The Department of Chemistry at TU Darmstadt is looking for two PhD students in the field of Conformation-Sensitive Mass Spectrometry with a fixed-term contract for 3 years. Start date is negotiable, but anticipated for early 2021. You will work under the direction of Prof. Dr. Frederik Lermyte.

Field of research:
Proteins perform their function by arranging specific functional groups in 3D space. Modern mass spectrometry approaches can rapidly probe sequence, modifications, and higher-order (secondary, tertiary, and quaternary) structure on the same platform. The Lermyte group works both on fundamental method development in this so-called “conformation-sensitive mass spectrometry” and the application to medically-relevant proteins. We are a partner in the LOEWE Consortium TRABITA, a collaboration between TU Darmstadt, Hochschule Darmstadt, and Goethe Universität Frankfurt. We also interact closely with the multinational Consortium for Top-Down Proteomics. Working in our group represents a unique opportunity to be involved in several important collaborative projects, and therefore excellent interpersonal and communication skills are a must. Specific techniques you will use in the course of this project include native mass spectrometry, top-down proteomics, ion mobility spectrometry, and hydrogen-deuterium exchange mass spectrometry.

Your profile:
• Master’s degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Physics, Biology, or a related field
• High degree of motivation and ability to work independently
• Good interpersonal and communication skills
• Good knowledge of English (speaking and writing)
• Prior experience with MS is a plus, but not critical. An interest in (bio)chemistry and biophysics is more important, as is a willingness to learn

We offer:
• A stimulating environment to conduct cutting-edge interdisciplinary research, of both fundamental and applied (i.e. medical) importance
• Unique opportunities to build a professional network and collaborate with leading researchers both in Germany and around the world

Opportunity for further qualification (doctoral dissertation) is given. The fulfillment of the duties likewise enables the scientific qualifications of the candidate.

The Technische Universität Darmstadt intends to increase the number of female employees and encourages female candidates to apply. In case of equal qualifications applicants with a degree of disability of at least 50 or equal will be given preference. Wages and salaries are according to the collective agreements on salary scales, which apply to the Technische Universität Darmstadt (TV-TU Darmstadt). Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you are interested:
Please send your application consisting of (1) a motivation letter explaining why you are interested in this position, (2) your CV, (3) relevant certificates and transcripts, and (4; optionally) letters of recommendation and other supporting documents, including the reference number, to the Dean’s Office of the Department of Chemistry, TU Darmstadt, Alarich-Weiss-Str. 8, Postfach 100636, 64206 Darmstadt, E-Mail: dekanat@chemie.tu-darmstadt.de

For further information or questions please contact Professor Lermyte by e-mail: frederik.lermyte@tu-darmstadt.de. Further information can be found at: https://www.chemie.tu-darmstadt.de/lermyte

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