



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

**Research Assistant in Atmospheric Chemistry,
Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences**



Salary: Grade 6 (£30,487 - £36,024 p.a.)

Reference: EPSCH1107

Closing date: Tuesday 23 July 2024

Fixed term for 4 months

We are open to discussing flexible working arrangements

Research Assistant in Atmospheric Chemistry, School of Chemistry.

Are you an ambitious researcher looking for your next challenge? Are you looking to apply your skills in atmospheric chemistry or experimental gas phase physical chemistry to the development of sensitive optical techniques to measure trace reactive species relevant to the atmosphere?

As a Research Assistant in Atmospheric Chemistry, you will develop the use of high-resolution cavity enhanced UV absorption spectroscopy to make direct and absolute measurements of reactive species in an atmospheric simulation chamber. These measurements will reduce uncertainties in our understanding of the chemistry of trace species in our atmosphere and will provide the basis for development of calibration methods for indirect measurements. You will also have opportunities to contribute to the development of high-resolution infrared absorption spectroscopy to detect reaction products in systems relevant to the atmosphere.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Assistant, your main duties will include:

- Carrying out kinetics experiments involving time-resolved broadband UV absorption spectroscopy;
- Developing the use of cavity enhanced absorption spectroscopy techniques;
- Analysing and interpreting data from experimental measurements;
- Supporting research activities, including contributing to research results and outputs and to the generation of original ideas, ensuring a successful programme of investigation;
- Writing reports, undertaking literature reviews and preparing papers for publication, with guidance as necessary;
- Collating and analysing data to inform the direction and progression of the research project;
- Participating in the research group and presenting research output where appropriate;
- Working both independently and as part of a larger team of researchers and stakeholders;
- Contributing to the research culture of the School, where appropriate;



- Continually updating your knowledge, understanding and skills in the research field.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Assistant you will have:

- An undergraduate or masters degree in Chemistry or a closely allied discipline;
- A strong background in the experimental study of atmospheric chemistry;
- Experience in the use of time-resolved broadband absorption spectroscopy to measure gas phase reaction kinetics;
- Experience in analysis of results obtained in experiments using time-resolved broadband absorption spectroscopy;
- Good interpersonal and communication skills, both written and verbal and the ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Well-developed analytical skills;
- Good time management and planning skills, with the ability to meet tight deadlines;
- A proven ability to work well both independently and in a team;
- The ability to work accurately, unsupervised and use your own initiative.

You may also have:

- A PhD (or close to completion) in Physical Sciences or a closely allied discipline;
- Experience of contributing to the writing of papers for publication.

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23:59** (UK time) on the advertised [closing date](#).



Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

[Dr Daniel Stone](#), Associate Professor

Tel: +44 (0)113 343 6508

Email: D.Stone@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Please note: If you are not a British or Irish citizen, you will require permission to work in the UK. This will normally be in the form of a visa but, if you are an EEA/Swiss citizen and resident in the UK before 31 December 2020, this may be your passport or status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

Faculty and School Information

Further information is available on the research and teaching activities of the [Faculty of Engineering & Physical Sciences](#), and the [School of Chemistry](#).

A diverse workforce

As an international research-intensive university, we welcome students and staff from all walks of life and from across the world. We foster an inclusive environment where all can flourish and prosper, and we are proud of our strong commitment to student education. Within the Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences we are dedicated to diversifying our community and we welcome the unique contributions that individuals can bring, and particularly encourage applications from, but not limited to Black, Asian and ethnically diverse people; people who identify as LGBT+; and people with disabilities. Candidates will always be selected based on merit and ability.

The Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences are proud to have been awarded the Athena SWAN [Silver](#) Award from the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector. Our [equality and inclusion webpage](#) provides more information.



Working at Leeds

We are a campus-based community and regular interaction with campus is an expectation of all roles in line with academic and service needs and the requirements of the role. We are also open to discussing flexible working arrangements. To find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area visit our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Information for disabled candidates

Information for disabled candidates, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at hr@leeds.ac.uk

Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

Please note that due to Home Office visa requirements, this role may only be suitable for first-time Skilled Worker visa applicants if they are eligible for salary concessions. For more information, please visit: www.gov.uk/skilled-worker-visa.

For research and academic posts, we will consider eligibility under the Global Talent visa. For more information, please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/global-talent>.

