Koninklijk Nederlands
Meteorologisch Instituut
Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu

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KNMI

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Royal Bank of Scotland
IBAN NL23RBOS0569998387

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At the Department of R&D Satellite Observations there is a vacancy for a

Wind Scatterometer Scientist (PhD)

General information

The Koninklijk Nederlands Meteorologisch Instituut (www.knmi.nl) is an agency of the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment and the national institute for weather, climate and seismology. We provide safety-, economy-, and environment-related weather information to the public, government, aviation and marine sectors. From our central weather room in de Bilt weather forecasts and warnings are issued. The provision of knowledge, data and information is our key assignment. Moreover, KNMI researches climate change, weather, earth quakes and other geophysical phenomena. In all of these fields, we cooperate and collaborate internationally with sister organizations. Our research is directed towards the observation and analysis of climate and weather systems and their prediction. Research topics are selected on the basis of the state-of-the-art of the international weather and climate research and on the basis of government and society demands.

Research Group

The research will be carried out in the Earth Observation department, in the group working on satellite wind observations. The KNMI satellite wind research group is internationally renowned. We work closely together with EUMETSAT (www.eumetsat.int), ESA (www.esa.int) and other international organizations. Besides research, we are responsible for the operational and near-real time processing of the ocean wind vector observations of several satellite instruments (www.knmi.nl/scatterometer) and thus maintain a close link between research and applications.

Job information

Weather and ocean forecasters require accurate ocean vector wind inputs to follow evolving relevant and sometimes extreme dynamical phenomena and to capture coastal-scale processes. The ASCAT wind scatterometers, at the microwave C band, operationally produce a high-quality wind series and wind processing and monitoring activities are being further refined. The wind scatterometer scientist will engage to explore the Sentinel-1 satellite SAR measurements in order to validate the new coastal ASCAT wind data processor (AWDP) wind products. Moreover, novel wind scatterometers are emerging for which adapted wind data processors need development and testing. The research is part of the EUMETSAT Ocean and Sea Ice (OSI) and Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) Satellite Application Facility (SAF) projects and supported by the EUMETSAT SAF network. Coastal winds play an important role in coastal protection, wind energy, ship routing, off-shore, climate system dynamics, etc.. They determine the generation of sea waves and storm surges, the humidity, momentum and heat exchanges between air and sea, which are crucial for the forcing of ocean circulation models.

Further background information may be acquired through:

- KNMI scatterometer group: www.knmi.nl/scatterometer

- EUMETSAT SAF Network: www.eumetsat.int/website/home/Satellites/GroundSegment/Safs/index.html
- ASCAT: www.eumetsat.int/website/home/Satellites/CurrentSatellites/Metop/MetopDesign/ASCAT/index.html
- Copernicus S1 SAR: www.esa.int/Our_Activities/Observing_the_Earth/Copernicus/Sentinel-1

Requirements
As a PhD you graduated in physics, mathematics, meteorology, oceanography or equivalent. We value your experience in applied research, statistical and numerical analysis, and programming skills. Interest in microwave satellite data validation and evaluation is a clear bonus. Experience with meteorology or oceanography and peer-reviewed publications in the field of earth observation would be an asset, as well as knowledge of Fortran and scripting computer language(s) (e.g. bash, python). You have an analytical and independent mind, but also enjoy working in a team. Good communication skills, both verbally and written, in at least the English language are required.

Details:
- The position is for the duration of max 5 years, or as long as there is funding.
- Working place: De Bilt
- Salary: max € 4.415,77 gross per month (scale 11), depending on experience

The interviews for this position will take place on the 22nd, 23th or 24rd of June due to the holiday period. Please indicate your availability. Alternate earlier availability may be indicated and will be considered when feasible.

For further information you can contact Dr. Ad Stoffelen, +31 30 220 65 85 (office), +31 6 2240 9813 (mobile), e-mail ad.stoffelen@knmi.nl

To apply you can e-mail your letter and cv with reference to KNMI 2015/22 before June 12, 2015 to HRM@knmi.nl