Position Offered: PREDOCTORAL RESEARCHER

Project: Development and application of virtual environments in sensory and consumer analysis

Technological and scientific fields: Virtual and Augmented Reality, Biometrics, Sensory and Consumer Science

Location: Madrid, Madrid, ICTAN, https://www.ictan.csic.es

Research Group/PI: DIGISEN, Gonzalo Delgado Pando, https://www.ictan.csic.es/grupos-de-investigacion/tecnologias-digitales-analisis-sensorial-carne-y-derivados-digisen

PROJECT SUMMARY

When consuming or choosing a food product, we follow a multifactorial process of great complexity. This sensory perception is affected not only by the informational context but also by the external environment. Thanks to the recent development and use of digital technologies in sensory science, exploring the connections between participants' subconscious reactions and their hedonic responses in immersive environments is becoming easier. Through this project, virtual environments will be created using extended realities (XR) to recreate contexts closer to consumer reality and/or facilitate controlled sensory evaluation. Biometric devices (such as eye-tracking, galvanic skin response, etc.) will also be used to capture subconscious responses during the analysis. The main objective is to improve the understanding of sensory perception in food choice and consumption.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Minimum requirements:

To possess or be in the process of obtaining a Bachelor's degree, Engineering degree, or a degree of at least 300 ECTS credits, or a Master's degree, or an equivalent degree related to Computer Engineering. A minimum grade of 6.5 on a 0-10 scale is required. Degrees related to life or social sciences will be considered if the candidate has additional experience and/or training in digital technologies or computer science. English proficiency B2 level.

Merits to be considered:

Experience with sensory/consumer studies. Experience with extended reality (XR): graphics engine software (e.g.:Unity) and/or 3D modeling (e.g.: Autodesk, 3ds Max, Blender). Programming languages C++/ C# / Python / R. Experience/knowledge in data analysis. Spanish proficiency.

WHAT IS OFFERED

Participation in an innovative project that will aid in your training as a research personnel and in obtaining a PhD, enhancing your scientific career and employability. You will utilize novel XR and biometric techniques, assist in the development of virtual environments applied to consumers, contribute to scientific publications, and attend national and international conferences. Training will be provided for a total of 240 ECTS, including digital topics (Master's in Artificial Intelligence), training stays abroad (Dublin and Parma), and courses on various topics. You will be part of a multidisciplinary, ambitious, and active team located in the vibrant campus of Moncloa close to the centre of Madrid.

Contract conditions:

Predoctoral Researcher contract of 4 years' duration. Gross annual salary of 23,871.33 €.

Start of contract: before 31 December 2024

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR CONTACT

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