

Job Title: Data Scientist (Knowledge Transfer Partnership)

Grade: KTP

Salary: £37,000 to £39,000 per annum + £2,000 training package per annum

Department: School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

Hours/Contract: Full time, fixed term contract for 24 months from September 2025

Job Family: Teaching and Research

Reference: 11862

Role Purpose

As a KTP Associate, you will be at the forefront of a unique academic-commercial partnership between the University of Leicester and rradar. This collaboration aims to develop an innovative SaaS system that automatically identifies and quantifies risk scenarios in businesses, targeting applications across business insurance brokering, compliance, and risk management.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

Research and Innovation

Design and implement models for a knowledge graph as part of an R&D team. Research methods and techniques for populating the knowledge graph. Develop models or algorithms to facilitate risk identification and assessment. Evaluate and verify the accuracy and effectiveness of the model and associated methodologies. Design and implement a proof-of-concept prototype to demonstrate the capabilities of the proposed system.

Impact and Knowledge Exchange

Manage a key, strategic project within rradar Ltd (with support from academic and company supervisors), ensuring that all defined targets and outputs are met within the timeframe. Facilitate the transfer of knowledge between the University of Leicester and rradar Ltd. Engage with other employees and engineers to ensure that the knowledge transferred is properly embedded and exploited. Prepare and present progress reports at project team meetings. Represent the partnership at conferences and exhibitions. Take part in training and development activities.

Internal and External Relationships

You will be based at the premises of rradar Ltd in Leicester. You will be directly supervised by a Company Supervisor on a daily basis and will also receive mentoring from an Academic Supervisor as required by the post. You will be responsible for ensuring that appropriate information exchange is maintained between the company and academic partner.

Planning and Organising

You will be working to the high-level workplan agreed with the funder from which you will develop a detailed action plan (with activities, outputs, Gantt chart, resource planning, risk assessment etc), adapting it as the project progresses.

You will formally report progress against (and variations from) this plan every 4 months at a Project Board meeting of the partners.





Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

Essential

- PhD in Computer Science, Data Science, Mathematics, Engineering or similar*
- Programming proficiency in Java, (or Python)*
- Good understanding of ML techniques and algorithms*
- Good understanding of knowledge representation and graph models
- Understanding of insurance industry relevant to Risk Compliance Management.
- Demonstrated experience in managing projects from initiation to completion, ensuring deadlines, budgets, and quality standards are met*

Skills, Abilities and Competencies

Essential

- Proactive and self-motivated, with the ability to work independently and take initiative
- Machine Learning techniques.
- Proficiency in Python or Java programming.
- Excellent written and spoken English communication skills.
- Ability to communicate with a range of stakeholders with different levels of technical knowledge.
- Can demonstrate a deep enthusiasm for learning and experimenting with knowledge management systems/ data science and machine learning.
- Good understanding of object-oriented design principles.
- Able to present data in an easy-to-understand format which can be used to gain deeper insights into the topic of enquiry.
- Ability to work as part of team but also be "Autonomous" when required.

Desirable

- Understanding of insurance industry relevant to risk management
- Project management and business acumen.
- Working in a finance business environment, particularly one involving quantitative risk management.
- Understanding of graphs and graph transformations.
- Experience working with knowledge graphs, fine-tuning and adapting large pre-trained language models (LLMs) for domain-specific use cases
- Knowledge or hands-on experience with Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) architectures and frameworks.
- Ability to work within a diverse development team comprising of academics and industrial partners and the wherewithal to impart new knowledge to the company team, embedding it through paired working, training and relevant 'how to' documents.
- Customer liaison skills.

****Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***





Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

University Values

Inclusive - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

Inspiring - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

Impactful - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

