Lohrmann Observatory, Technische Universität Dresden (http://astro.geo.tu-dresden.de) is seeking **as soon as possible** for a highly motivated appointee to participate in the astrometric data processing for the ongoing ESA Cornerstone mission Gaia (http://www.rssd.esa.int/Gaia) as a

Research Fellow

(when the personal conditions have been met employees are remunerated in salary group E 13 TV-L)

until **31.12.2017**. The period of employment is governed by § 2 Fixed Term Research Contracts Act (Wissenschaftszeitvertragsgesetz - WissZeitVG). There is a possibility for extensions up to the end of the Gaia data processing in about 2022 (subject to funding). Gaia is an ongoing all-sky astrometric survey of about one billion stars at a microarcsecond level of accuracy. Data processing for this highly ambitious space mission is being performed by a large scientific consortium distributed all over Europe. Lohrmann Observatory coordinates an international group responsible for relativistic modelling of astrometric data and for the use of micro-arcsecond astrometric observations for tests of General Relativity and other aspects of fundamental physics. Other responsibilities of the team are related to certain calibrations of the instrument and the quality assurance of the final astrometric results.

Tasks: The successful candidate will be expected to participate and to take responsibilities in the development of algorithms and software for various aspects of astrometric data processing. This software is a part of the Java software system being developed by the Gaia community for the data processing. Depending on the qualification and personal interests of the candidate the work can be focused either on software development or on physical and/or mathematical aspects of the algorithms. It is expected that the appointee will present the work of the Gaia group on various Gaia workshops held throughout Europe.

Requirements: Successful completion of university studies in astronomy, physics, applied mathematics, computer science or related areas is required. The applicant should have a reasonable experience in software development in a team. The knowledge of Java and standard development tools (eclipse, svn, JUnit etc.) as well as usual operating systems (Unix, Windows) and their tools is essential. Further requirements include: ability to interdisciplinary collaboration, readiness for international exchange, capacity for independent, goal-oriented work, high motivation, readiness to integrate and to take on responsibilities in the team. Other programming skills are a plus. Background in applied mathematics (for example, statistical data analysis), physics and astronomy is highly desirable.

Informal enquiries are welcome (Tel. +49 (0)351 463-32821, Fax +49 (0)351 463-37019, e-mail: **sergei.klioner@tu-dresden.de**).

Applications from women are particularly welcome. The same applies to people with disabilities.

Interested candidates should send their applications by **10 March 2015** (stamped arrival date of the university central mail service applies) to: **Sergei Klioner, Lohrmann-Observatorium, TU Dresden , 01062 Dresden, Germany.** Please submit copies only, as your application will not be returned to you. Expenses incurred in attending interviews cannot be reimbursed.