Germany : Ruhr University Bochum : Faculty of Computer Science : Institute of Neuroinformatics : Theory of Neural Systems

Application platform: https://jobs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/jobposting/b03ed1dd010514c25ed288e12387d801545bec501/apply?ref=homepage

In order to fill a fixed-term position in part-time (29.87 hours/week = 75%) 01.01.2027 pending funding approval, we are looking for candidates (m/f/x) for two Doctoral Positions.

The Institute of Neuroinformatics is a research institute of the Faculty of Computer Science at the Ruhr University Bochum, see https://www.ini.rub.de/. It focuses on the dynamics and learning of perception and behavior on a functional level but is otherwise very diverse, ranging from neurophysiology and psychophysics over computational neuroscience to machine learning and technical applications. Bochum is one of the centers of episodic memory research with a coherent framework developed within the DFG Research Unit 2812 "Constructing Scenarios of the Past" (https://for2812.rub.de/) combining psychology, neuroscience, philosophy, and computational neuroscience.

In order to fill two fixed-term positions in part-time (29.87 hours/week = 75%) from the 1st of January 2027, pending funding approval, we are looking for 2 doctoral students in the research group of Professor Laurenz Wiskott. The research focuses on modeling generative episodic memory within a large, highly interdisciplinary research consortium in close collaboration with experimental partners. The methods used draw from neural network theory and machine learning.

Your tasks:

* Contributing to the development of an integrated systems level model of generative episodic memory.
* Integrating this model with other aspects of cognition, such as planing and reasoning.
* Modeling experimental data.
* Communication with experimental partners.
* Publication of results.

Your profile:

* Very good Master degree in physics, mathematics, computer science, engineering, or a related field.
* Interest in interdisciplinary research in the area of neuroscience.
* Good programming and mathematical skills.
* Basic knowledge in machine learning.

Advantageous:

* Experience in modeling.
* Experience in interdisciplinary projects.
* Programming skills in Python.

We offer:

* Challenging and varied tasks with a high level of independence
* Collaboration in a committed and appreciative team

* Extensive training and professional development opportunities
* Options for flexible working (mobile working and teleworking)

* An interesting interdisciplinary environment in the field of theoretical brain research / machine learning.
* Freedom to shape the project yourself.
* Infrastructure that facilitates close integration into the institute and the research group.
* Opportunity to pursue a Ph.D.

Further information:

The position is salaried and based on the collective agreement of the Länder (TV-L). If the personal and collective agreement requirements are met, the employee will receive pay grade E13 TV-L.

Further information can be found at https://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/ (in German). The place of work is Ruhr University Bochum.

If the position is funded by third-party funds the employee has no teaching obligation.

RUB sees itself as a university with an international presence. The campus languages are German and English. Competence in at least one of the two languages and the willingness to learn the other are a prerequisite. RUB provides corresponding free courses for employees.

German language courses are offered by the University Language Center (ZFA) in the field of German as a Foreign Language (DaF). https://www.daf.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/daf/mitarbeitende/index.html.en

The Staff Council has the right to participate in all selection interviews. At the request of a candidate (m/f/x), it will ensure its participation in the entire procedure. Please contact wpr@rub.de.

The Ruhr-Universität Bochum is one of Germany's leading research universities, addressing the whole range of academic disciplines. A highly dynamic setting enables researchers and students to work across the traditional boundaries of academic subjects and faculties. To create knowledge networks within and beyond the university is Ruhr-Universität Bochum's declared aim.

The Ruhr-Universität Bochum stands for diversity and equal opportunities. For this reason, we favour a working environment composed of heterogeneous teams, and seek to promote the careers of individuals who are underrepresented in our respective professional areas. The Ruhr-Universität Bochum expressly requests job applications from women. In areas in which they are underrepresented they will be given preference in the case of equivalent qualifications with male candidates. Applications from individuals with disabilities are most welcome. Contact persons for further information:

Laurenz Wiskott , Tel.: +49 234 32 27997

Travel costs, accommodation costs and loss of earnings or other application costs for job interviews can unfortunately not be reimbursed.

We look forward to receiving your application via our online application portal by 2026-11-09. Please make sure to mention the reference number ANR 6248:
https://jobs.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/en/jobposting/b03ed1dd010514c25ed288e12387d801545bec501/apply?ref=homepage