JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
- Project Research Fellow (Project Researcher on Annual Salary System) at Astronomy Data Center, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) -

1. Job Title: Project Researcher (Project Research Fellow), one position

2. Division: Astronomy Data Center

3. Work Location: National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ), Mitaka, Tokyo
（Scope of possible changes）no changes

4. Area of Expertise: Astronomical Data Archive and/or Database Astronomy

5. Job Description:
Astronomy Data Center (ADC) of the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) operates the open-use astronomical data analysis computer systems and data archive systems with astronomical databases for delivering observational data to support astronomical activities worldwide. SMOKA (http://smoka.nao.ac.jp/) is one of these systems that provides raw data from various optical and infrared ground-based observatories such as the Subaru Telescope, Okayama 188cm Telescope, Kiso Schmidt Telescope of the University of Tokyo, MITSuME telescopes of the Institute of Science Tokyo, Kanata Telescope of Hiroshima University, and Seimei Telescope of Kyoto University, to contribute to scientific research and educational activities.

The successful candidate will spend as minimum as 50 % of the time on their own scientific research, which is encouraged to use the data stored in the ADC archive systems. The remaining time should be spent on tasks promoting the effective operation of the SMOKA system and data quality assurance and/or calibration of data stored in SMOKA. The successful candidate will also be expected to participate in the improvement and/or optimization of the SMOKA system or development of the next generation system, depending on their work progress and interest.
（Scope of possible changes）no changes

6. Terms of Appointment:
The selected candidate will begin work on October 1, 2025, or as soon as reasonably possible. The term of employment will be up to three years, including the probation period of six months.
Note:

(1) If the successful candidate had been employed by the National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS, which is an executive institute that manages NAOJ) within six months retroactively from the start date, the term will be set so that the total employment period after April 1, 2013 does not exceed ten years.

(2) If the successful candidate had been employed as an NAOJ Project Research Fellow, the term will be set so that the total accumulated period of employment does not exceed five years.

(3) Renewal is possible only once. The period of employment after renewal shall not exceed two years, and (2) above regarding the total period of employment shall apply as well.

(4) Annual performance review will be conducted.

7. Labor Conditions:

(1) Work Type and Work Hours:

The Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied. (Standard work hours: 38.75 hrs/week, from 8:30 to 17:15 with an hour intermission)

(2) Holidays:

Saturdays and Sundays, National Holidays, New Year holidays (December 29th - January 3rd), Paid days off (annual leave, refreshment leave, summer closure, etc.)

(3) Social Insurances:

MEXT Mutual Aid Association (health insurance), Employees' Pension Insurance, Employment Insurance, Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance

8. Remuneration:

The project researcher will be employed under an annual salary system, and will receive a salary of 350,000 JPY per month. Commuting expenses (up to 150,000 JPY per month) will be provided. Bonus and Retirement allowances are not provided.

- The fellow will receive annual research funds of 500,000 JPY.
- Day-care center for children (from 57 days old). *Availability depends on the situation. Childcare staff does not provide English support.
- Smoking is prohibited on the premises excluding designated outdoor smoking areas.
- Travel and relocation costs to NAOJ will be covered, subject to the travel regulations of NINS (details must be arranged with the administration office).
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9. Qualifications:

(1) The applicant must have a PhD degree in astronomy or related field or is expected to have it by the start date.

(2)　The applicant should have experience of programing on UNIX based computer systems using computer languages such as Python, JAVA, or C/C++ etc.

(3)　Experience in research utilizing archived data is desirable.

(4)　Knowledge of relational databases and/or web applications is preferred.

10. Selection Process:

A candidate will be selected through screening of application documents and interview (face-to-face or online). The expense for the interview will not be covered by NAOJ.

11. Required Application Documents: (*To be prepared in English)

(1) A curriculum vitae,

(2) A summary of past research activities (you may include your experience related to the tasks),

(3) A list of publications (Separate refereed and non-refereed papers. For co-authored papers, list all the names of authors),

(4) An outline of research plans (please include your aspirations for the tasks requested),

(5) One reference letter: Please ask your reference to upload the letter directly using the URL indicated in 13. before the application deadline. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the letter is submitted before the application deadline.

12. Closing Date for Application: Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and will close once the position is filled.

13. Submission:

Applicants are required to apply via the NAOJ Nextcloud on the web.

(1)　Please access the following URL for registration:
https://forms.office.com/r/dPN8T2V7ev

(2)　After you submit registration form, you will receive an email showing the URLs for (a) uploading your application documents, and (b) for your reference letter.

(3)　Please ask your reference 11.(5) to upload the letter via the URL (2)(b).

(4)　Please upload the application documents (from 11. (1) through 11. (4) above) via the URL (2)(a). These files must be in PDF format (max 50MB each, 100MB in total, at most 10 files).

14. Contacts:

If you have any question related to the job description, please contact;

　Hisanori Furusawa (Astronomy Data Center, NAOJ)

　E-mail: furusawa.hisanori_AT_nao.ac.jp (replace _AT_ with @)

If you have any questions related to the other items, please contact;
   E-mail: job12-pjt-researcher2_AT_nao.ac.jp (replace _AT_ with @)

15. Remarks

- Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process and for contacting you with necessary notices in connection with the selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate.

16. Name of recruiter

Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institutes of Natural Sciences (NINS), National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ)

17.Others

- Project researchers are eligible to apply for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI).
- Policy for Equal Employment Opportunity: Abiding by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act for Men and Women, NAOJ is committed to the realization of a society with gender equality. If two candidates are deemed equal in their performance evaluation, NAOJ will take positive action to employ women. If you have taken a leave(s) such as for maternity, childcare, and/or family care, please indicate it in your curriculum vitae. We will consider it when assessing your performance. For details, see https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/gender-equality/en/.