

Notat til: Instituttleder møtet
Fra: Dahl
Om: Utlysning av stilling innen maskinlæring (Statistikk og Data Science)

Bakgrunn:

Maskinlæring og Data Science er felt med eksplosiv interesse, blant studenter, forskere og i næringslivet. Den store tilgangen på data, innen ulike felt, kombinert med bedre algoritmer og kraftigere datamaskiner har ført til at empirisk læring, å trekke ut kunnskap og innsikt fra data, blir anvendt på stadig nye problemstillinger.

MI og IFI har i samarbeid startet masterprogrammet i Data Science. Det foregår også et utstrakt forskningssamarbeid mellom MI og IFI innen Data Science og maskinlæring (f.eks innovasjonsklusteret DataScience@UiO). Gjennom den forrige akademia-avtalen med Statoil ble en stilling i maskinlæring opprettet ved IFI. I den nye akademia-avtalen med Equinor ønsker vi å opprette en tilsvarende stilling ved MI (seksjon for Statistikk og Data Science). Foruten å utføre forskning og undervisning innen maskinlæring, tenkes stillingen sammen med den nevnte stilling ved IFI å ha en brobyggerrolle mellom de ulike forskningsmiljøer ved IFI og MI.

Stillingen inngår i instituttets strategiske plan for satsing på Data Science (inkludert maskinlæring). Det vil være naturlig at denne stillingen også går inn i de planer som legges for Data Science og Computational Science ved fakultetet. Stillingen vil være finansiert gjennom akademia-avtalen frem til og med 2023, deretter av MI.

Det er identifisert aktuelle kandidater av begge kjønn som aktuelle søkere til stillingen både lokalt, nasjonalt og internasjonalt.

Letekomite vil bli opprettet.

The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest rated institution of research and education with about 28 000 students and 7000 employees. Its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally esteemed research communities make UiO an important contributor to society.

The Department of Mathematics is part of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. The Department is engaged in research covering a wide spectrum of subjects within mathematics, mechanics and statistics.

Department of Mathematics

Associate Professor in Statistics and Data Science (Machine learning)

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Oslo invites applications for an Associate Professorship in Statistics and Data Science **with a focus on machine learning**.

The position is affiliated to the Section for Statistics and Data Science. We seek a dynamic, innovative researcher and dedicated person who meets the required qualifications for an associate professorship in statistics and Data Science, with a scientific profile towards machine learning. The new appointee is expected to take part in emerging research and education in Data Science at UiO.

The section currently has 9 full-time academic positions, 6 adjunct positions, 2 postdocs and 15 PhD students. Statistics at the University of Oslo is internationally recognized, with interests spanning a broad range of areas within theoretical statistics and machine learning (including high-dimensional and big data, nonparametric inference, algorithmic methods, Bayesian inference, statistical computing, model selection, time-to-event models, space-time models and data integration) and applications (e.g. genomics, sensor data, anomaly and fault detection, text processing) with numerous collaborations with leading research groups nationally and internationally. The section also has a major role in BigInsight, a consortium of academic, industrial and public partners, funded for eight years starting from 2015. The section is furthermore involved in several other cross disciplinary centers. These involvements are central activities of the research group, and represent abundant opportunities for PhD grants, seminar series, visitor programs, travel funding, and research activities in general.

The section aims at maintaining its role as an outstanding core group for methodological statistics and Data Science, in good contact with various fields of applications. The section has a major role in a new master program in Data Science. This program, which is a collaboration with the Department of Informatics, focuses on methodological aspects of Data Science, bridging statistics and machine learning.

General information about the position:

The Associate Professor is expected to actively take part in the section for Statistics and Data Science as well as in the larger Data Science community at the University of Oslo.

The successful applicant must be able to teach at all levels and to supervise Master and PhD students. 50% of the working time will be devoted to teaching, teaching related activities and administrative duties.

For more details, please see Rules for Appointments to Professorships and Associate Professorships.

The position will involve administrative duties according to current regulations by the Department and the Faculty.

Qualification requirements

Primary assessment criteria are

- To qualify for an appointment as Associate Professor the applicant must have completed a PhD in statistics (or in an other relevant field).
- Preference will be given to a candidate with a profile on statistical aspects of machine learning. Algorithm and software development will also be valued.
- A scientific track record that confirms the candidate's capacity to address relevant and challenging issues. The main emphasis will be placed on documented scientific qualifications.
- Main emphasis will be put on the candidate's scientific production from the last five years.
- A research statement where the candidate puts focus on the scientific novelty of his/her work, approaches and plans, as well as potential synergies and collaborations within the Section for Statistics and Data Science will be positively evaluated. This statement should be part of the application letter (see below). The scientific potential of the candidate, as shown by her/his publications as well as the research plan will be valued.
- Candidates should be able to establish, lead, conduct and collaborate in research projects. A track record in academic and administrative leadership is an advantage, as well as participation in the acquisition of research grants.
- Further, international network, pedagogical qualifications and experience, outreach activities and the ability to create a good working environment will be part of the evaluation criteria.

We offer

- salary NOK ? -? per annum depending on qualifications in position as Associate professor (position code 1011)
- a professionally stimulating working environment
- attractive welfare benefits and a generous pension agreement, in addition to Oslo's family-friendly environment with its rich opportunities for culture and outdoor activities
- the opportunity to apply for promotion to full professorship at a later stage

How to apply

The application must include:

- Application letter (statement of motivation, summarizing scientific work and research interest)
- A summary of up to 5 selected papers describing their significance and impact. PDF of these publications must be provided.
- CV (summarizing education, positions, pedagogical experience, external funding, administrative experience and other qualifying activity)
- Copies of educational certificates and university transcripts
- A complete list of publications
- Names and contact details of 2-3 references (name, relation to candidate, e-mail and telephone number)

The application with attachments must be delivered through our electronic recruiting system. Please note that all documents should be in English.

Interviews will be part of the appointment process, along with a trial lecture.

Formal regulations

The successful candidate who at the time of appointment cannot [document basic teaching qualifications](#) will be required to obtain such qualifications within a two-year period.

The successful candidate must demonstrate mastery of both English and one of the Scandinavian languages as working languages. If an appointee is not fluent in a Scandinavian language, the appointee will be expected within a two-year period to learn sufficient Norwegian to be able to participate actively in all functions the position may involve.

Please see the [rules](#) for Appointments to Professorships and Associate Professorships and Rules for the assessment and weighting of pedagogical competence.

According to the Norwegian Freedom and Information Act (Offentleglova) information about the applicant may be included in the public applicant list, also in cases where the applicant has requested non-disclosure.

The University of Oslo has an [agreement](#) for all employees, aiming to secure rights to research results etc.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

Contact information:

Section leader Professor Sven Ove Samuelsen, +47 228 55861, osamuels@math.uio.no

For technical questions about the recruitment system, please contact HR-Officer Ørjan Pretorius, +47 22856349, orjan.pretorius@mn.uio.no

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