

## PhD studentship (Full-time)

Institution	Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, China
School	School of Advanced Technology
Supervisors	Principal supervisor: Dr. Shengchen Li (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Professor Qiufeng Wang (XJTLU) Co-supervisor: Dr. Guangliang Cheng (UoL) External supervisor: Professor Mark D. Plumbley (KCL)
Application Deadline	Open until the position is filled
Funding Availability	Funded PhD project (world-wide students)
Project Title	Identification of Non-Genuine Audio
Contact	Please email <a href="mailto:shengchen.li@xjtlu.edu.cn">shengchen.li@xjtlu.edu.cn</a> (XJTLU principal supervisor's email address) with a subject line of the PhD project title.  The principal supervisor's profile is linked here: <a href="https://scholar.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/persons/ShengchenLi/">https://scholar.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/persons/ShengchenLi/</a> <a href="https://shengchenli.github.io">https://shengchenli.github.io</a>

### **Requirements:**

A Master's degree with Merit and a Bachelor's degree with first-class or upper second-class honors are required for PhD admissions. Exceptional candidates holding only a Bachelor's degree may be considered on an individual basis in certain disciplines.

Evidence of good spoken and written English is essential. The candidate should have an IELTS (or equivalent) score of 6.5 or above, if the first language is not English. This position is open to all qualified candidates irrespective of nationality.

### **Degree:**

The student will be awarded a PhD degree from the University of Liverpool (UK) upon successful completion of the program.

### **Funding:**

The PhD studentship is available for three years subject to satisfactory progress by the student. The award covers tuition fees for three years (currently equivalent to RMB 99,000 per annum). It also provides up to RMB 16,500 to allow participation at international conferences during the period of the award. The scholarship holders are expected to conduct the majority of their

research at XJTLU in Suzhou, China. However, they may apply for a short-term research visit to the University of Liverpool if the project requires it.

### **Project Description:**

This research focuses on developing robust techniques for identifying non-genuine audio content by analysing semantic inconsistencies in AI-generated, partially synthesised, or artificially combined audio. With the rapid advancement of generative audio technologies, distinguishing authentic from fabricated content has become increasingly challenging. The proposed methodology emphasises detecting linguistic anomalies, contextual misalignments, and semantic patterns that deviate from natural speech patterns. By focusing on content meaning and contextual coherence rather than purely acoustic characteristics, we aim to create detection frameworks that remain resilient against sophisticated generation techniques. This research will contribute critical verification tools for maintaining information integrity in the digital media landscape.

There are three other PhD projects under the supervision of Dr. Shengchen Li being advertised at the same time. Interested students could visit <https://shengchenli.github.io/application.html> for more details.

For more information about doctoral scholarship and PhD programme at Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), please visit

<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/entry-requirements/>

<https://www.xjtlu.edu.cn/en/admissions/global/fees-and-scholarship>

### **How to Apply:**

Interested applicants are advised to fill in the form at <https://shengchenli.github.io/application.html> with the following documents for initial review and assessment (please put the project title in the subject line).

- CV
- Two formal reference letters
- Personal statement outlining your interest in the position
- Certificates of English language qualifications (IELTS or equivalent)
- Full academic transcripts in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- Verified certificates of education qualifications in both Chinese and English (for international students, only the English version is required)
- PDF copy of Master Degree dissertation (or an equivalent writing sample) and examiners reports available

Mail enquires to [shengchen.li@xjtlu.edu.cn](mailto:shengchen.li@xjtlu.edu.cn) is also welcome.