



Job title	Research Associate/Fellow	Job family and level	Research and Teaching Level 4 Training Grade/Level 4
School/ Department	Horizon, Computer Science	Location	Jubilee Campus

## Purpose of role

We seek a talented researcher with a background in Natural Language Processing or Computational Linguistics to conduct research on the public perception of Autonomous Systems. This is an exciting opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary national research hub on Trustworthy Autonomous Systems, funded by UKRI until 2024 ([www.tas.ac.uk](http://www.tas.ac.uk)), working with experts in Computer Science, Engineering, Policy, Medicine & Health, Sociology and Psychology<sup>1</sup>. The role holder will work alongside interdisciplinary researchers in Horizon DER ([www.horizon.ac.uk](http://www.horizon.ac.uk)) and the Mixed Reality Lab in the School of Computer Science at the University of Nottingham.

The candidate will have experience in Natural Language Processing or Computational Linguistics to develop, conduct and present sentiment analysis of social media and news content online. Experience in evaluative methods such as user studies, surveys, interviews and focus groups and a demonstrable interest in autonomous systems would be a welcome addition. Furthermore, experience in HCI or human-centred design, and/or experience in building interactive dialogue systems would set the candidate apart.

The post holder will be expected to undertake independent research as well as working as part of a team - this will include using approaches or methodologies and techniques appropriate to the type of research, and being responsible for writing up their work in order to contribute to published outcomes.

The role holder will have the opportunity to use their initiative and creativity to identify areas for research, develop research methods and extend their research portfolio.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	To plan and conduct research using recognised approaches, methodologies and techniques within the research area.	50%
2	To analyse and illuminate data, interpret reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights to research area.	10%
3	To contribute to writing up research findings for publication.	15%
4	To assist with the preparations, proposals and applications to both external and/or internal bodies for funding, contractual or accreditation purposes.	5%

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/news/nottingham-experts-join-drive-to-develop-trustworthy-autonomous-systems>

5	Public and community awareness to bring our research to a wide audience.	5%
6	To co-ordinate the operational aspects required for the TAS hub	5%
7	To assist in supervision of postgraduate and undergraduate students.	5%
8	To plan and manage own research activity and resolve problems, if required, in meeting own/team research objectives and deadlines in collaboration with others.	5%

## Person specification

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
<b>Skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Natural Language Processing or Computational Linguistics</li> <li>▪ Excellent oral and written communication skills, including the ability to communicate with clarity on complex information</li> <li>▪ Developing research skills, with the ability to creatively apply relevant research approaches, models, techniques and methods</li> <li>▪ Analytical ability to facilitate conceptual thinking, innovation and creativity</li> <li>▪ Ability to build relationships and collaborate with others, internally and externally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Social media/news sentiment analysis</li> <li>▪ Evaluative methods, e.g. user studies, surveys, interviews, focus groups</li> <li>▪ Ability to assess and organise resource requirements and deploy effectively</li> <li>▪ Ability to foster a research culture and commitment to learn in others</li> <li>▪ High analytical ability to analyse and illuminate data, interprets reports, evaluate and criticise texts and bring new insights</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge and experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ NLP/CL application experience</li> <li>▪ Evidence of sufficient breadth or depth of research methodologies and techniques to work in research area</li> <li>▪ Some practical experience of applying the specialist skills approaches and techniques required for the role</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Social media/news sentiment analysis</li> <li>▪ Demonstrable interest in autonomous systems</li> <li>▪ HCI or human-centred design</li> <li>▪ Dialogue systems design</li> <li>▪ Experience of working within diverse teams</li> </ul>
<b>Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Degree, or equivalent in relevant subject area</li> <li>▪ PhD (or studying towards) in relevant subject area or substantial practical computing experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Master's Degree, or equivalent in relevant subject area</li> </ul>



The University of Nottingham is focused on embedding equality, diversity and inclusion in all that we do. As part of this, we welcome a diverse population to join our work force and therefore encourage applicants from all communities, particularly those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010.

## Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

<b>Valuing people</b>	Is friendly, engaging and receptive, putting others at ease. Actively listens to others and goes out of way to ensure people feel valued, developed and supported.
<b>Taking ownership</b>	Is clear on what needs to be done encouraging others to take ownership. Takes action when required, being mindful of important aspects such as Health & Safety, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and other considerations.
<b>Forward thinking</b>	Drives the development, sharing and implementation of new ideas and improvements to support strategic objectives. Engages others in the improvement process.
<b>Professional pride</b>	Is professional in approach and style, setting an example to others; strives to demonstrate excellence through development of self, others and effective working practices.
<b>Always inclusive</b>	Builds effective working relationships, recognising and including the contribution of others; promotes inclusion and inclusive practices within own work area.

## Key relationships with others



