JOB DESCRIPTION

Role: Platform Intern

Project: Cambridge SupTech Lab

Expertise: Full Stack Development, Data Analysis

Start Date: May 2025

Duration: 1 year

Reimbursement: Interns are offered financial reimbursement for expenses (relative to your personal circumstances up to £800/month in case of full-time commitment)

Level of effort: Full-time position

Location: Worldwide – with preference for Cambridge, UK or New York, USA

About the Cambridge SupTech Lab

The Cambridge SupTech Lab partners with financial authorities, technology firms and data scientists to craft solutions addressing the emergent gaps between the speed of digitalisation of financial services and the speed at which public agencies can innovate.

As an initiative of the Cambridge Centre for Alternative Finance (CCAF) at the University of Cambridge Judge Business School, the Cambridge SupTech Lab accelerates the digital transformation of financial supervision through the creation of supervisory technology (SupTech) applications that enable greater financial stability, integrity, protection of consumers and more scalable, sustainable, and responsible delivery of financial services.

This is achieved through a combination of:

- Empirical research and the development of a shared body of knowledge
- Co-creation of a scalable digital toolkit
- Provision of education, training, peer learning and technical assistance.

The Lab's Platform

The Lab's work to date has resulted in strong evidence of the growing demand from financial authorities for not just digital solutions to enhance their supervision of the financial sector, but also for tools and systems that accelerate the broader transformation required to develop, deploy, and sustain these solutions. Financial authorities demand solutions to streamline operations, manage interconnected aspects of the suptech journey, and foster collaboration and resource-sharing within and across organizations. Supervisory authorities are seeking the digitalization of methods and processes that break down existing silos and overcome the challenges inherent in traditional ways of operating. These authorities recognize the inefficiencies, redundancies, and barriers posed by analogue methods and are eager to adopt solutions that empower them to evolve. The demand is for digital tools that not only enhance efficiency and scalability but also enable seamless collaboration, the sharing of experiences and assets, and the creation of a truly integrated and responsive suptech ecosystem.

In this way, a centralized digital platform is the backbone of the Lab's scalable model.

Digital approaches offer scalability, adaptability, and efficiency, addressing the demands of dynamic and complex ecosystems while enabling growth without proportional increases in effort, cost, or resources. Scalability is not merely a feature of digital methods – it is their central purpose, allowing organizations to extend solutions to larger audiences, adapt to evolving challenges, and drive innovation sustainably. Benefits of a platform over traditional methods include:

- Global reach, instantly providing tools, resources, and solutions without the logistical challenges and costs of physical delivery or the need for replicating resources.
- Adaptability, modularity and customization, allowing users to tailor platforms to their specific needs and contexts, ensuring sustained relevance and effective collaboration
- Cost-effectiveness, in that the marginal cost of adding users or extending functionalities is minimal compared to the recurring expenses associated with analogue methods.
- Data pipelines, as an enabler of scalability in digital approaches. Digital systems excel at collecting, aggregating, and analyzing large datasets, generating actionable insights that enhance understanding of the user journey—in this case, the supervisor journey.

Specifically, regarding the Lab's digital approach, the Platform team is responsible for incorporating the gathered insights into features that support and integrate:

- The Lab's existing tools: Where and how our digital tools have had the greatest impact for supervisors, informed by direct feedback from active users.

- The broader suptech ecosystem: Identifying where other ecosystem players are offering digital or digitizable tools and resources, based on findings from the Supervisor Journey ecosystem research.
- Perceived gaps by supervisory authorities: Highlighting areas where authorities still see unmet needs or challenges, as identified through the Supervisor Journey authorities' research.

This unified platform will leverage data-driven recommendations and the SupTech Taxonomy to connect users to relevant SupTech offerings, including tools and solutions from the broader ecosystem – such as those from peer authorities, vendors, and other SupTech players – while seamlessly integrating the Lab's resources. By bridging gaps, promoting collaboration, and aligning with the innovation needs of supervisory authorities, the Lab's digital platform has the potential to transform the suptech landscape into a more cohesive, collaborative, effective, and scalable ecosystem.

THE LAB'S PLATFORM POWERED MANY TO MANY MODEL

Your role

As a Platform Intern, you will be responsible for performing the development, implementation, and maintenance of our platform infrastructure. You will work closely with cross-functional teams to ensure the scalability, reliability, and security of our platform, enabling seamless integration and delivery of our products and services.

You will work directly with our platform lead and senior data scientist to understand task prioritization and criteria for success.

Responsibilities

- **Platform Development**: Oversee and participate in the development and deployment of platform features and enhancements via well-structured development processes.
- **Integration**: Collaborate with product teams to ensure seamless integration of new features and services into the platform.
- **Performance Optimization**: Continuously monitor and optimize platform performance to identify and resolve bottlenecks, streamline and iterate on the customer journey, and drive the growth engine.
- **Security and Compliance**: Implement and maintain security best practices and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.
- **Team Collaboration**: Foster a collaborative and innovative team environment, promoting knowledge sharing and cross-functional collaboration.
- **Technical Assistance:** In order to build practical knowledge of the current pains and future aspirations of existing and potential end users of the platform, the Platform Intern is also expected to participate in select engagements within the Lab's Technical Assistance portfolio.
- **Data Analysis:** Build into the platform analytics tooling for measuring user activity. Be able to visualize this user activity or to write SQL that will export data from our database for further analysis.

Requirements and qualifications

Essential:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Engineering, or a related field;
- Proven experience (3+ years) in applying lean product approaches to platform development and architecture design (including design methodologies).
- Experience with the relevant technologies currently employed, including, e.g.: Nuxt.js, Vue.js, typescript, PostgreSQL, Google Firebase, JupyterHub/JupyterLab, python, and Airtable
- Excellent problem-solving skills and a strong attention to detail.
- Effective communication skills with the ability to articulate technical concepts to non-technical stakeholders, including:
    - Strong writing and communication skills (English)
    - Ability to organise ideas logically and effectively, while clearly communicating those that are interesting and important to specific underlying research-related topics.
- Analytical skills, including product instrumentation and frameworks (e.g. pirate metrics); demonstrated ability to cut through noisy data to find strong signals.
- Driven and committed, demonstrating initiative, self-motivation, and eagerness to familiarize with new concepts.
- Excellent time management and planning skills with a commitment to deliver and being held accountable.

- Ability to organise and/or facilitate design sessions, focus groups and interviews with internal and end users.
- Ability to work independently as well as working as a team player to manage interdisciplinary groups on collaborative projects.

Desirable:

- Experience with DevOps practices and tools (e.g., CI/CD pipelines, infrastructure as code).
- Experience working in early-stage startups through product market fit, into growth stage and beyond.
- Direct experience of working with two-sided platforms, particularly those that have both public- and private-sector segments
- Experience in digital transformation and public sector technology a plus.
- In-depth knowledge of cloud platforms (e.g., GCP, AWS) and containerization technologies (e.g., Docker, Kubernetes).
- Demonstrated information security (InfoSec) and cybersecurity experience and/or certifications
- Certifications in relevant technologies (e.g., Google/Amazon/Microsoft cloud architecture)
- Certification in design thinking.
- Comfort in exploring financial models and impact measurement goals and assessing product performance actuals against these projections.

Candidates need to succeed in technical skills, but also need to embody soft skills to achieve long-term success at Cambridge SupTech Lab:

- Emotional intelligence, communication & empathy – How is your ability to collaborate effectively with others and work in teams, build relationships, share ideas, and manage conflict?
- Creativity & problem-solving skills – Are you an analytical and critical thinker? Can you find creative solutions to problems?
- Adaptability & flexibility – Our working environment and culture requires you to be agile and adaptable to succeed in this role. Are these your qualities?

How to apply

Submit your application via our website.