



iDiv

German Centre for Integrative
Biodiversity Research (iDiv)
Halle-Jena-Leipzig

External Job Announcement Reg.-Nr. 4-4637/22-D

The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, in cooperation with the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig, offers the following position in Leipzig, starting **as soon as August 1, 2022**, although later start dates will be considered, and available for three years:

Postdoctoral Researcher (m/f/d)

Modelling biodiversity and its change across space and time

full-time employment, 100%

The salary will be up to Entgeltgruppe 13 TV-L, if the personal requirements and tasks are fulfilled. The workplace will be in Leipzig in the research group of Prof Jonathan Chase at the **German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig**.

The project:

As part of the HORIZON-INGRA-2021-TECH-01 project "Biodiversity Digital Twin for Advanced Modelling, Simulation and prediction capabilities", the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig offer a postdoctoral position to develop and execute simulation models intended to describe biodiversity patterns across space and time. The simulation models will ultimately contribute to a prototype 'digital twin' of biodiversity and its change in the face of anthropogenic pressures. The successful candidate will be affiliated with the **Biodiversity Synthesis Group** of Prof Jonathan Chase based at the iDiv centre in Leipzig. However, the candidate will also collaborate closely with other members of the BioDT consortium, most notably members of the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) (e.g. Ingolf Kühn, Volker Grimm, Franziska Taubert), also part of the iDiv consortium, and Otso Ovaskainen from the University of Jyväskylä, Finland.

Tasks:

- Modify and implement a metacommunity simulation model (based on Thompson et al. 2020, Ecology Letters) that can be applied to a dynamic and changing world. The model will be used to generate 'virtual ecologist' data, scenarios of scale-explicit predictions under changing pressures, and work towards a data-theory integration for understanding and predicting biodiversity change with other members of the consortium.
- Participation and collaboration within the BioDT consortium of biodiversity and computational scientists, as well as within the Biodiversity Synthesis group and other member groups at iDiv.
- Other activities as part of the iDiv team, including limited teaching opportunities, mentoring junior scientists, and participating in seminars and discussions.

Requirements:

- Scientific University degree (Diploma/ M.Sc.) in an area related to biodiversity science.
- Doctoral degree (PhD) in an area related to biodiversity science.
- Excellent computational skills (preferably using R, but other programming languages will also be useful); developing and working with large and complex simulation models and integrating with data.
- Fluent in English (spoken and written language) with excellent communication skills.



The Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg gives priority to applications from severely disabled candidates with equivalent qualifications. Women are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants with a degree that was not obtained at a German higher education institution must submit a Statement of Comparability for Foreign Higher Education Qualifications from the Central Office for Foreign Education ([Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen](#)) to prove equivalence.

Please submit your full application dossier in English with **registration number 4-4637/22-D** until 31.05.2022. Applications should be submitted on the website <https://apply.idiv.de>. Applications should include a motivation letter, curriculum vitae, certificates, and names of two senior scientists who could serve as possible references. For queries on the application process, please contact hr@idiv.de. For queries about the research project please contact Prof Jonathan Chase, Email: jonathan.chase@idiv.de. Application portfolios will not be returned, application costs will not be reimbursed.

iDiv is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse and inclusive community that collectively supports and implements our mission to do great science. We will welcome, recruit, develop, and advance talented staff from diverse genders and backgrounds.