Alice Wu, a graduate student in the economics department at Harvard, is looking to hire one research assistant on a project inferring hidden beliefs about gender from anonymous discussions on an online professional forum. The project explores the differences between the discussions about female versus male economists, and how these online discussions are correlated with the subject’s career outcomes. In particular, the project uses machine learning and textual analytic techniques to measure the topics (professional vs. personal) and the sentiment (positive vs. negative) in each post scraped from the forum. A recent publication related to this project can be found at: https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/pandp.20181101

The RA will perform a variety of tasks, including:
- Collecting data on economics professors and job market candidates (web scraping skill is a plus)
- Assisting with creating a sentiment analysis task on Amazon Mechanical Turk
- Exploring machine learning methods for sentiment analysis
- Cleaning and matching textual data, in R or Python

Desired start date: September 15th, 2018
Commitment: 8-10 hours per week
Duration: 4 months
Payment: $15 per hour
To apply: please fill out this application form https://goo.gl/forms/akBGYQMEEKP5Q6MH2 and email your Résumé with subject line “RA Application” to haowen_wu@g.harvard.edu