



Job Description

This form summarises the purpose of the job and lists its key tasks. It is not a definitive list of all the tasks to be undertaken as those can be varied from time to time at the discretion of the School, in consultation with the postholder.

Job title: Research Officer in Economic Theory and AI Alignment

Department/Division: STICERD

Accountable to: Assistant Professor of Economics, Matthew Levy

Job Summary

The postholder will contribute to a research agenda on economic approaches to AI alignment, funded by a grant from the UK AI Safety Institute. The principal investigators are Dr Matthew Levy (LSE) and Professor Balazs Szentes (University of Hong Kong). The project develops theoretical frameworks using mechanism design and evolutionary game theory to analyse control of advanced AI systems, with a focus on multi-agent settings where AI systems interact with each other and with humans.

The postholder will work with the principal investigators to develop game-theoretic models, prove theoretical results, and write up findings for publication in peer-reviewed economics journals. The research extends economic theory to computational agents whose decision-making processes may be opaque to human principals. The role offers the opportunity to lead on academic papers and develop independent research within this emerging area. There are no teaching duties associated with this position.

Duties and Responsibilities

Range of Research Activities and Responsibilities

- Conducting research projects or programmes either independently or in a team.
- Demonstrating the ability to analyse and research complex ideas, concepts or theories and applying appropriate methodologies.
- Designing and conducting field-work.
- Contributing to the formulation of peer reviewed research grant proposals.
- Writing up research for publication in a variety of modes including peer reviewed journals.
- Initiating and sustaining links with external bodies to foster collaboration.
- Presenting research papers at conferences.
- Organising conferences, seminars and workshops.
- Contributing creative solutions to research challenges.

Activities relating to administration and management and/or School service may include:

- Playing a constructive role in the life of the Centre/Institute/Department.
- Managing the activities of research assistants on a day-to-day basis.

All of the above subject to the contractual obligations imposed by the external funding agency and with the agreement of the grant-holder, Principal Investigator and/or Head of Centre.



Flexibility

To deliver services effectively, a degree of flexibility may be required in the duties performed in order to meet the exigencies of service. Job roles may also naturally develop over time and ongoing substantial changes to a role will be discussed between line managers and their staff, with job descriptions updated as and when appropriate.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

LSE is committed to building a diverse, equitable and truly inclusive university. All posts (and post holders) will seek to ensure diversity and inclusion, while opposing all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation, or social and economic background.

Ethics Code

Posts (and post holders) are assumed to have a responsibility to act in accordance with the School's Ethics Code and to promote the principles and values that the Code enshrines. The Ethics Code clearly states that the whole LSE community, including all staff, students, and governors of LSE, are expected to act in accordance with the principles which are set out in the Code. As such you are required to read and familiarise yourself with it. The School's Effective Behaviours Framework is designed to support this Code. It sets out examples for the six behaviours that all staff are expected to demonstrate, these can be found on the following link: [click here](#)

Environmental Sustainability

The post holder is required to minimise environmental impact in the performance of the role, and actively contribute to the delivery of the LSE Environmental Policy.

Free Speech

[The Code of Practice on Free Speech](#) outlines the responsibilities of LSE to protect and promote freedom of speech and academic freedom within the law for students, faculty, staff, and visiting speakers. It applies to all activities on LSE premises and those conducted in the name of the School or LSE Students' Union at any location. The Code confirms that LSE does not take formal positions on political or international issues but provides a platform for critical debate within the law, taking account of the various legislative requirements and the context provided by policies and procedures. Procedures are set out in the Code on how events must be arranged and conducted.