

The following position is available at the Department of Computer Science at TU Dortmund University in a joint appointment procedure with the German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt e. V., DLR), starting at the earliest possible date:

Professorship (W2) Systems Engineering for Safety-Critical Applications

in connection with the position as

Department Head (f/m/x) in the area of "Safety-Critical Applications and Evaluation" at the DLR Institute Systems Engineering for Future Mobility

The successful candidate will be appointed as a professor at TU Dortmund University and will be granted leave to the DLR Institute in Oldenburg with a reduced teaching load of two hours per week (2 SWS).

Our profile

TU Dortmund University comprises 17 departments in the natural and engineering sciences as well as the humanities and social sciences and is a dynamic university with a strong profile in research, teaching, promotion of young scientists and transfer.

The Department of Computer Science at TU Dortmund University is one of the largest and most research-intensive in Germany. With its two affiliated institutes, the Lamarr Institute for Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence and the Research Center Trustworthy Data Science and Security, we conduct cutting-edge research in the fields of artificial intelligence and trustworthiness. We combine basic research on formal methods with the development of practical systems, including in our other research areas of focus: algorithms, cyber-physical systems, as well as software and service engineering.

DLR is the national aeronautics and space research center of the Federal Republic of Germany. Its extensive research and development work in aeronautics, space, energy, transport, civilian security and defense research and digitalization is integrated into national and international cooperative ventures. DLR develops technologies for a sustainable future and contributes to strengthening Germany as a center of knowledge and business through knowledge exchange with public stakeholders and transfer to the economy.

The DLR Institute Systems Engineering for Future Mobility is based in Oldenburg and investigates methods, processes and tools for increasing and safeguarding the technical reliability of automated and autonomous transportation systems.

Your tasks

By assuming the professorship, you will be granted a leave of absence in accordance with the so-called "Jülicher Modell" to take over the position of Department Head in the area of "Safety-Critical Applications and Evaluation" at the DLR Institute Systems Engineering for Future Mobility in Oldenburg.

The focus here is on the

- development of safety-critical components and systems, e.g., in shipping, and for security and defense, or in road and rail transport,
- development, validation, and introduction of assessment and certification methods for safeguarding and approval of highly automated and autonomous AI-based components and transport systems,
- development and validation of standards for automated and autonomous transportation systems,
- knowledge exchange with ministries, authorities, and organizations, especially those with security responsibilities,
- transfer to industry.

You represent the field of Systems Engineering and develop it further at a top international level. In doing so, you participate in research networks and cooperations within and outside DLR and TU Dortmund University and are committed to promoting early career researchers. As part of the joint appointment, you are also required to teach two hours per week at the Department of Computer Science at TU Dortmund. Due to your leave of absence, you are not required to participate in university committees.

Your qualifications

You are a scientifically renowned expert with extensive experience and an excellent track record in the field of systems engineering, which you demonstrate through international publications in recognized peer-reviewed venues, especially in recent years.

A research focus in the field of future transportation systems or in the area of safety-critical applications is a plus. You have obtained a doctorate with above-average success and have acquired a postdoctoral lecture qualification (Habilitation) or an equivalent qualification. You are experienced in industry collaborations, knowledge exchange with public stakeholders, and transfer to the economy, and have gained experience in acquiring competitive third-party funding. In addition, several years of experience in managing large groups, ideally in industry, and experience in interdisciplinary cooperation as well as in cooperation at the national and international level are expected. Additionally, you have the potential for teaching excellence. Social and leadership skills and the willingness to participate in academic self-administration complete your profile.

Furthermore, the willingness to participate in topics in the field of defense technology research at the DLR is required. Moreover, the recruitment requirements in Sections 36 and 37 of the North Rhine-Westphalia Higher Education Act (*Gesetz über die Hochschulen des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen*, HG) apply.

Attractive environment

DLR and TU Dortmund University offer an excellent academic environment and attractive cooperation opportunities with renowned international, national, and regional partners. The metropolitan Ruhr Area with the University Alliance Ruhr (UA Ruhr) guarantees short distances to a diversity of partners from science and industry. With our Dual Career Service, we support your partner in finding professional opportunities in the region, if desired. We are happy to provide information about housing and living in Dortmund and/or Oldenburg and help you find childcare options. If you are coming to us from abroad, our Welcome Service will support you upon your arrival in Germany.

Diversity welcome

A central goal of TU Dortmund University and DLR is to promote diversity and equal opportunities. We strive to significantly increase the percentage of women in research and teaching and therefore welcome applications from female academics. We support the compatibility of family and career and promote gender equality in academia and research. We give preference to severely disabled applicants if their qualifications meet the requirements.

Your application

If you are interested in the position, please submit your application by **13.01.2026** via the **application portal** of TU Dortmund University. Please address your application letter to both the Divisional Board Member for Energy and Transport at DLR, Prof. Dr. Meike Jipp, and the Dean of the Department of Computer Science at TU Dortmund University, Prof. Dr. Jens Teubner.

Details on the application process and the preparation of application documents can be found here: **berufung.tu-dortmund.de/en/application**

Questions will be answered by the Dean of the Department of Computer Science, Prof. Dr. Jens Teubner, Tel. **+49 231 755-6481** or **dekan@cs.tu-dortmund.de**, respectively the Director of the DLR Institute Systems Engineering for Future Mobility, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Axel Hahn, Tel. **+49 441 770507-100** or **axel.hahn@dlr.de**.

Security clearance as well as the willingness to security clearance pursuant to § 8 ff. Security Clearance Act (SÜG) is a condition for employment at DLR.

Further information about the Department of Computer Science can be found at **<https://cs.tu-dortmund.de/en/>**. Further details about the DLR Institute Systems Engineering for Future Mobility can be found at **www.dlr.de/se**.

The processing of your personal data by DLR is based on a contract between the university and DLR in accordance with Articles 26 and 28 of the GDPR (*Datenschutzgrundverordnung*, DSGVO).