for empirical research and for answering hard questions with data
- A willingness to dive deep, experiment rapidly and get things done
- Ability to work in a diverse team of geneticists, data scientists, bioinformaticians, breeding specialist, software / IT specialists and business support
- Confidence to make suggestions and influence change
- Ability to work well to deadlines, while paying attention to detail and accuracy
- Flexible approach to working
- A high degree of pragmatism in building the simplest thing that does the job; we want to use technology to solve real-world problems expediently
- Personal integrity and discretion

What We Offer

- Competitive salary with performance related bonuses
- Company pension scheme
- 25 days annual leave rising with long service
- Excellent career development opportunities in a fast-growing international organisation

Application Process

- Please submit cover letter, your CV, and publication list (if relevant) to jobs@synomics.ai
- Applications close on 27 April 2020
- This position is available for immediate start after interviews

Please mention the job reference number SYN-BS-01/20 in the cover letter and subject line of your email when applying.

Synomics is a collaboration between Wearsheaf Group Ltd and PrecisionLife Ltd. Wearsheaf Group directly operates, invests in and helps to develop businesses in the food and agriculture sectors. PrecisionLife is an AI enabled precision medicine company, which is ISO27001 accredited, committed to equal opportunities and operates a carbon neutral business. To learn more, visit:

<http://www.synomics.ai/>, <https://www.wearsheafgroup.com/> and <https://precisionlife.com/>

We follow the EU right to work employment checks and you will therefore need to satisfy basic eligibility criteria/certain conditions of employment (e.g. nationality rules/right to work in EU / UK); and provide appropriate original documentation to verify ID, nationality, employment and/or academic history.

Synomics is fully committed to equal opportunities.

Here's a link to our privacy policy- <http://www.synomics.ai/privacy-and-cookies-policy/>

In this policy, you will find information about our compliance with GDPR (data protection law.) You can find how to send us a request to let you access your data that we have collected, request us to delete your data, correct any inaccuracies or restrict our processing of your data. You have the right to lodge a complaint about the way we handle your data with supervisory authority or you can contact our DPO at GDPR@synomics.ai for more information or concerns. We process this data for recruitment purposes only. We store all candidate data in secured file with restricted access, and we will not share it with anyone else.