

**Job Title:** Research Associate (Mathematics of Planet Earth)

**Grade:** 7

**Salary:** £39,355 per annum , pro-rata if part-time

**Department:** School of Computing and Mathematical Sciences

**Hours/Contract:** Full-time or job share, fixed term contract from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2027

**Job Family:** Teaching and Research

**Reference:** 11789

## Role Purpose

To have specific responsibilities with an established research programme. To work collaboratively and independently as part of a research team to achieve defined milestones and produce high quality research as part of a wider programme.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

### Research Activities

- Develop or oversee the development of theoretical tools aimed at advancing our understanding of the Earth's climate
- Develop or oversee the development of data-driven methods that can be used for linking natural variability and response, and for detecting and attributing observed anomaly signals in the climate and more general stochastic dynamical systems.
- Develop or oversee the development of numerical modelling tools supporting theoretical investigations in climate research
- Lead in the analysis and processing of large sets of data.
- Producing user-friendly software in matlab and/or python.
- Lead in writing up research developments for dissemination amongst the research team and broader international community, and develop ideas and contributions for future grants, technical outputs.
- Represent the research group by disseminating results/findings at national and international conferences and broader community.

### Impact and Knowledge Exchange:

- To work, contribute and collaborate with current and potential academic partners.
- To engage positively and pro-actively in research impact of the university.

### Professional Development:

- Attend conferences, seminars and workshops to engage in work that supports your own professional development.
- Write, publish and present research papers in leading academic venues.

### Leadership and Citizenship:

- Provide mentorship, support and guidance to other team members, research staff, students, and early career researchers.





## Internal and External Relationships

- Work with other university staff and students, act as a mentor for junior researchers
- Investigate and propose new research ideas related to critical transitions in the Earth system and other complex systems
- Interact, collaborate and build partnership with external university linkages, industry partners and academic institutes.
- Present research to potential industry partners and academic venues such as conferences, workshops and seminars.
- Work with other university staff and students, act as a mentor for junior researchers and may assist in teaching responsibilities.

## Planning and Organising

You will be required to effectively manage your time to plan your research activity and to deliver on the priorities of the project:

- Must prioritize tasks within agreed work schedules. The candidate should be able to work independently and also with the principal investigator if needed to prioritize tasks and come up with realistic work schedules.
- Must plan for specific aspects of research incorporating issues such as deadlines, project milestones and overall research aims.
- Adapt daily and weekly plans to accommodate new developments and be flexible to the changing priorities of the research project.

## Qualifications, Knowledge and Experience

### Essential

- Achieved a PhD in mathematics, physics, Earth sciences, or cognate discipline\*
- Strong knowledge of mathematical modelling and data analysis methods for complex system\*
- Advanced knowledge of climate dynamics and/or ecosystem dynamics\*
- Research experience\*

### Desirable

- Experience in interdisciplinary research activities and environment.
- Experience with large datasets and data-driven methods.

## Skills, Abilities and Competencies

### Essential

- Good writing and presentation skills
- Good communication skills.
- Willingness and ability to work with internal and external stakeholders
- Evidence of continued development of subject expertise



- Evidence of working effectively as part of a team and the ability to work independently
- Working towards independence and ability to be involved in collaborative research
- Evidence and commitment to Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for yourself, and encourage commitment to learn and develop in others
- Collegiate member of a research team

***\*Criteria to be used in shortlisting candidates for interview***

## Reason for Fixed Term Contract

The reason for the fixed term contract is stated in section 1.9 in the summary of contractual terms in your contract of employment.

## Criminal Declaration

If you become an employee, you must inform your manager immediately, in writing, if you are the subject of any current or future police investigations/legal proceedings, which could result in a criminal offence, conviction, caution, bind-over or charges, or warnings.

## Supporting University Activities

As a University of Leicester citizen, you are expected to support key university activities such as clearing, graduation ceremonies, student registration and recruitment open days. We expect all staff as citizens to work flexibly across the University if required.

## University Values

**Inclusive** - We are diverse in our makeup and united in ambition. Our diversity is our strength and makes our community stronger.

**Inspiring** - We are passionate about inspiring individuals to succeed and realise their ambitions. We challenge our community to think differently, to get involved, and to constantly embrace new ideas.

**Impactful** - As Citizens of Change we will generate new ideas which deliver impact and empower our community

## Equity and Diversity

We believe that equity, diversity and inclusion is integral to a successful modern workplace. By developing and implementing policies and systems that challenge stereotypes across all aspects of our work, we have a culture that recognises and values the diverse contributions of our staff which benefits everyone. Our strong values of inclusivity and equity support our efforts to attract a diverse range of high quality staff and students, and identify our University as a progressive and innovative workplace that mainstreams equity, diversity and inclusion.

