UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

2023 UvA Data Science Centre Accelerate Programme
Matching for Data Scientists and Data Engineers

Introduction
The UvA Data Science Centre (DSC) aims to accelerate data driven research within the University of Amsterdam, to strengthen data science expertise across all faculties of UvA, and promote cross-disciplinary collaboration and sharing of knowledge among the data science community at UvA.

One of the mechanisms by which the DSC achieves this is through the Accelerate programme. The Accelerate programme stimulates the hiring of data scientists and data engineers within faculties through the provision of matching funding. This funding helps support the costs of hiring a new or existing staff member in these roles. Staff members hired through the Accelerate programme automatically become Affiliate members of the DSC. This means becoming a part of an interdisciplinary community of like-minded data scientists and engineers across UvA faculties, and having access to opportunities that will further data driven research and data science careers such as specialised training and workshops.

Since its launch in 2021, the Accelerate programme has led to the successful hiring of the equivalent of 18 FTE data scientists and engineers across a range of UvA faculties.

For more background about the DSC, visit our website: www.dsc.uva.nl

Online information session (via Zoom)
13:00 – 14:00 CET, Monday 28 November 2022

Zoom meeting URL:	https://uva-live.zoom.us/j/81456261452
Meeting ID:	814 5626 1452

Due date
By 17:00, Friday 24 February 2023

How to apply
To apply for the Accelerate programme please fill out the following form and return as a pdf to dsc@uva.nl. The subject line of the email should be: *DSC 2023 Matching Proposal*.

See the appendix for funding parameters. For more information or questions about the Accelerate programme, contact dsc@uva.nl.

How to apply – FMG applications
The FMG application will be coordinated with the new faculty RPA on Social and Behavioural Data Science. Individual FMG researchers interested in participating may contact their SoBe DSC coordinator.

Testimonials from our Accelerate programme recipients

"I am really happy to be part of the Data Science Centre. For instance, in September the Data Science Centre hosted a two-day hackathon in Zaandam – and those were two days of good fun. It is inspiring to see how scientists from different faculties and institutes within the University of Amsterdam use data science for their projects (from automatically detecting tiny eggs in microscope images to analysing Twitter data on air travel and climate). It is also a great way to interact with like-minded people and learn new skills. I also appreciate the possibility to attend workshops and work together on Fridays."
- Dr. Susan Vermeer, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences

"The Accelerate program provides great opportunities for scientists in any field to delve into more advanced computation methodology. Accelerate program funding has allowed me to focus on diversifying my skillset as a data scientist. Being a DSC member allows me to encounter interesting problems from different fields."
- Dr. Julian Evans, Data Scientist at the Faculty of Science

"I very much enjoyed the Friday Coffee & Data sessions organised by the Data Science Centre. It was amazing to see how big a role data science plays in so many projects around Faculties. I appreciate all the effort the DSC puts in to bring people together – it does really feel like a community because of it."
- Dr. Tessa Blanken, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences

Contact Information

Faculty/Department(s):
Which faculty and department(s) is this application part of.

Primary applicant:
Please indicate the name, title, position, email address of the primary applicant. This is the contact point for the proposal.

Co-applicants:
Please indicate the name, title, position, email address of any co-applicants.

Faculty member and Faculty support:
Please indicate the names, titles, positions and email addresses of faculty members that support this.

Approval by Institute Director:
Please indicate the name and role of the institute director that has approved the submission of the proposal.

Proposal

Positioning of the New or Existing Staff Member (max 500 words)
Please describe the organizational embedding of the staff member and relation to any ongoing projects or initiatives (external/internal). How does this relate to the faculty's strategy? How will the embedding encourage diversity?

Envisioned Projects (max 500 words)
Please describe the kinds of projects that the staff member would work on. What would be the added value of the data scientist / engineer to these projects? What research could you potentially do that was not possible before? Will having this staff member support existing funding streams or enhance the acquisition of new funding?

Work with DSC (250 words)
The DSC relies on active member participation and continuous sharing of ideas within the community. We ask that all DSC-affiliated data scientists and engineers play an active role in the community, and work at the DSC/attend a scheduled DSC activity at least once a week.

How does the staff member intend to contribute to and participate in the DSC? How would the interaction with the DSC enhance the research activities that the staff member is involved with?

Outcomes
List potential research outcomes (papers, software, datasets, etc.) in the next two years that would be made possible through this matching.

References
List references cited in the proposal.

Administrative Details

Role (data scientist / data engineer)
Please indicate the role of the staff member (data scientist / data engineer) and the intended UFO function profile. Scales up to 12 and Profiles in Research and ICT are indicative, but this is flexible.

Length of employment
Indicate whether the position is temporary or permanent. If temporary, how long would the staff member be employed for?

Start Date
When is the envisioned start date of the staff member?

Requested matching
Matching is on a percentage basis every year until 2024 with a maximum amount of matching per year on a percentage basis. This maximum percentage is:

2023	2024
40 %	20 %

Appendix

Evaluation Criteria

- Relevance to overall faculty strategy
- Novelty of research
- Clarity of organizational embedding
- Duration of commitment
- Potential added value of the DSC to the position

Funding Parameters

Matching funding is provided before the appointment/hiring of the staff member. Hiring/appointment needs to be done with the involvement of the DSC coordination team or delegate (e.g. by being on the hiring committee). Staff members funded in part by DSC matching funds become DSC Affiliated – meaning that they will work at the DSC/attend a scheduled DSC activity at least once a week. Research (e.g. publications, software, data) involving DSC Affiliated Staff are required to acknowledge the DSC and be reported to the DSC.

Number of Positions Per Faculty

The DSC will not allocate a set number of slots per faculty this year. Furthermore, we welcome applications from both new and existing staff members, previous applicants, and for permanent and temporary contracts.

Definitions of Data Scientist and Data Engineer

from EU-EDISON Data Science Framework (UvA et. al. 2017).

Data Science Engineering	**Data Science Analytics**
Data engineer	Data scientist
Use engineering principles to research, design, develop and implement new instruments and applications for data collection, analysis and management.	Use appropriate statistical techniques and predictive analytics on available data to deliver insights and discover new relations.