

JOB OFFER

The Royal Observatory of Belgium is looking for a scientist for the analysis and simulation of radio science data in the context of its participation in planetary space missions

A scientific position is available for the analysis and simulation of radio science data in the context of the PRODEX project Planet Interior, with funding from the Belgian PRODEX program of ESA and of the Belgian Federal Science Policy Office. The Royal Observatory of Belgium (ROB) is actively involved in ESA and NASA planetary missions to Mars and Mercury, as well as to the icy moons and small bodies of the solar system. Utilizing the collected data, particularly radio science measurements, the ROB planetary research team studies the internal structure of these bodies and their evolution.

The candidate will support activities related to ongoing missions (InSight, LaRa, MMX, and Hera missions). More specifically, the candidate will contribute to the analysis of all InSight/RISE data and to the optimization of the preprocessing chain of these data (data compression and noise reduction). He/she will support the PI ('Principal Investigator') of LaRa in his search for new flight opportunities for the instrument. The candidate will also assist the ROB research team in preparing for the radio science experiments of MMX and Hera through numerical simulations.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and motivated candidate with a master's degree or doctorate in sciences or engineering. We offer a competitive salary according to the SW11 pay scale for scientific personnel of the federal government, flexible working conditions, and additional benefits. The successful candidate will be recruited in activity Group 1 (scientific research).

WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The candidate must possess a master's degree in sciences or engineering. Applications will be considered from candidates who have multiple of the following characteristics:

- Experience/knowledge in planetary research,
- Experience/knowledge in space missions,
- Experience/knowledge in radio science,
- Experience/knowledge in space engineering,
- Scientific curiosity,
- Creative and pragmatic approach to problem-solving,
- Ability to work both in a team and independently,
- Proficiency in working in English.

HOW TO APPLY

Send a full CV (including grades), a motivation letter, and two or three reference names by 18 August 2024 to tim.vanhoolst@oma.be, head of the scientific service 'Reference Systems and Planetology', with copy to dir-rob@oma.be. The beginning of employment will be on October 1st, 2024 or later. The position ends on December 31, 2025, the end date of the project.