



Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M, www.uc3m.es)
invites applications to fill PhD position ZARATHUSTRA-D7

Position description and objectives:

Your PhD thesis will consist in the **experimental development and characterization of electrodeless plasma thrusters with magnetized plasma expansions**. The contract will be funded under the **ERC Starting Grant project ZARATHUSTRA** (Revolutionizing advanced electrodeless plasma thrusters for space transportation, erc-zarathustra.uc3m.es). The candidate will join the Plasma and Space Propulsion Team (EP2, ep2.uc3m.es) at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid under the supervision of professor M. Merino, and collaborate closely with other researchers.

Requirements:

- Young MSc holder (and a total of 300 ECTS completed among BSc + MSc)
- Strong background in the following disciplines: Aerospace Engineering, Plasma Physics, Fluid Dynamics, Electromagnetism. Excellent candidates from other disciplines are also invited to apply.
- Previous design/laboratory experience is highly desirable.
- Outstanding academic record; critical & creative thinking.
- Team-working and communications skills; Previous international experience desirable
- Ability to deal independently and proactively with scientific and engineering challenges.
- Good proficiency in English (oral & written).

What we offer:

- Up to 4-year contract; starting annual gross salary 25 k€; productivity bonuses.
- Become part of a young, dynamic, highly qualified, collaborative team.
- Opportunity to travel to international conferences to present research activities.
- Opportunity to carry out a research internship abroad.
- Flexible working environment and schedule.

How to apply:

Interested candidates must send their applications to ep2@uc3m.es indicating in the email subject the reference “ZARATHUSTRA-D7,” and attaching the following documents in pdf format:

- A motivation letter highlighting candidate’s skills, experience and research goals (max. 1 page).
- CV, including relevant education and work experience
- The contact information of up to two references (will be contacted during the hiring process)
- Sample of best works of the candidate (e.g. MSc thesis).

Application deadline is **June 30, 2024, but the position will be filled as soon as a suitable candidate is found**. Contract will begin in September 2024, though an earlier/later start date can be arranged. Applications from women and minorities are particularly encouraged.