

The Space Research Institute ([IWF](#)) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences ([OeAW](#)), Austria's leading non-university research and science institution, is offering a position as a

TECHNICIAN (F/M/X)
in Satellite Laser Ranging
(full-time, 40h per week)

The successful candidate will be appointed in the ASAP project "Arosa - The usage of laser ranging for space safety applications" and will join the Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR) group led by Dr. Michael Steindorfer at the Space Research Institute (IWF) in Graz. Within this project IWF will perform pointing determination to satellites and space debris based on image analysis techniques and plate solving. Plate solving is a technique to determine the observation direction based on the stellar background of stars. A low-cost system (telescope, mount, camera, objective) will be developed and a potential use case for engaged amateur astronomers shall be investigated.

Your tasks:

- Improvement of an existing Python software for debris detection, plate solving, scheduling
- Build an easy-to-use tracking system: mount, objective, astronomical camera
- Perform night-time measurement campaigns, testing the limits of the technology
- In cooperation with TU Graz: Improve space debris predictions based on the gathered datasets
- Investigate a use case of multiple globally distributed observation stations

Your profile:

- A background and working experience in software development
- Very good Python programming skills; insight into other programming languages (Fortran, C++)
- Experience with image analysis techniques and graphical user interfaces
- Hands-on experience with hardware development and interfaces

Our offer:

- A highly motivated team with broad expertise about all related topics
- Insights into one of the leading SLR stations worldwide
- Insight into a large number of international projects

The appointment is for a duration of 2 years. The appointment is planned to start September 01st 2024 or eventually earlier. We offer an annual gross salary of € 41.171,62 according to the collective agreement of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW).

A valid application must include (1) a curriculum vitae, (2) academic certificates, (3) a project list documenting programming experience (4) two letters of recommendation. Applications should be sent via email to michael.steindorfer@oeaw.ac.at (mentioning Job ID: IWF078TEC224) in a single PDF file.

The closing date of applications is July 15th, 2024. For inquiries, contact Dr. Michael Steindorfer michael.steindorfer@oeaw.ac.at.

The Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW) pursues a non-discriminatory employment policy and values equal opportunities, as well as diversity. Individuals from underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply.