

Position as 'Scientific Collaborator' at the University of Geneva, Switzerland

The Geneva Observatory invites applications for a position to work on the preparation for the Gaia data processing. Gaia is an ESA mission due for launch mid 2013 that will undertake an astrometric, photometric and spectroscopic survey of our Galaxy. At the Geneva Observatory a group of 11 scientists and software engineers leads the European-wide collaboration responsible for the variability processing and analysis of the Gaia data.

The successful candidate will contribute to the development and validation of algorithms for the analysis of photometric and radial velocity times series of astronomical sources. The work involves: statistics; machine learning; software development, testing and documentation; application of classification algorithms to simulated and real data; analysis of results; publication of methods and scientific results.

Asteroids

Entriesic AGN

Stars

Star

The applicant should preferably have a **PhD in astronomy**, astrophysics or a related field. Applicants should be able to program (**Java** knowledge is an advantage) and have experience with **data processing**, **data mining or machine learning methods**. Suitable candidates are willing to operate in a **international team** environment and are fluent in English We consider **good interpersonal and communication skills** as a strong advantage. We are especially looking for young, **ambitious** and **polyvalent** talents who have already demonstrated their ability to bring their ideas and projects to a **successful end**. You will also have the opportunity to demonstrate your **leadership skills**.

The position is initially available from 1 June 2012 to 30 June 2013. We foresee the position to extend beyond 2013 subject to an expected continuation of funding. The annual gross salary is typically between 70'000-100'000 Swiss Franc depending on past experiences.

To apply, please send before **30 June 2012** a motivation letter, a CV (listing education, experience, skills and publications) and three letters of recommendation to

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For more information see the following links:

Gaia Variability Processing homepage: http://www.isdc.unige.ch/Gaia Gaia homepage: http://www.rssd.esa.int/index.php?project=Gaia

Geneva Observatory: http://www.unige.ch/sciences/astro/

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