TEXAS

UT Austin-Amazon Science Hub
Call for Research Proposals
2023 Cycle

amazon

In the 2023-24 cycle, UT Austin-Amazon Science Hub seeks proposals for gift-funded research projects for both fundamental and application-specific concepts in the following areas:

- » AI for natural language modeling (including via generative models)
- » Multi-modal representation learning (including unsupervised and semi-supervised approaches)
- » Video search
- » Incremental training and lifelong learning
- » Data quality, transfer learning, distribution shifts, and generalization of large models
- » Efficient training of foundation models (video, image, text)
- » Optimizing large models for inference

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

- » Prepare proposal using the template provided.
- » **Email proposal to:** amazonsciencehub@utexas.edu before the deadline.
- » **Deadline for Submission: <u>10 p.m. Central, May 8, 2023.</u>**

SELECTION:

The UT Austin-Amazon Science Hub board of advisors will select the recipients of the research grants in consultation with Amazon business units.

- » Recipients will be announced by July 1, 2023.
- » We anticipate two awards of $75,000 each in this initial annual cycle.
- » Duration is one year and target start date for projects is the beginning of fall 2023 semester.
- » PI recipients will have the opportunity to connect with Amazon engineering/science teams.

Call for Research Proposal - Template

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS
» **Length:** Proposals should be two pages, not including the required appendices below.
» **Formatting:** 11-point with commonly used legible font (e.g. Calibri, Times New Roman, or Arial); 1-inch margins on all sides.
» **Final document:** Submit as a single PDF or Microsoft Word document (*.docx) and send to **amazonsciencehub@utexas.edu**
» If you have been funded directly or indirectly by Amazon in the last three years, please include Appendix C.
» No other material should be attached to the proposal.

PROJECT INFORMATION REQUIRED
» **Project title**
» **PI:** Name, title, department name, university name
» **Co-PI:** Name, title, department name, university name
» **Student/other personnel:** name, M.S./Ph.D. program, estimated graduation year, department name, university name
» **Requested itemized budget:**
» **Amazon collaborators (optional):** Amazon contact name, business, email

Abstract – This section should provide an overview of the project.

Keywords – Identify two keywords that characterize the project.

Amazon Domains – Identify the topics most aligned with the targeted domains mentioned in the Amazon Call for Research Proposals, e.g., video search, NLP, robotics, computer vision, AI, and machine learning.

Introduction & Background
Significance of the research and prior work.

Methods
Your technical approach, which should address how your work aligns with Amazon's interests as well as its intellectual merit, potential for social and economic impact, and overall probability of success.

Expected Outcomes

- Significance of the expected scientific advance if successful.
- Do you intend to open source the results of the research? If yes, under what license?
- Will this research build on or pull in an existing public dataset? If so, please include more information/a link.
- Is a dataset one of the intended research outcomes?

Funds needed
Please provide a brief justification supporting the funding amount requested. This is an unrestricted gift, please do not include any indirect costs.

Appendix A – Reference (does not count toward page limit)
Limit one page.

Appendix B – CV of PI (does not count toward page limit)
One-page CV of PI (professional title, experience, etc.), only to include the five or six most relevant papers to this proposal. One-page CV of Co-PI (optional).

Appendix C – Previously Funded Project Summary (does not count toward page limit)
If you or someone on your project team has received cash funding directly or indirectly from Amazon within the past 3 years, please answer the questions below. (Include funding from Amazon through your institution.)

PROJECT TITLE:
» Funding amount and time:
» Funding source:
» Who was this funding for?
» If AWS Promotional Credits were provided, how much is left?
» Please provide a brief summary of the results, papers, and open-source software enabled: