

The Faculty of Science and the Mathematical Institute invites applications for a four-year:

PhD position in Statistics (1.0 fte)

Vacancy number 17-024

Key responsibilities and Project description

The successful candidate will be working on fundamental questions in nonparametric Bayes theory. Nonparametric Bayes is a very active field within mathematical statistics with various applications ranging from biology to machine learning. The theory has been developed largely during the past years but remains a topic of active research with many challenging open problems.

The PhD position is financed by a TOP II grant from the Dutch science foundation. For an introduction you might consult <http://www.math.leidenuniv.nl/~avdvaart/talks/EMS1.pdf> or <http://www.math.leidenuniv.nl/~avdvaart/talks/EMS2.pdf>.

The PhD project will be carried out with Johannes Schmidt-Hieber. There is a large research community including many PhD students in the Netherlands (and in particular in Leiden) closely collaborating on similar projects. Regularly, joint nationwide seminars are organised.

Selection Criteria

- A MSc degree;
- A special focus on mathematical statistics or probability theory;
- An interest in programming is desirable;
- Excellent grades and good reference letters;

Research at our faculty

The Faculty of Science is a world-class faculty where staff and students work together in a dynamic international environment. It is a faculty where personal and academic development are top priorities. Our people are driven by curiosity to expand fundamental knowledge and to look beyond the borders of their own discipline; their aim is to benefit science, and to make a contribution to addressing the major societal challenges of the future.

The research carried out at the Faculty of Science is very diverse, ranging from mathematics, information science, astronomy, physics, chemistry and bio-pharmaceutical sciences to biology and environmental sciences. The research activities are organised in eight institutes. These institutes offer eight bachelor's and twelve master's programmes. The faculty has grown strongly in recent years and now has more than 1,300 staff and almost 4,000 students. We are located at the heart of Leiden's Bio Science Park, one of Europe's biggest science parks, where university and business life come together.

For more information, see <http://www.science.leidenuniv.nl>.

The Mathematical Institute is responsible for the mathematical research and education within the Faculty of Science. Currently, there are 120 staff members and 350 bachelor- and master students, from all over the world. The institute is characterized by its diverse mix of people, both in academic and cultural background.

For more information, see <http://www.math.leidenuniv.nl/en/home/>

Terms and conditions

We offer a one-year term position with the possibility of renewal based on need, funding and performance. Salary range from € 2,191.- to € 2,801.- gross per month (pay scale P, in accordance with the Collective Labour Agreement for Dutch Universities). There is no fixed starting date for the position.

Leiden University offers an attractive benefits package with additional holiday (8%) and end-of-year bonuses(8.3 %), training and career development and sabbatical leave. Our individual choices model gives you some freedom to assemble your own set of terms and conditions. Candidates from outside the

Netherlands may be eligible for a substantial tax break. Additional budget allows for research visits abroad and attendance of international conferences. More at <http://www.workingat.leiden.edu/>.

All our PhD students are embedded in the Leiden University Graduate School of Science www.graduateschools.leidenuniv.nl. Our graduate school offers several PhD training courses at three levels: professional courses, skills training and personal effectiveness. In addition, advanced courses to deepen scientific knowledge are offered by the research school.

Diversity

Leiden University is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from members of underrepresented groups.

Information

Enquiries about the position can be made to dr. Johannes Schmidt-Hieber, Assistant Professor in Statistics, email schmidthieberaj@math.leidenuniv.nl.

Applications

If you are interested in the position, please send an email with cv and a letter outlining research interests to Johannes Schmidt-Hieber, email schmidthieberaj@math.leidenuniv.nl.

Upon selection, letters of recommendation, evaluating the candidate's research experience, will be required from two or more references.

Only applications received **no later than 28 February 2017** can be considered.