

VN 21/57 Remote Sensing Scientist - Altimetry

EUMETSAT's activities in the ocean surface topography chain has substantially expanded these last years with the Copernicus Programme.

The Sentinel-3 marine mission is today fully operational. It is operated by EUMETSAT which has the responsibility to deliver the marine products and services from the Surface Topography Mission instruments. The Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich mission was successfully launched in November 2020. EUMETSAT is responsible for the system, ground segment and operations of the mission, which will become the new reference altimetry mission after Jason-3. Sentinel-3 and Sentinel-6 satellites (including recurrent units) will thus provide, until at least 2030, essential topography products and services for operational oceanography.

Looking further ahead, EUMETSAT is starting the preparation of the future Copernicus altimetry missions to launch in the 2030s: these are the next generation of Copernicus satellites (Sentinel-3 Topography NG and Sentinel-6 NG) and the CRISTAL mission, decided as part of the High Priority Copernicus Missions, that will provide additional SAR altimeter measurements over the global ocean.

As a member of the Marine Applications Competence Area of the Remote Sensing and Products (RSP) Division, the Remote Sensing Scientist – Altimetry is a team leader, responsible for managing the altimetry team and leading related EUMETSAT processing and Cal/Val activities.

Duties

The main duties will be as follows:

- Manage the Altimetry team and its resources, including development of the scientific knowledge required to support the exploitation and evolution of EUMETSAT altimetry missions;
- Lead the definition of new or improved altimetry
- Lead and supervise the development or evolution of Level 1 and Level 2 operational processors.
- Assess requirements and priorities for calibration and validation of altimetry products and support the definition and execution of calibration and validation plans;
- Interact with the altimetry



LOCATION

Darmstadt,
Germany



QUALIFICATIONS

An advanced university degree (or equivalent) in remote sensing, physics, oceanography, or another relevant discipline is required.



LANGUAGES

The official languages of EUMETSAT are English and French. Candidates must be able to work effectively in English and have some knowledge of French.



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products and analyse functional and processing implications;

- Realise the Level 1 and Level 2 product definition, and perform any necessary in-house prototyping to support algorithm definition and algorithm selection for Level 1 and Level 2 processing;

community of users of current ocean Level 1 and Level 2 altimetry products to collect and analyse their feedback on the relevance and quality of products and their requirements for new or improved products;

- Conduct internal studies and manage external studies on the definition of new products and candidate algorithms.

Skills and Experience

- Ability to lead and coordinate scientific teams, including management of performance and maintenance of key skills and knowledge;
- In-depth scientific knowledge of altimetry observations of the ocean, including measurement physics and retrieval algorithms, preferably in a complex operational environment;
- Experience in the definition and development of operational processors;
- Experience in calibration and validation activities for altimeters;
- Strong interpersonal, communication and presentation skills including demonstrated experience in writing scientific and technical documents.
- Experience in working with altimetry user communities and researchers. In addition, familiarity with the Copernicus Programme and Copernicus services in particular are an asset.

Employment Conditions

The initial contract will be of 4 years' duration, with subsequent 5 year contracts being awarded thereafter, subject to individual performance and organisation requirements. There is no limit to the amount of follow-up contracts a staff member can receive up to the EUMETSAT retirement age of 63 and there are certainly opportunities to establish a long career perspective at EUMETSAT.

This post is graded A2/A4 on the EUMETSAT salary scales. The minimum basic salary for this post is EURO 5,363 per month (net of internal tax but excluding pension contribution and insurances) which may be negotiable on the basis of skills and experience. The salary scale provides for increments on the anniversary of taking up employment, and scales are reviewed by the EUMETSAT Council with effect from 1 January each year. In addition to basic salary, EUMETSAT offers attractive benefits. Further information, including salary details, is available on the EUMETSAT web site.

EUMETSAT is committed to providing an equal opportunities work environment for men and

women.

Please note that only nationals of EUMETSAT Member States may apply. The EUMETSAT Convention requires that Staff shall be recruited on the basis of their qualifications, account being taken of the international character of EUMETSAT.

About EUMETSAT

EUMETSAT is Europe's meteorological satellite agency. Its role is to establish and operate meteorological satellites to monitor the weather and climate from space - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This information is supplied to the National Meteorological Services of the organisation's Member States in Europe, as well as other users worldwide.

EUMETSAT also operates several Copernicus missions on behalf of the European Union and provide data services to the Copernicus marine and atmospheric services and their users.

As an intergovernmental European Organisation, EUMETSAT has 30 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.)

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