



Position as quality assurance, testing and validation engineer at the University of Geneva, Switzerland

The Geneva Observatory invites applications for the position of quality assurance, testing and validation engineer, for the Gaia Data Processing and Analysis of variable objects. Gaia is a cornerstone mission of the European Space Agency, launched in 2013 that is undertaking an unprecedented astrometric, photometric and spectroscopic survey of the Galaxy. At the Geneva Observatory a group of 8 scientists and software engineers leads the European-wide collaboration responsible for the variability processing and analysis of the Gaia data. Our task is to deliver the largest catalog of variable objects in the Universe ever made.

The variability processing of the Gaia data is a complex task and requires consistent testing and validation of the system and a clear definition of operational procedures. We are currently transitioning into a phase which is more 'operational'. In this phase, we cyclically process the Gaia data while performing incremental development to improve our workflow and pipeline. We are looking for someone with a strong affinity with quality assurance, testing and validation, who would also be responsible for the documentation to be delivered by the team, and who can perform software development. The applicant should be able to work independently, but also take initiative to clarify or trigger discussions when needed. In the team, we enjoy a continuous dialog between scientists and software engineers. The applicant is expected to participate in these dynamics particularly from a software, documentation and scientific quality assurance point of view.

We are searching for any of the following skills: organisational planning, quality assurance and documentation writing, testing and validation, operational work, knowledge of Java or Postgres (and/or software/database development). A scientific background and/or experience with large sets of data is a plus. The exact job description will be tailored to the experience of the successful candidate. The balance of tasks will be about 70% on QA, testing and validation, and 30% on development.

The applicant should have a higher education (Master's degree or higher) related to the fields that are applicable for this position. The position is available as soon as possible. Contracts will be initially for 6 months and then renewable on a yearly basis. The annual gross salary is typically between 70,000-100,000 Swiss Francs depending on past experience.

To apply, please send before **17 June 2016** a cover letter, a CV (listing education, experience, skills) and the names of three references to

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For more information see the following links:

Geneva Observatory: <http://obswww.unige.ch/Research/variability/>
Gaia Variability Processing homepage: <http://www.isdc.unige.ch/Gaia>
Gaia at ESA: <http://www.cosmos.esa.int/web/gaia>