



Cambridge Centre for Data-Driven Discovery

Computational Biology

Call for Summer Research Projects for the University of Cambridge MPhil in Computational Biology

Opening Date: 1st December 2023

Closing Date: 15th February 2024

Course Directors:

Prof Stephen Eglén, Computational Neuroscientist based in the Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics

Prof Gos Micklem, Professor of Computational and Molecular Biology in the Department of Genetics (currently on sabbatical)

Proposals are invited for research projects from partners in industry or education, to be undertaken between May - August 2024. Students must undertake a research project from 13th May, producing a project report and presenting their research in mid-August, which form an assessed component of their course.

We would like to keep details of your proposed research project on file and we would be very grateful if you could complete the following details and return this form to us.

Supervisor name and contact email:

Organisation:

Please read the Project Guidelines, Requirements and Timescales overleaf and include a brief description of the type of project you wish the student to undertake
(*Please use a separate sheet if desired*)

We have students with first degrees in a variety of subjects (i.e. mathematics, computing, biological sciences and engineering). Do you have a preference for a student from a particular background?

Are there any specific skills (i.e. knowledge of specific computing packages) which are essential/desirable for a student undertaking this project?

Please give the name and contact details of the person (if different from the above) who would liaise with students undertaking research.

Brief Outline of Project area, including aims and expectations

Project Guidelines, Requirements, Timescales and Assessment

- ❖ Project proposals should be submitted using the template. Projects should be achievable within the timeframe, with sufficient data available.
- ❖ Project proposals will be subject to approval by the Course Directors prior to the student deadline to confirm their Supervisor at the start of Easter Term.
- ❖ Project Supervisors from the partner organisation may have a co-supervisor, such as a Senior Postdoc, for weekly 'light touch' supervision. The responsibility for the Project and assessment of the Project Report will remain with the Senior Supervisor, who is usually the Lab Head.
- ❖ Students may select a project of their choice from approved project outlines. Alternatively, they may liaise with partner organisations on their own proposal, which must be submitted for approval before the closing date. Students are responsible for making contact with potential supervisors.
- ❖ Students undertake their research project between 13th May and mid-August 2024. They manage their own time and have to fit the project around other academic commitments. Consequently, there may be periods during the first four weeks when the student is working on coursework towards a deadline
- ❖ On completion, the students submit a project report, maximum 15,000 words and give a project presentation to fellow students and academic staff. By submitting a proposal, you agree to assess the student's project report within the grading window 8th - 12th August and to be available for feedback as part of marking consolidation, if necessary, on 13th August.
- ❖ No funding is needed as the external project is an assessed and mandatory part of the student's course. Partner organisations may be required to cover incidental costs where applicable. Students who undertake research projects outside of Cambridge will be expected to meet any additional costs themselves, unless arrangements can be made with the host organisation.

Terms and Conditions

- ❖ By submitting a proposal and indicating you have read the Project Guidelines and Requirements, you indicate your organisation's consent to the University's standard project Terms and Conditions for University of Cambridge projects (available on request).
- ❖ We advise that supervisors strongly consider the nature of the research environment when providing background information for projects that may be of a confidential or sensitive nature.
- ❖ Projects are to be considered academic in nature and any inventions or other intellectual property generated by a given project will be wholly owned by the student. External partners shall be given the results of a project for internal research purposes only, the acquisition of any other intellectual property rights by a sponsor organisation shall be at the discretion of the student.
- ❖ The University is unable to provide measures to protect students exposed to sensitive information. Students should not be required to sign 'non-disclosure' agreements (NDAs) with organisations in order to carry out research projects. The University will not allow students to undertake personal exposure to commercial liability while working on the projects

Please sign to confirm you have read the Project Guidelines and Requirements set out above and can accommodate the expectations and timescales outlined

completed forms to be returned to the Centre for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge compbiomphil@maths.cam.ac.uk no later than 15th February 2024