The Bonn-Aachen International Center for Information Technology at the University of Bonn invites applications for a

PhD Student (Doctoral Researcher) in NLP/ML for Research on Large Language Models

For doing cutting-edge research exploring **large language model capabilities** and improving their robustness, safety, explainability and controllability.
The position is foreseen to start in Fall 2023 for the duration of 3 years.

This exciting opportunity is a chance to work on robustness, safety and explainability in machine learning, applied to modern LLMs. You will be part of the Lamarr Institute for Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence, specifically the international research group Data Science and Language Technologies of **Prof. Dr. Lucie Flek** and Dr. Charles Welch, working in close collaboration with the **OpenGPT-X** initiative and the Fraunhofer Institute for Intelligent Analysis and Information Systems (IAIS), jointly driving research initiatives aiming to advance the state-of-the-art in the robustness, generalization and adaptation capabilities of LLMs, built in Europe. The appointment for this position is for 36 months at the E13 75% level, starting as soon as possible. The position assumes you will be eligible for moving to Bonn or a nearby German location. It is not possible to provide remote employment opportunities from abroad.

The University of Bonn with its 200-year history is one of only 11 German Universities of Excellence and the only German university with six Clusters of Excellence, producing more winners of the Nobel Prize and Fields Medal than any other German university. The Bonn-Aachen International Center for Information Technology and The Lamarr Institute are among Europe's leading institutions for cutting-edge research and education in informatics, developing high-performance, trustworthy, and resource-efficient applications of Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Your profile

You are self-motivated, reliable, creative, can work independently, can discuss/write/present scientific results in English, and want to do excellent research on challenging scientific problems with practical relevance. You have a strong background in Computer Science with a focus or demonstrable interest in Machine Learning or Natural Language Processing, and ideally made your first contributions to international NLP publications. Demonstrable excellent python programming skills, e.g. through previous projects, and knowledge of current neural network models and implementation tools for neural networks (e.g., PyTorch) are expected.

University of Bonn wishes our staff to reflect the diversity of society and thus welcomes applications from all qualified candidates from underrepresented groups.

Application procedure

Your application, in English, must be submitted electronically to **flek@bit.uni-bonn.de** and must include the following documents in PDF format:

- Motivated letter of application (max. one page)
- CV (including your publication list, if available)
- Outline of your research interests, proposed PhD topic area
- Diplomas and transcripts of records
- Reference contacts and recommendation letters (if available)

The first deadline for submitting the applications is **September 10th, 2023**, however, we accept applications for the position until filled with a qualified strong candidate.