



Postdoc (f/m/x) in Ecological Integrity Assessment (Statistical Modelling)

Place of work

Leipzig

Working time

100 % (39 h/week)

Contract limitations

limited contract / 2 years

Salary

Remuneration according to the TVöD public-sector up to pay grade 13 including attractive public-sector social security benefits.

Contact

Your contact for any

The UFZ

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) is a world-leading institution in environmental research and a member of the Helmholtz Association, Germany's largest scientific organisation. With approximately 1,200 employees across Leipzig, Halle, and Magdeburg, we have been conducting research since 1991 using a transdisciplinary approach to address the most pressing challenges of our time: biodiversity loss, climate change, and environmental pollution. Our goal is to translate excellent research into practical solutions for policymakers, business, and society, and to serve as a reliable partner in supporting transformation processes toward a sustainable and just future for current and future generations. We foster a culture of collaboration, openness, and diversity within a work environment that actively promotes creativity and personal development.

The job

This position aims to advance assessments of ecological

questions you may have about the job:

Alfred Burian
alfred.burian[at]ufz.de

Julia Pasqualini
julia.pasqualini[at]ufz.de

Your application

To ensure a **fair selection process**, please submit your application (cover letter, CV, and relevant supporting documents) via our online portal **without a photo**, age information, or details about your marital status.

Diversity and Inclusion

The UFZ values diversity and is actively committed to ensuring **equal opportunities** for all employees, regardless of their origin, religion, beliefs, disability, age or sexual identity. **We welcome people who represent diverse backgrounds, identities and perspectives.** We therefore particularly encourage people who are affected by structural discrimination to apply to us.

integrity **by contributing to the development of a novel approach rooted in community ecology.** Key targets will be to establish an approach that (i) focuses on ecosystem functionality, (ii) operates without the definition of reference states and (iii) is applicable across ecosystem types. A core part of your work will be to advance and test conceptual frameworks using biodiversity, trait and phylogenetic datasets from aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

You will be **part of an interdisciplinarity team** working on ecological integrity assessments across multiple departments at Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research-UFZ. The core team at the UFZ will be supported by a larger synthesis group (with researchers from University College London, Senckenberg Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre, Bristol University, and University of Giessen) who will assist in conceptual development and provide data from a range of different ecosystem types.

An important feature of this project is its strong **linkages to applied conservation work and policy design.** In the second year of the project, we will hence organize a workshop that interlinks researchers with local and national conservation practitioners and environmental policy professionals. Key targets of this workshop will be to evaluate potential applications of developed approaches and reflect on conservation values that are implicitly intertwined with their implementation.

Your tasks

- **Statistical modelling:** Analyses of long-term time-series and spatial datasets of community composition, linking community to trait and phylogenetic data
- **Data curation:** Quality control of individual datasets, linking and comparing different datasets
- **Coordination with project partners:** Taking over communication task with scientific and non-scientific project partners

We offer

- An international and welcoming research environment at the UFZ in Leipzig, a city widely considered for its high living quality and its social and cultural diversity
- A wide range of options for balancing care responsibilities and work through our family office
- The option to dedicate part of the work time for follow up grant applications
- A range of possibilities to engage in career development and training programmes, including the option to develop teaching skills through the support of selected university

courses

- Excellent computational research infrastructure and data management support
- Competent support and advice for international colleagues arriving at the UFZ from the 'International Office'
- Special annual payment, capital-forming benefits and subsidised Deutschland-Job-Ticket

Your profile

- Completed Doctorate in ecology, environmental, or a closely related field in the natural or social sciences
 - Good understanding of ecological theory, especially in community ecology
 - Strong knowledge of statistical, data-driven analyses and programming skills, preferably in R or Python
 - Willingness to contribute to the management of the research network supporting this project
 - Ability to work in a team, excellent communication skills, and strong scientific writing skills
 - Very good command of English
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