

Reinforcement Learning for
Autonomous Accelerators



RL4AA'26

Welcome!

Andrea Santamaria Garcia

LIV.INO

WiFi



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Eduroam is available – please connect as usual



If you are not able to connect to eduroam, **guest wifi connection details** are available from the **registration desk**

Local organising team

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Reach out to our local organising team if you **need help!**

We have a **red stripe** on our badge



Naomi Smith



Alexander Brynes



Amelia Pollard



Ana Guisao-Betancur



Joseph Wolfenden

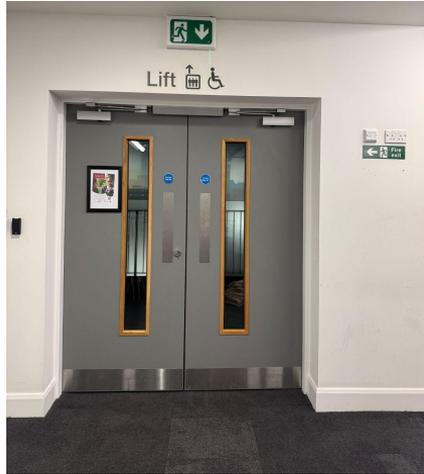


Sophie Gresty

Will be at
registration desk

Fire exits on the first floor

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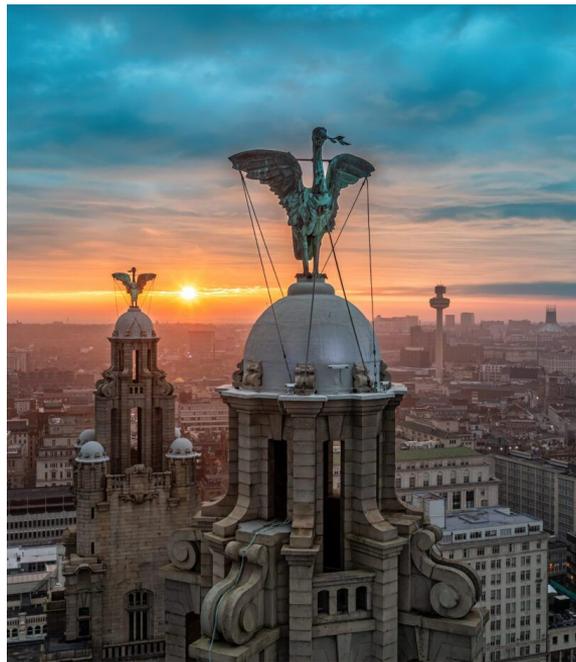
The lifts **cannot** be used in the event of a fire alarm



Welcome to Liverpool!

Some basics:

- Demonym: **Liverpudlians**, but fondly referred to as **Scousers**
- Dialect: **Scouse**
 - "**Boss**" (very good/excellent)
 - "**Sound**" (good/agreeable)
 - "**Baltic**" (extremely cold)
 - "**Scran**" (food)
- Dish: **Scouse!** comes from *lobscouse*, a stew commonly eaten by Northern European sailors who often visited Liverpool's port
- Liverpool's symbol: the **Liver Bird** (mythical creature similar to a cormorant)



The Royal Liver Building (1911)

Some fun facts

- Liverpool's **Anglican Cathedral** is the **largest in Britain**
- Liverpool is home to the **oldest and largest Chinese community in Europe** (and oldest Chinatown)
- Liverpool has created **more Number One pop songs** than any other city in the world
- Outside of London, Liverpool is the **most “filmed in” city in the UK** (Peaky Blinders!)
- The Royal Liver Building has the **largest clock face in the UK** (larger than Big Ben)
- After London, Liverpool **has the most museums in the UK**
- Liverpool is the **most successful footballing city in England***

* 7 League championships, 6 European Cups, 3 UEFA Cups, a Cup Winners Cup, 12 FA Cups, 8 League Cups, and a FIFA Club World Cup.

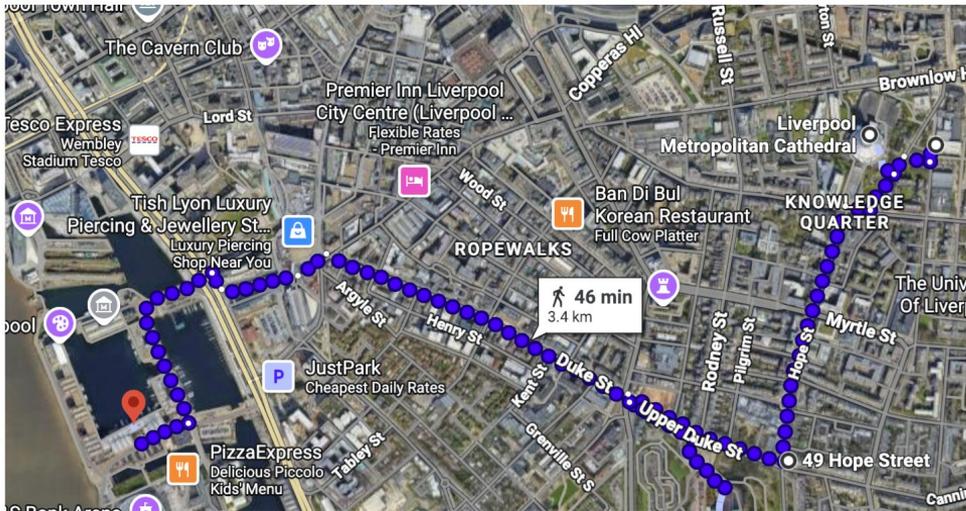


Check our “walkable sights”

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<https://indico.ph.liv.ac.uk/event/2025/page/145-walkable-sights>



If you feel like exploring the city of Liverpool here is a walk you can take after the workshop, passing by several landmarks:



<https://rl4aa.github.io/>

Brief History

1882 - University College, Liverpool opens its doors to 45 students

1903 - The royal charter is granted which establishes the University of Liverpool (independent university)

1994 - The University of Liverpool becomes a founding member of the Russell Group (a lobbying and advocacy group of 24 research-intensive UK universities)

The university has produced 9 Nobel Prize winners

1917 - Prof. Charles Glover Barkla: discovery of the electromagnetic properties of X-rays

1935 - Sir James Chadwick: discovery of the neutron



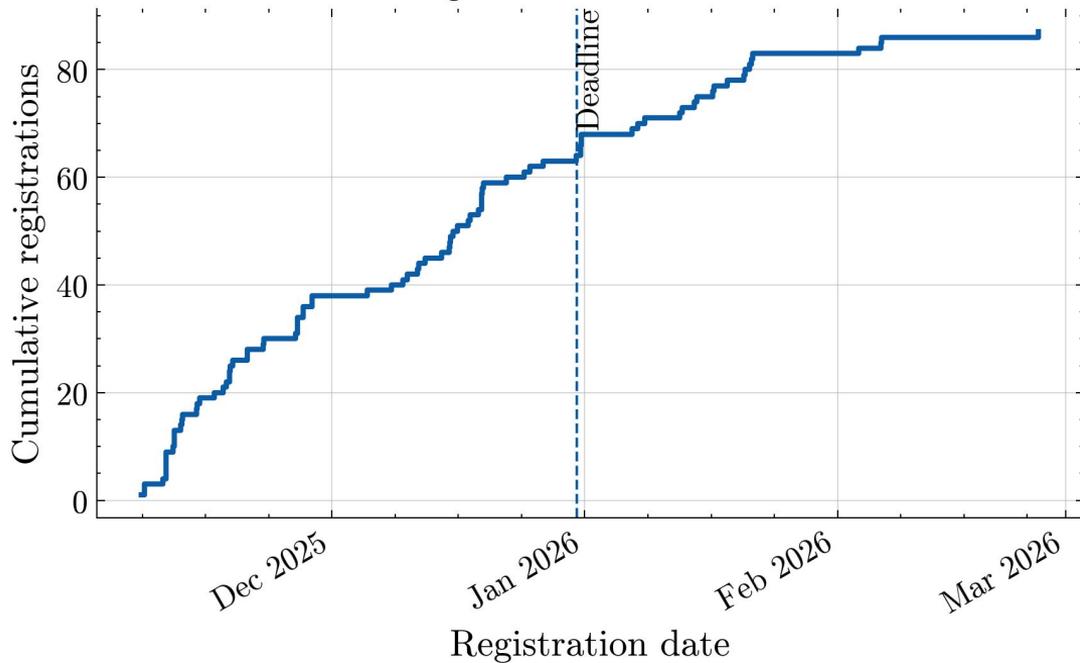
Victoria Building (opened in 1892)

First purpose-built building for what was to become the University of Liverpool, with accommodation for administration, teaching, common rooms and a library.

Registrations



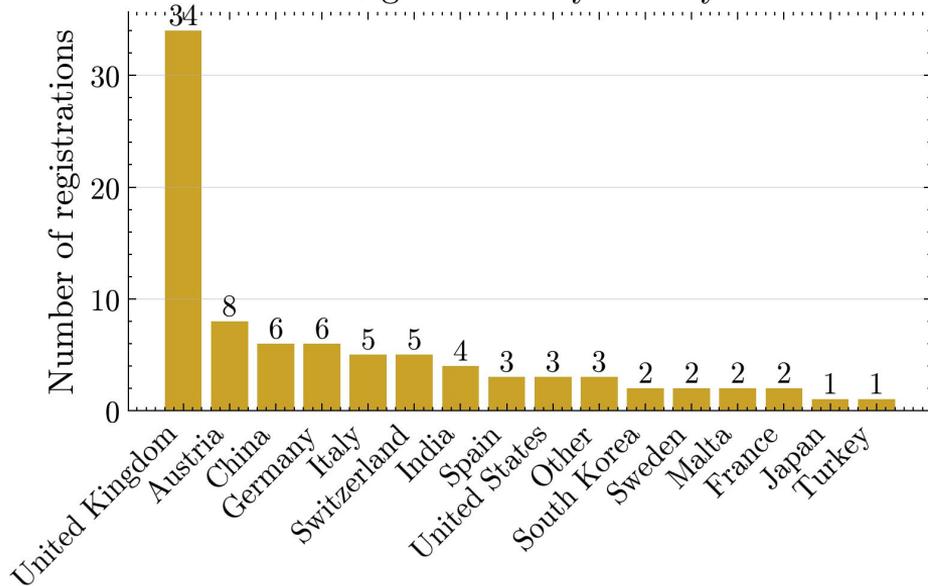
Registrations over time



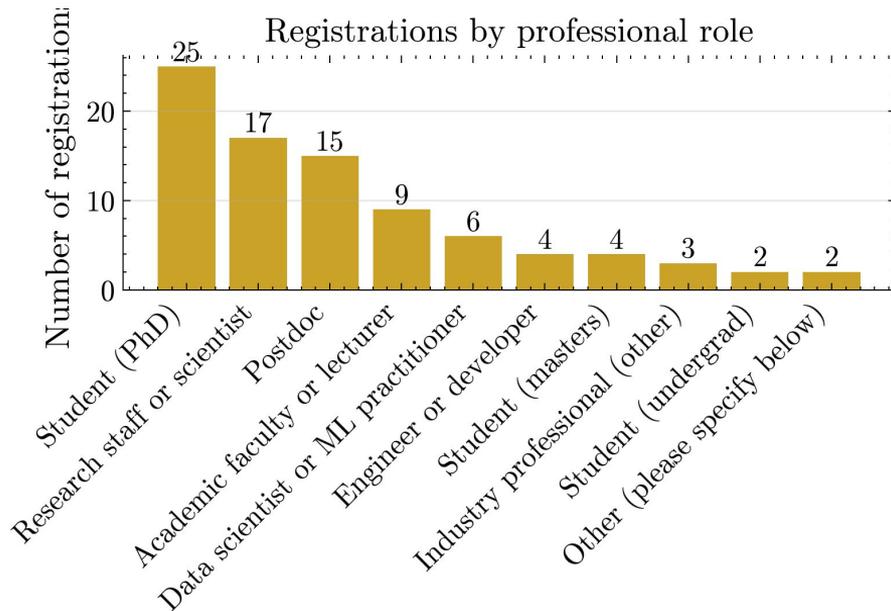
Registrations



Registrations by country



Registrations by professional role





Use it to:

- discuss talks and ideas
- share resources
- organise dinners or social plans
- coordinate in real time (arrivals, delays, meeting points)
- if you have any questions

Social media: use **#rl4aa26** in instagram

I will be posting from @ansantam



Join to talk to your fellow
workshop participants and for
real time updates

<https://discord.gg/Fz7Q2NwQyG>

Link to discussion session poll

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We will end the workshop on **Wednesday**
with a **community discussion session**

In order to guide it we ask you to **please fill
in this survey before Wednesday**



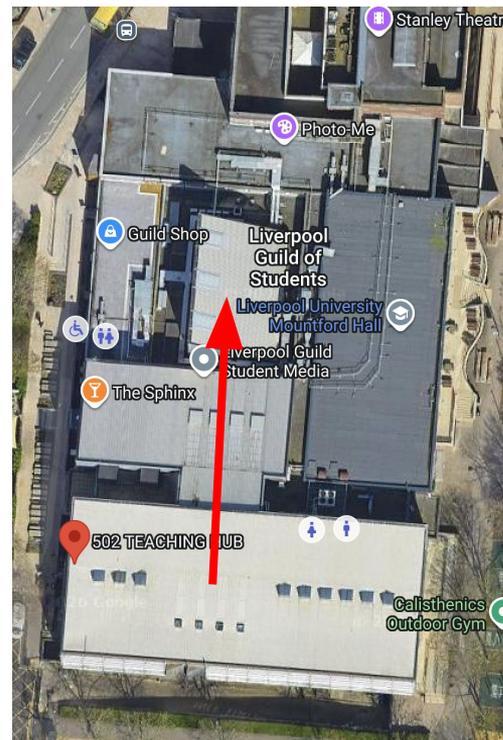
Lunch today (self-paid)

When: 12:00–13:30

Where: [The Courtyard](#)

Food court located in the **Guild of Students** (adjacent building) that has been reserved for us

Meet at registration desk at 12:00 and we will go together



Lunch today (self-paid)



If you don't like the food choice at the Courtyard there are **plenty of options on campus** (restaurants, cafes, supermarkets).

You can always come back with your food and meet us at the Courtyard

Please check all the options at the [Campus Cafe Map](#)

For more detailed information check this [link](#)

Dinner today (self-paid)

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When: 19:00

Where: [Albert's Schloss](#)



Food orders have been placed

We will **pay on arrival**, drinks at the bar

If you want to join and you did not reserve beforehand let me know at coffee break!

Coding challenge

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We have created **8 teams** of
4-5 people with **mixed
experience**

There will be prizes awarded to
the **first** and **second team**

We start **today at 15:20**, more
info then!

Good luck!



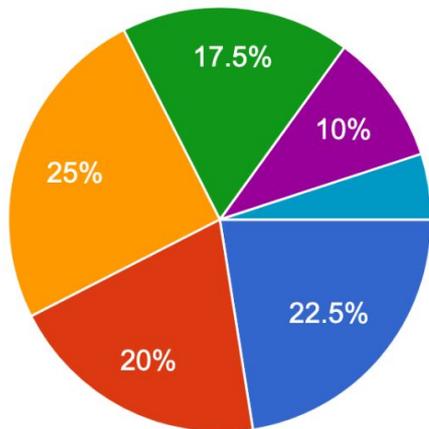
Focused challenge participants at RL4AA'25

Coding challenge



What is your experience in RL?

40 responses



- None: New to RL.
- Intro: Took a course or bootcamp; know MDPs, value vs. policy; no coding proj...
- Beginner (hands-on): Ran RL notebooks or Stable-Baselines3 on Gym/Gymnas...
- Intermediate: Implemented or deeply used DQN/PPO/SAC; debugged traini...
- Advanced: Modified algorithms or policies, custom training loops; scaled...
- Expert: Published RL work or deploye...

Coding challenge

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You can use all the **study rooms** in the **first floor**, or stay in the lecture theatre



Best poster competition

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If you have a poster you **automatically enter the competition**

You can put your **posters up today** for coffee discussions

Please **upload a PDF** of your poster to [indico](#)

We will be judging the posters during the poster session on:

- Poster structure and quality
- Presentation skills and clarity
- Scientific understanding, rigour, and detail
- Insight and ability to answer questions



Good luck!