

Job Advertisement 2026-02

22.01.2026

At the Leibniz Institute of Atmospheric Physics (IAP), a part-time position (75%) in the “Satellite Data Analysis” working group is available as

PhD Student (f/m/d)

The position is initially offered for three years with a start date as soon as possible. The salary is according to class EG 13 TV-L (approx. 43,500 €/year). The fixed-term contract is based on § 2 WissZeitVG.

Your Tasks:

You will conduct research to advance the understanding of vertical coupling processes between the lower and upper atmosphere as part of our team. The role involves investigating how dynamical and chemical processes in the lower atmosphere influence the variability and behavior of the upper atmosphere, supported by the analysis of whole-atmosphere models that span both regions. A central part of the work includes the use of satellite and ground-based observations to characterize vertical coupling mechanisms and their temporal variability. The position also contributes to the planning of future satellite missions, with a focus on optimizing orbit configurations and potential constellation designs to maximize scientific return related to atmospheric variability. Particular emphasis will be placed on understanding variations in neutral density and neutral composition under different geophysical conditions, which have potential impacts on satellite operations.

Your Qualifications / Experience:

- A master's degree in physics, engineering, environmental sciences, or a related discipline, is required.
- Basic knowledge and interest in atmospheric physics
- Skills in model & satellite data analysis is desired
- Fundamental programming skills and expertise, e.g., Python, C/C++, Fortran
- Willingness to work independently and think critically
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to work well in a team and contribute to a diverse and inclusive workforce

What we offer:

- an attractive working place near the Baltic Sea
- modern equipment
- engagement in an international work environment
- participation in the company pension scheme (VBL)
- employment relationship in accordance with the provisions of the Collective Agreement for the Public Service of the Federal States (TV-L)
- flexible working hours and mobile working within the framework of the applicable regulations
- family office

Who we are: Our mission is to advance the scientific knowledge of the mesosphere and lower thermosphere by developing and exploiting expertise in atmospheric physics, instrumentation, analysis and modelling to serve emerging societal needs – such as questions regarding climate change.

On the regional level, we closely cooperate with the University of Rostock and are an integral part of the teaching program of the Institute of Physics. Our network includes the research community worldwide. As an institute of the Leibniz Association, we distinguish ourselves as a modern and innovative employer that highly values family friendliness, equality of opportunity and flexibility.

Interested?

Please send your application as one combined pdf with complete, informative documents, including

- motivational letter
- curriculum vitae
- educational degree certificates
- copy of other relevant certificates

under indication of the keyword **2026-02**

to: personal@iap-kborn.de

The advertisement remains open until a suitable person has been appointed. Unfortunately, application and travel costs cannot be covered by the state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. By submitting your application, you consent to the processing of your personal data for the purpose of the application process.

Equal Opportunities: We are committed to a family-friendly personnel policy and actively promote diversity and equal opportunities. We particularly encourage qualified women to apply. Applicants with disabilities will be given preference if they are equally qualified.

Contact: For further information, please contact Dr. Astrid Maute (maute@iap-kborn.de) or inform yourself under www.iap-kborn.de.

