Saarland University is a campus university that is internationally recognized for its strong research programmes. Fostering young academic talent and creating ideal conditions for teaching and research are a core part of the university's mission. As part of the University of the Greater Region, Saarland University enables students and staff to share and exchange knowledge and ideas between disciplines, between universities and across borders. With over 17,000 national and international students, studying more than a hundred different academic disciplines, Saarland University is a diverse and dynamic learning environment. [Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4,000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Institute of Physiology at Campus Homburg is inviting applications for the following position commencing 01 November 2026

Doctoral Research Position (m/f/x)

Reference number W2928 , salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale[1], pay grade: E13 TV- L, duration of employment: 2 years with the option to prolong the role, volume of employment: 100 % of standard working time.

Workplace/Department:

A postdoctoral position is available at the Institute of Physiology at Saarland University (Homburg campus, https://cipmm.uni-saarland.de/en/physiology) in the Department of Systemic Neurophysiology (Sauer Lab). The position will focus on investigating neuronal mechanisms of learning and is affiliated with the Center for Integrative Physiology and Molecular Medicine.

We apply state-of-the art in vivo electrophysiological and calcium imaging methods along with complex data analysis tools to probe neuronal network activity during cognitive behaviour. The projects are associated with collaborative research initiatives (FOR5159: https://www.for5159.de/, CRC/TRR384: https://sfb-trr384.de/), giving a unique opportunity for scientific exchange and collaboration.

[1] TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German *Länder*
The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.

Job requirements and responsibilities:

- Perform cutting edge analysis of in vivo datasets, including of high-density Neuropixels recordings and/or calcium imaging datasets,
- Design, implement and further develop novel population analysis routines,
- Work hand-in hand with experimentalists to shape ongoing and new projects

Your academic qualifications:

- MSc in Physics, Mathematics, Neuroscience or a related field.
- Ph.D. (or equivalent) in Computational Neuroscience or a related field.
- Prior experience with population analysis or network modelling
- Advanced programming skills, ideally in Python
- Strong motivation and ability to work both independently and collaboratively as a member of interdisciplinary teams

The successful candidate will also be expected to:

- be highly motivated with a strong interest in neuroscience
- strong interest in collaborative work within the team
- have experience with rodent model systems
- possess hands-on experience with either in vivo electrophysiology, in vivo calcium imaging or computational modelling (e.g., spiking network models)
- demonstrate a strong background in scientific programming (e.g., population data analysis), ideally in Python
- willingness to contribute to academic teaching is beneficial
- Fluency in English

What we can offer you:

- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services ('Job-Ticket' of the saarVV)
- Job bike leasing (JobRad)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in a PDF file) by **28.10.2026** to **sekretariat-sauer@uni-saarland.de**. Please include the reference number **W2928** in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any **questions**, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:
Herr Prof. Dr. Jonas-Frederic Sauer
jonas.sauer@uni-saarland.de

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages

applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. Please refer to our privacy notice for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung. By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.