



**University of Stuttgart**  
Institute for  
Natural Language Processing

## Open Position for one PhD student or Postdoc in Argument Mining and Emotion Analysis

### About University of Stuttgart

The University of Stuttgart represents outstanding, world-renowned research and first-class teaching in one of Europe's most dynamic industrial regions. As a reliable employer, the university supports and promotes the academic careers of its researchers. It is proud of its employees, who currently come from over 100 different countries. The university is a partner for knowledge and technology transfer and focuses on multidisciplinary.

### Application Deadline

- May 10, 2023
- We plan to interview mid of May, 2023
- Intended start of the project: August or September 1, 2023.

### About Us

The [Institute for Natural Language Processing](#), which is part of the Faculty of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, is one of the largest academic research institutes for natural language processing in Germany, with three full professors, an assistant professor, three senior lecturers, and several junior research groups. Its activities range from computational corpus linguistics to semantic processing, deep learning, machine translation, psycholinguistics, and phonetics, and hosts several projects funded by the European Commission (EC), the German Research Foundation (DFG), the German Ministry for Research and Education (BMBF), and various foundations. The institute manages dedicated BSc and MSc programs in Computational Linguistics.

The group on [Information Extraction and Interpretation](#) which is part of the [Chair for Theoretical Computational Linguistics](#), headed by [Roman Klinger](#) performs research on emotion and sentiment analysis, social media mining, fact checking, information extraction, and conditional language generation. The project is co-lead by Steffen Eger who works with another PhD student at the University of Bielefeld.

The city of Stuttgart is the capital of the state of Baden-Württemberg in southwest Germany. It is a lively and international city, known for its strong economy and rich culture.

With Germany's high-speed train system, it is well-connected to many other interesting places, for instance, Munich and Cologne (~2 hours), Paris (~3 hours), Berlin (~5.5 hours), Strasbourg (<1.5 hours), and Lake of Constance (~2.5 hours).

## Your Tasks

You will work in the project The Interplay of Emotions and Convincingness in Argument Mining for NLP (EMCONA) in which we study how people use emotions to make their argument convincing and what the effect is on the reader of arguments. Therefore, the project brings together natural language processing with emotion analysis and theories as well as argument mining.

The tasks of the successful candidate include the administration of an annotation effort, in which convincingness and various emotion attributes are annotated in a crowdsourcing setting. Based on this novel resource, the candidate will develop predictors for the emotional impact of arguments in combination with a convincingness estimators.

## Your Profile

Essential are the following skills:

- Knowledge and previous experience in natural language processing
- Strong programming skills
- Experience with machine learning, particularly with building deep learning models

The ideal candidate should further have experience in a subset of the following things:

- Experience in the analysis of social media mining
- Experience with emotion analysis, argument mining, or both
- Administering an annotation project via crowdsourcing
- Textual corpus analysis

Further requirements are:

- Master's degree in computational linguistics or computer science, or related fields
- knowledge of natural language processing (NLP) / computational linguistics (CL)
- strong programming skills
- excellent communication skills and interest in interdisciplinary work
- proficiency in English (knowledge of German is not required)

## Our Benefits

We provide you with a friendly, but challenging interdisciplinary research environment and support your academic career towards accomplishing your Ph.D. in a prestigious research group. We will support you to develop yourself towards an independent researcher.

The salary amounts to German TV-L E 13, which starts at approx. 50,000 Euro income per year (before taxation). For tax class 1, net income is approximately 32,000 Euro (depends on personal situation). The net median income in Stuttgart is 29480 Euro.

## Employment and compensation information

- Maximal Funding Period or Duration of Employment: 3 years
- Type of Funding: Position as Employee at the University of Stuttgart
- Compensation: EG TV-L 13
- Percentage of weekly working hours (usually 39.5h = 100%): 100%
- Location: Stuttgart, Campus Vaihingen

## How to apply

Please apply by sending one PDF file which contains both a motivation letter and your CV by email. You can also apply via the Uni Stuttgart Careers website.

- Application by email: [roman.klinger@ims.uni-stuttgart.de](mailto:roman.klinger@ims.uni-stuttgart.de)
- [Careers website](#)

## Contact Details

- Contact person: Roman Klinger
- Mail: [roman.klinger@ims.uni-stuttgart.de](mailto:roman.klinger@ims.uni-stuttgart.de)
- Phone: +49 711 685 81406
- Website: <https://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/>

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At the University of Stuttgart, we actively promote diversity among our employees. We have set ourselves the goal of recruiting more female scientists and employing more people with an international background, as well as people with disabilities. We are therefore particularly pleased to receive applications from such people. Regardless, we welcome any good application.

Women who apply will be given preferential consideration in areas in which they are underrepresented, provided they have the same aptitude, qualifications and professional performance. Severely disabled applicants with equal qualifications will be given priority.

As a certified family-friendly university, we support the compatibility of work and family, and of professional and private life in general, through various flexible modules. We have an employee health management system that has won several awards and offer our employees a wide range of continuing education programs. We are consistently improving our accessibility. Our Welcome Center helps international scientists get started in Stuttgart. We support partners of new professors and managers with a dual-career program.

Information in accordance with Article 13 DS-GVO on the processing of applicant data can be found at [https://careers.uni-stuttgart.de/content/privacy-policy/?locale=en\\_US](https://careers.uni-stuttgart.de/content/privacy-policy/?locale=en_US).