PhD position at MaiNLP, CIS, LMU Munich

We have an opening for a PhD at the Center for Information and Language Processing (CIS) at MaiNLP lab, supervised by Prof. Dr. Barbara Plank and Prof. Dr. Lars Bülow.

Starting period: April 2026, Positions: full-time, Salary scale: TV-L E13

Application deadline: **February 6, 2026** (after that, the positions remain open until filled).

TOPIC

We are looking for a candidate interested in **language technology for Bavarian dialects**:

- Spoken language processing for low-resource languages (particularly Bavarian varieties)
- Creation of novel evaluation benchmarks for automatic speech translation and transcription for Bavarian dialect varieties, including on-site visits for data collection (supported by trained field workers)
- Deep evaluation of spoken language technology (based on linguistic insights and using methods from model analysis and interpretability)
- Taking an active part in engaging with citizens, dialect speakers and networks to showcase the research

The PhD is carried out in close collaboration with the Bayerischer Verein für Heimatpflege e.V.

CANDIDATES

The ideal PhD candidate has a master in computer science, language technology, computational linguistics/NLP or a related discipline. They have a strong interest in spoken language processing, machine learning, and regional language varieties, excellent mathematical and programming skills, are team players, and are fluent in English and German. Knowledge of Bavarian or other German dialects is considered an asset, but is not a prerequisite.

INSTITUTE

The CIS (Center for Information and Language Processing) is co-directed by Prof. Dr. Barbara Plank and Prof. Dr. Hinrich Schütze. It consists of a growing team of 20+ PhD students and researchers from 10+ nations. MaiNLP is a research lab at CIS, next to LMU's main university building. There are opportunities for engaging in teaching and in MSc/BSc supervision at CIS. The location of all project partners is within walking distance (Maxvorstadt, Munich).

APPLICATION

Please send CV, transcripts and a copy of your Master's thesis, names of two references, a motivation letter stating your research interests, and a max 1-page statement of purpose (research proposal) on the theme of *speech processing for dialectal data* to sekrki@cis.lmu.de, subject: "PhD application KI Rucksack, <your name>". Send all documents as a single PDF; give the PDF a name that includes your name.

In the course of your application, you will be required to submit personal information. By submitting your application, you confirm that you have read and understood the LMU Privacy Policy on data protection guidelines and privacy policy and that you agree to your data being processed in accordance with the selection process.