CANDIDATE BRIEF
Research Fellow in Distributed Systems and Optimisation Algorithms, Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences

Salary: Grade 7 (£33,797 - £40,322 p.a.) Due to funding restrictions an appointment will not be made above £35,845 p.a.
Reference: EPSCP1019
Closing date: 28 June 2020

Fixed-term for 36 months
We will consider flexible working arrangements
Research Fellow in Distributed Systems and Optimisation Algorithms
School of Computing

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Do you have a background in distributed systems and optimisation algorithms? Do you want to further your career in one of the UK’s leading research intensive Universities?

You will join our EPSRC-funded project “Algorithmic Support for Massive Scale Distributed Systems”. Your role will be interdisciplinary, linking theoretical and applied research of two project teams and collaborating with our industrial partners.

Holding a PhD in Computer Science, you will have a combination of applied and theoretical skills. The required areas of expertise are resource management for large-scale distributed systems, optimisation algorithms and machine learning.

What does the role entail?

As an interdisciplinary Research Fellow, your main duties will include:

- To work with and in support of the research grant to ensure the project is successfully completed;
- To generate and pursue independent and original research ideas on efficient management of massive scale distributing systems;
- To design and to implement the backbone of the main software product on resource management and task scheduling;
- To communicate with all members of the theoretical and applied teams and with project partners, developing systems models, bringing the findings together and incorporating them in the final software product;
- To attend and present work in group meetings to report progress, coordinate future implementation work and exchange data/experience;
- To ensure good progress is maintained and work is undertaken in a systematic way that is well documented;
- To evaluate the developed software in collaboration with the project partners, Alibaba Cloud Inc. and Edgetic Ltd.;
- To prepare papers for publication in leading international journals and to disseminate research results through other recognised forms of output;
• To work both independently and with two project teams;
• To take responsibility for the web activity of the project, including maintaining the project web site;
• To engage actively in knowledge-transfer activities;
• To maintain your own continuing professional development and to act as a mentor to less experienced colleagues as appropriate;
• To contribute to the training of both undergraduate and postgraduate students, including assisting with the supervision of projects in areas relevant to the project.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

**What will you bring to the role?**

As a Research Fellow you will have:
• A PhD (or close to completion) in Computer Science;
• A combination of applied and theoretical skills;
• A strong background in distributed systems, optimisation algorithms and machine learning;
• Strong software development skills;
• A track-record of high-quality peer-reviewed applications, commensurate with experience;
• The potential to develop new research themes;
• Excellent organisation skills, including the ability to prioritise tasks and to manage time effectively, responsibly and without close support;
• Excellent written and verbal communication skills including presentation skills and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
• Experience of preparing and delivering presentations at scientific conferences;
• A proven ability to work well both individually and in a team;
• Enthusiasm for all aspects of research and scholarship, including willingness to support activities beyond the project within the Distributed Systems and Services group and the Algorithms and Complexity group;
• A strong commitment to your own continuous professional development.
You may also have:
- Experience of supporting teaching at both postgraduate and undergraduate level.

**How to apply**

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by 23.59 (UK time) on the advertised [closing date](#).

**Contact information**

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

**Dr. Natasha Shakhlevich**, School of Computing  
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 5444  
Email: n.shakhlevich@leeds.ac.uk

**Professor Jie Xu**, School of Computing  
Tel: +44 (0)113 343 5193  
Email: j.xu@leeds.ac.uk

**Professor Vitaly Strusevich**, University of Greenwich  
Tel: +44 (0)208 331 8662  
Email: v.strusevich@greenwich.ac.uk

**Additional information**

**Faculty and School Information**  
Further information is available on the research and teaching activities of the [Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences](#) and the [School of Computing](#).

**A diverse workforce**  
The Schools in the Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences are proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN [Bronze or Silver](#) Award from the Equality Challenge Unit,
the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. Our equality and inclusion webpage provides more information.

**Working at Leeds**
Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our Working at Leeds information page.

**Candidates with disabilities**
Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our Accessibility information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.

**Criminal record information**

**Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any ‘unspent’ criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our Criminal Records information page.