Postdoc à l'Étranger / Postdoc Abroad

Luis Adrián Cabrera Diego

June 11^{th} 2021

Laboratoire L3i, La Rochelle Université

A little bit about me

A little bit about me



- I'm a computer engineer from the National Autonomous University of Mexico
- I have a Ph.D. in computer Science from Avignon Université
- I was an ATER between 2015 and 2016
- I did a postdoc in Liverpool, UK between May 2017 and December 2019
- Currently doing a postdoc here in La Rochelle

A little bit about me



- I'm a computer engineer from the National Autonomous University of Mexico
- I have a Ph.D. in computer Science from Avignon Université
- I was an ATER between 2015 and 2016
- I did a postdoc in Liverpool, UK between May 2017 and December 2019
- Currently doing a postdoc here in La Rochelle

Why to do a postdoc abroad?

Why to do a postdoc abroad?

Besides the benefits of doing a postdoc, such as:

- Gain research experience
- Learn new ways of doing research
- A taste of the real academic world
- etc.



Why to do a postdoc abroad?

A postdoc abroad:

- Can be considered better than a national or local postdoc
- Expands your network globally
- Opens the doors to new cultures/languages



Some websites where you can find a postdoc, here and abroad:

- LinkedIn
- ResearchGate
- Jobs.ac.uk
- Welcometothejungle.com
- Mailing lists
 - Liste-proml
 - Bulle-i3
- Directly on the university/company website







Specific for Natural Language Processing:

- NLPPeople.com
- Aclweb.org
- Mailing lists:
 - Ln@groupes.renater.fr



Sometimes employers say that they might not be able to support/sponsor visas.

That's because, hiring a foreigner might be hard or expensive:

- Better than any local candidate
- Limits on immigration
- Special tax to pay to hire someone foreigner
- Time-related aspects

The world is your oyster



Besides the recruitment process, the decision to go abroad and do a postdoc in another country is mostly yours.



But there might be some considerations to take into account...

Most of them valid once we have been selected as the best candidate!

What do I need to go abroad? - Bureaucracy

Bureaucracy

These things might be inherit of going abroad:

- How to get a visa?
 - Time to get it
 - Documents to fill
 - Where do I need to go to get it
- Get certified translations of documents (birth certificate, diplomas, etc.)
- Embassy appointments
- Language tests



What do I need to go abroad? - Money

Money

Getting ready to go abroad can be very expensive or not, depends on many aspects:

- In some countries paperwork is expensive, e.g. UK, and in others cheap, e.g. France
- Some HR have mobility funds, so they pay part of expenses:
 - But they might require invoices
 - Or they just cover certain expenses
 - Or prove that it was the less expensive X thing

So....

What do I need to go abroad? - Money

Have a financial cushion



What do I need to go abroad? - Time

Time

Consider that it might take time to being able to go abroad...

- Sometimes bureaucracy is slow, by default.
- Sometimes you need to take a language test, which happens every two months.
- Sometimes there are no booking slots in the Embassy



What do I need to go abroad? - Time

Don't get desperate.

Your new colleagues are also waiting for you, so don't rush.

Sometimes, money can speed-up things. But don't spend more unless you're really really really late, and it is because of you.

Conclusion

Conclusion

Doing a postdoc abroad can be an amazing experience, not only academical but also personal.

It might be harder to get a postdoc abroad, than a national or local one, but it will definitely add value to your career.

So, don't hesitate in going abroad!



Any questions? Comments?

luis.cabrera_diego@univ-lr.fr