

Job ID: ISF156JGL223

The Acoustics Research Institute ([ARI](#)), an interdisciplinary research institution of the Austrian Academy of Sciences ([OeAW](#)), Austria's leading non-university research facility, undertakes fundamental research in psychoacoustics, bioacoustics, acoustic phonetics, computational acoustics, mathematics, signal processing, and machine learning. A close interaction between ARI's clusters (organized in working groups) allows innovative research approaches based on the synergy from multidisciplinary and creates concepts that stimulate the individual research fields. As part of the OeAW, ARI is focused towards high-impact research comparable to Max-Planck or CNRS institutes. The institute invites applications of excellent young researchers for a position as

JUNIOR GROUP LEADER (F/M/X)

(full-time / 40h per week)

(for researchers in *computer science, mathematics of machine learning, or related fields*)

for a new group with the focus Machine Learning in Acoustics at the Acoustics Research Institute.

This position is comparable to a tenure-track professorship, with fewer administrative and no strict teaching duties, in order to allow the successful candidate to focus on research.

Details of the Two-Stage Selection Process

In the first application stage, candidates apply for a junior group leader position at ARI (*deadline January 14th, 2024*). The documents required for application are specified below. Applicants will be notified about their admission for the second stage by January 27th, 2024.

In the second stage, an admitted candidate applies for a WWTF grant in the ongoing VRG 24 (Vienna Research Group for Young Investigators) call, together with a proponent from ARI of the applicant's choice (*deadline for grant submission is March 19th, 2024, see www.wwtf.at*).

Solely the successful applicant, who receives such a WWTF grant, which amounts up to EUR 1.6 million for their proposed research group over 6-8 years, will be offered the position. The annual gross salary will be at least € 66.817,80, according to the collective agreement of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (OeAW). The contract will be for the duration of the WWTF grant. During this period the candidate will apply for tenure assessment by the OeAW. With a positive tenure assessment evaluation, the position will be tenured.

The new group is to be integrated into the ARI's *Numerics* or *Mathematics* cluster and should extend them with a research focus proposed by the successful candidate. The cluster *Numerics* comprises the working group *Physical and Computational Acoustics* (headed by H. Waubke). The cluster *Mathematics* comprises the working groups *Frame Theory and Implementation* (headed by ARI's director P. Balazs) and *Information and Inference* (headed by G. Koliander), as well as various project groups.

As a new group leader at ARI you will:

- Conduct innovative scientific research in a multidisciplinary environment, expanding ARI's research portfolio
- Develop a long-term research perspective in machine learning and its applications in acoustics
- Lead the new group, manage research projects, and coordinate the available resources
- Develop research proposals and acquire research grants to finance a significant proportion of the group with external funding, and
- Have a position on ARI's steering committee, and thereby a chance to influence the scientific and organizational long-term vision of the institute

Additionally, we strongly encourage:

- Active collaboration in interdisciplinary projects, with the other working groups of ARI and beyond
- Engagement in scientific networks and societies, conferences and journals related to your field of research
- Participation in public science events by introducing your scientific work to the general public, in particular the Long Night of Research or Noise Awareness Day, which are cornerstones of ARI's outreach strategy, and
- Adoption of the institute's team spirit and integration of the new group into the ARI Team

Successful applicants must have the following qualifications:

- A PhD (or equivalent degree) and up to eight years of postdoctoral research experience after their PhD (counting from the WWTF VRG grant submission deadline); care duties may extend this period up to four years.
- Eligible for the WWTF grant, i.e., (i) no current employment contract with an Austrian institution three months before the submission deadline until the submission deadline, (ii) being employed at a non-Austrian research institution for at least two years in the last three years counting from the submission deadline.
- Relevant experience in computer science, mathematics, or a suitable related field, with a focus on machine learning and data science (reflected by significant publications and projects).
- High potential to attract substantial external project funding in the future.
- A competitive and promising track-record appropriate to the applicants' career stage.
- A high potential to cooperate with at least two other work groups at ARI.
- Demonstrated research independence, maturity, and willingness to work in a team.

Applicants will be ranked higher if they:

- Have prior experience with applications in acoustics
- Have already demonstrated the ability to carry out multi-disciplinary research, by reaching outside and/or collaborating with researchers outside their main discipline.
- Have significant publications in machine learning and in acoustics
- Have shown experience in leading a research group and being involved in administrative and organizational duties, and
- Show high potential to extend the research focus of ARI in promising new directions

In the first stage, applicants are required to submit:

- A letter (no more than 5 pages) outlining their interest in the position, their relevant experience and their fit to this call, the institute and interaction with the other working groups of ARI
- A sketch of a proposal for a WWTF Vienna Research Group, including a research plan for the group (up to 8 pages)
- A Curriculum Vitae (up to 5 pages)
- A list of all their publications
- Up to three letters of recommendation, and
- A list of the three most important publications with short summaries explaining their relevance for this application

This call and the selection process can be terminated at any stage if no outstanding application is available. Since the funding decision by the WWTF is planned for October 2024, the appointment to this position is planned between November 2024 and March 2025.

Contact:

Submit applications before **January 14th, 2024** to sekretariat.isf@oeaw.ac.at.

Notifications for the second stage will be done before **January 27th, 2024**. Note that grant applications for the second stage are due until **March 19th, 2024**. More information of the [WWTF VRG](#) call.

If you have questions with respect to the position do not hesitate to contact Nicki Holighaus via email nicki.holighaus@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.