Privacy Tools for Sharing Research Hiring Summer Interns


The multidisciplinary research project, Privacy Tools for Sharing Research Data [http://Privacytools.seas.harvard.edu](http://Privacytools.seas.harvard.edu), is looking for interns to join us at Harvard this summer: Although the site says the deadline has passed, it is still accepting applications. Also send a message notifying us of your application to privacytools-info@seas.harvard.edu Despite what the REU website says, non-US citizens/Permanent Residents should still feel free to apply. Again, email a note to privacytools-info@seas.harvard.edu

Undergraduates should apply to our REU program at [http://www.seas.harvard.edu/k-12-community-programs/reu](http://www.seas.harvard.edu/k-12-community-programs/reu) ASAP.

Others (such as potential law interns, graduate students, postdocs, and visiting scholars interested in short or long-term opportunities) should email a cover letter, CV, and contact information for 2-3 references to privacytools-info@seas.harvard.edu as soon as possible.

PTP is working on ways for scientists to share research data for producing replicable, open science, without compromising the privacy of the individual research subjects whose data is used. Students last summer wrote or contributed to publishable research papers in this fast-moving field, and we expect the same this year.

The work across the different projects includes elements such as:
- **Theory**: proving mathematical theorems about what is achievable in the framework of “differential privacy,” which is a very active area of research in theoretical computer science and other fields,
- **Experimental algorithms**: implementing, optimizing, and testing algorithms that perform useful data analysis tasks and satisfy “differential privacy” or other privacy metrics,
- **Empirical research**: surveying social science datasets and analysis methods to determine the fit with different privacy technologies,
- **Software development**: including for statistics, user interfaces, and data visualization.
- **Programming languages and computer security**: design and implement programming language tools to ensure differential privacy and combine it with other computer security models.
- **Law**: develop legal instruments and policy recommendations that complement new privacy-preserving technologies.
- **Interdisciplinary interaction**: collaborating with computer scientists, social scientists, lawyers, and statisticians.
Useful background includes any of the following:
Theoretical computer science, especially algorithms
Data science, e.g. statistics and/or machine learning
Programming (in R, Java, Scala, Python, Javascript, or D3)
Quantitative analysis of social science data, especially regression ("least squares", or OLS)
User interfaces and user experience testing
Programming language design and implementation
Law, especially privacy law

Regards,
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