

PhD and postdoc positions in theoretical evolutionary genetics at the University of Vienna, Austria

We invite applications for PhD and postdoc positions in theoretical evolutionary genetics at the University of Vienna, Austria. The positions are part of an ERC-funded project ‘Genes in Space’ (<https://mathevogen.github.io/genes-in-space.html>) that aims to model polygenic adaptation in spatially structured populations. We will then build upon this to better understand sources of confounding in Genome-wide Association Studies (GWAS). PhD and postdoc projects can be defined flexibly within this broad area, depending on the interests of the candidate. Work in the group is primarily theoretical, but there is also scope to develop projects at the theory-data interface with collaborators working on genomic inference in natural populations.

***Your profile.** We are looking for highly motivated candidates with an interest in evolutionary questions and mathematical modeling and/or statistical analysis, and strong communication and writing skills. PhD candidate(s) should have an MSc degree (or equivalent) in evolutionary/systems/computational biology, mathematical biology/biomathematics or a related field. Candidates with an M. Sc. in physics or mathematics who have a strong interest in evolution are also encouraged to apply. Quantitative skills are required and some coding experience is a strong plus. Postdoctoral candidates should have a PhD in genetics, genomics, mathematical biology or a related field, and have strong quantitative and computational skills. Experience with GWAS is a plus.

***What we offer.** PhD positions are available for 30h/week employment (standard PhD contract in Austria) for 3 years, with the potential for a 1 year extension. The postdoc position is available for 40h/week employment for 2 years with potential for further extension. The salary is according to standard University rates (<https://personalwesen.univie.ac.at/en/jobs-recruiting/salary-scheme/>). Contracts include health insurance and 25 days of holidays per year. The starting date is somewhat flexible but needs to be in the first half of 2026.

The positions provide an opportunity to explore interesting questions in a collaborative and interdisciplinary environment. The new evolutionary genetics group (<https://mathevogen.github.io/>) that the candidates will join is affiliated with both the Faculty of Life Sciences and Faculty of Mathematics, providing members with access to resources (courses, seminars) and collaborative opportunities in both. Moreover, the Vienna area is a hub for evolutionary biology with a large number of research groups working on diverse questions (<https://www.evolvienna.at/>), creating a dynamic and stimulating environment. The city of Vienna is known for its quality of life, including easy access to nature and cultural activities.

***How to apply.** PhD candidates should send a single pdf file including a CV, a record of MSc transcripts, a letter of motivation and contact details of two referees. Postdoctoral candidates should send a single pdf with a CV, a statement of research interests and contact details of two referees. If interested, please send your application materials directly to himani.sachdeva@univie.ac.at latest by 15th September. Please also feel free to contact me for informal queries and further information.