



Call for Proposals:

Research Experiment Designs Using the Epitome Platform

Tuesday, October 29, 2024

We are pleased to invite academic scholars to submit proposals for their intended research experiments using **Epitome**—an AI-powered platform designed to advance social studies through cutting-edge technology. This platform enables scholars to design and conduct experiments that leverage AI to explore complex social dynamics, decision-making, and human-algorithm interaction.

Platform Introduction:

Epitome provides a comprehensive suite of functions to support experiment design and execution, covering everything from data collection to advanced analytics. Its AI-powered tools enable researchers to gain deeper insights into social behavior. In the field of "AI for Social Science," experiments have played a crucial role in leveraging AI to simulate participants (Ashokkumar et al., 2024), create social environments (Park et al., 2023), automate experimental processes (Manning, Zhu, & Horton, 2024), and predict social outcomes (Zheng et al., 2022). Epitome's key functionalities include:

- **Flexible AI Integration:** Epitome supports a wide variety of LLMs (such as GPT-4, Llama, and Qwen), allowing researchers to adjust model parameters (e.g., temperature, response style) for fine-tuned control over AI behavior.
- **Diverse Interaction Modes:** The platform supports one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many human-AI interaction setups, facilitating the exploration of complex social dynamics.
- **Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs) and Intervention Manipulation:** Researchers can easily design experiments involving randomization and causal testing, vital for robust social science experiments.
- **Comprehensive Experiment Management:** Epitome offers a user-friendly drag-and-drop interface for designing experiments, managing participants, and automating data collection and analysis. The platform's modular architecture enables personalization of experimental workflows.
- **Enhanced Data Collection and Analysis:** Epitome includes integrated data collection tools (e.g., questionnaires, physiological signal acquisition such as EEG) and built-in analytics to support real-time insights and longer-term studies.

Video Tutorial:

With Epitome, researchers can harness AI's full potential to generate new insights into human behavior and AI's role in society. You can watch this video for a detailed walkthrough of the platform's capabilities: <https://youtu.be/5v4JxhdO644>



Key Details:

- **Deadline for Submissions:** 10:00 a.m. CST December 15, 2024
- **Winners Announced:** February 2025. All **computational power and AI model deployment costs** related to the research on the Epitome platform will be fully covered for the selected winners.
- **Workshop Presentation:** Selected scholars will be invited to share their initial findings at the **Human-Algorithm Interaction Workshop**, to be held in early July 2025 in Oxford. A **full travel package** will be provided for all selected participants.

Submission Guidelines:

Submitted proposals should include the following aspects:

- **Research question (Max 200 words)**
- **Research experiment design and rationale (Max 1000 words)**
- **Expected outcomes, contribution and impact (Max 500 words)**
- **Timeline for research (Max 200 words)**
- **Anticipated LLM models and usage**
- **Ethical Concern**

Please submit your proposal using the following link <https://forms.gle/Kgk1vkL9ePgJmzX87> before the deadline. We look forward to receiving innovative proposals that will contribute to the growing body of knowledge in AI and social sciences.

Sponsors and Contact:

1. Human AI Interaction Lab, Saïd Business School, Oxford University, kejia.hu@sbs.ox.ac.uk
2. Shanghai AI Lab, qujingjing@pjlab.org.cn

Reference:

1. A. Ashokkumar, L. Hewitt, I. Ghezae, R. Willer, Predicting Results of Social Science Experiments Using Large Language Models. (2024).
2. J. S. Park, et al., Generative Agents: Interactive Simulacra of Human Behavior in Proceedings of the 36th Annual ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology, UIST '23., (Association for Computing Machinery, 2023), pp. 1–22.
3. B. S. Manning, K. Zhu, J. J. Horton, Automated Social Science: Language Models as Scientist and Subjects. [Preprint] (2024). Available at: <https://www.nber.org/papers/w32381> [Accessed 20 August 2024].
4. S. Zheng, A. Trott, S. Srinivasa, D. C. Parkes, R. Socher, The AI Economist: Taxation policy design via two-level deep multiagent reinforcement learning. *Sci. Adv.* (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abk2607>.