IDA in a nutshell

IDA is the Swedish abbreviation for the Department of Computer and Information Science, at Linköping University, Sweden. IDA was founded in 1983, but the roots go back to the early seventies. It is one of the largest departments for computer and information science in northern Europe, with 190 employees of which 68 are faculty members (PhDs), including 26 full professors. Approximately 70 postgraduate students are enrolled in the department's PhD programmes, including two thirds doctoral students holding salaried positions.

Research at IDA covers a broad spectrum of topics from core computer science to applications, including theoretical computer science, programming environments, software engineering, real-time and embedded systems, artificial intelligence, information security, databases, information systems, computational linguistics, cognitive science, interaction and service design, autonomous systems and statistics.

IDA offers around 15-20 PhD courses every year, and our broad research base directly enriches our undergraduate and graduate education. We give courses within most engineering programmes, several Master programmes, as well as the programmes for innovative programming, cognitive science and statistics.

IDA is organized into five divisions, each with responsibility for both research and teaching. They include:

- **ADIT**: Database and Information Techniques, Prof. Nahid Shahmehri, nahid.shahmehri@liu.se.
- **AIICS**: Artificial Intelligence and Integrated Computer Systems, Prof. Patrick Doherty, patrick.doherty@liu.se.
- **HCS**: Human-Centered Systems, Prof. Arne Jönnson, arne.jonsson@liu.se.
- **STIMA**: Division of Statistics and Machine Learning, Prof. Mattias Villani, mattias.villani@liu.se.
- **SaS**: Software and Systems, Prof. Zebo Peng, zebo.peng@liu.se.

Contact information

For general information about the department, see the department home page at

http://www.ida.liu.se/

For specific information about PhD studies and the various PhD subjects, content of PhD courses, etc., please contact the director of graduate studies

Prof. Petru Eles, petru.eles@liu.se

For general information about applications to PhD studies, financial support, working and residence permits and other administrative questions, please contact the coordinator of graduate studies administration

Anne Moe, anne.moe@liu.se

For information about our international master’s programs please consult our web

https://www.liu.se/en/education/master/

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Telephone: +46 13 281000 (university switchboard)
Telefax: +46 13 142231 (building E, main fax)
Q: What about other benefits?

A: If you have a doctorand position you have all the benefits of other employees; pension, social security etc.

Q: What about the subject of your thesis?

A: The subject of your thesis is typically decided jointly by you and your supervisor. All PhD students have an advisory committee consisting of the main supervisor and several additional supervisors. The committee consists of one advisor and one or several supervisors. PhD students are usually involved in up to 20 per cent teaching the total expected time to obtain a PhD is 5 years.

Q: How much teaching does a PhD student do?

A: Each of the activities above amounts to approximately seven ECTS per year. In total, this means 21 ECTS per year. Your main supervisor and one or two additional supervisors teach the courses and the credits will be registered as soon as you become a PhD student.

Q: How do I apply for a PhD position?

A: The best advice is to get in contact with one or two of our researchers before you apply. For students from Linköping, the master’s project is usually a good way to get started. You do not need to have a master’s degree in order to apply. PhD positions are announced on our home page where you also can find instructions on how to apply, when positions are open.

Q: Are there any admission tests?

A: No, there are no formal admission tests but you have to satisfy the requirements described above, and there is a general examination including e.g. interviews. For students from outside Sweden, we may ask you to take a spoken language test.

Q: What are the requirements for becoming a PhD student?

A: No, not formally. But you can be admitted to a temporary position until you get your degree. You may take part in PhD courses, and one year of the work (exactly how much) should be devoted to teaching.

Q: Can I become a PhD student?

A: No, you have to have the degree of a licentiate student in order to apply. Applications from master’s students are usually not accepted. However, there are exceptions, and one second supervisor. In addition, you should have at least 180 ECTS with 60 ECTS on advanced level.

Q: How do I finance my studies?

A: There is no tuition fee. In fact, almost every PhD student is admitted to a temporary position where you get a salary. A doctorand position is typically renewed one year at a time, and is limited to a maximum of 4 years (excluding teaching). A PhD course is usually a full-time position, and is limited to 3 years. A PhD position is usually a full-time position, and is limited to 4 years.

Q: What PhD subject areas can I be admitted to?

A: There are a great variety of careers available to graduates. Some of our PhDs have become lecturers and professors at IDA; others secure positions with other universities in Sweden and abroad, for instance at MIT and Yale. Approximately half of our PhDs are now working for industry, in Sweden and abroad.

Q: What research areas are covered by IDA?

A: Research at IDA covers a broad spectrum of topics from core computer science to applications, including theoretical computer science, programming environments, software engineering, computer systems, computational linguistics, cognitive science, interaction and service design, autonomous systems and statistics.

Q: How long does it take to finish a PhD?

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