

## Job Posting (for Postdoctoral Researcher)

Affiliation	<b>Earth-Life Science Institute (ELSI)</b>
Position title	Researcher
Number of Openings	1
Area of Specialization	Experimental geochemistry and thermophysics with application to planetary science. Candidates with experience in thermal analysis (differential scanning calorimetry, thermogravimetry, or related techniques), organic or mineral geochemistry, and the thermodynamic characterization of geological or astrochemical materials are particularly encouraged to apply.
Job Description	<p>The laboratory of Assoc. Prof. Mohit Melwani Daswani at the Earth-Life Science Institute (ELSI) seeks a motivated postdoctoral researcher to lead experimental work on the thermal and thermodynamic properties of organic matter and mineral assemblages relevant to ocean worlds and other planetary bodies. The lab hosts a recently acquired Simultaneous Thermal Analysis/Thermogravimetry Analysis/Differential Scanning Calorimetry instrument with temperature-modulated DSC capability, and this position is central to establishing and advancing its scientific use.</p> <p>The researcher will design and carry out calorimetric measurements (including heat capacity determination via modulated DSC, decomposition enthalpies, and mass-loss characterization via TGA) on samples ranging from pure polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and insoluble organic matter analogs to organic–mineral mixtures simulating planetary interior conditions. Samples will include meteoritic materials, synthetically altered organic analogs, and natural geological samples.</p> <p>A key objective is generating high-quality thermodynamic datasets (heat capacity functions, phase transition temperatures, decomposition kinetics) that feed directly into thermodynamic modeling of ocean world interiors.</p> <p>The researcher will work in close collaboration with a computational postdoctoral researcher in the same group, and is expected to contribute to shared experimental design, data interpretation, and co-authorship on joint publications.</p> <p>Strong communication skills and a genuine interest in bridging experiment and theory are essential. Researchers with backgrounds in organic geochemistry, materials thermophysics, cosmochemistry, or related fields are welcome to apply.</p> <p>Communication at ELSI is conducted in English. Full support for research activities in Japan is provided for international appointees.</p>
Qualifications	Candidates should hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D. or equivalent).

Location	Ookayama Campus Nearest station: Ookayama
Working Hours	De facto working hours* under the discretionary labor system: 7 hours 45 minutes per day (38 hours 45 minutes per week) *Hours considered as working hours
Term	1 year from date of hire. (The contract may be extended). The employment period is subject to Article 7 of the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.
Probationary Period	14 days (The probationary period is subject to Article 12 of the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.)
Salary	Annual salary (annual base salary) (Monthly salary) ¥418,000 - ¥585,000, depending on experience. The applicant's salary will be determined in accordance with the Institute's Employment Regulations for Fixed-Term Staff.
Social insurance and other benefits	Employee's pension, MEXT Mutual Aid Association short term benefits (health insurance), employment insurance, worker's compensation Insurance
Employer	President and Chief Executive Officer of the National University Corporation Institute of Science Tokyo
Proposed Start Date	The earliest possible date thereafter
Closing Date for Application	Applications must be received by 5 pm, June 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2026 JST. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis . This job posting will close if a successful candidate is finalized, even if before the posted deadline.
Selection Process	Reviewing the submitted materials and selected candidates will be interviewed on-line or in-person. Travel expenses for attending in-person interviews will not be reimbursed.
Required Documents	Please prepare the following materials in PDF format. There is no set format. All documents must be provided in English. Please clearly state "Applying for Experimentalist" in your documents, as the Melwani Lab is currently recruiting for two different positions. 1. Curriculum vitae including educational background, professional experience, honors, and awards, mailing address, and e-mail address. 2. List of research achievements classified into the following categories (a: peer-reviewed journal papers, b: presentations in international conferences, c: books, d: Education experiences, and others). Please indicate publications in which you are the first author with an asterisk (*). Please highlight up to three most important papers. 3. Up to 2 reprints of major original papers. 4. List of acquired external research grants, fellowships, or competitive funds. The type, project title, period of research, and budget should be provided for each item. Please specify applicant's contribution as a principal or cooperative investigator. In case where you act as co-investigator, please specify the total and allocated budgets.

	<p>5. Research achievements and plans for research at ELSI (any format, about 2 pages of A4 paper)</p> <p>6. List of names and contact information of two references. The name, affiliation, e-mail address, and their relationship to the applicant should be provided.</p>
How to Submit an application	<p>Please combine all specified documents into a single PDF file and upload it to the Box URL below by 5:00 PM on June 15th, 2026 (JST).  <a href="https://science-tokyo.app.box.com/f/c62b455629da4633b42545d06ca8037b">https://science-tokyo.app.box.com/f/c62b455629da4633b42545d06ca8037b</a>  Please clearly state "Applying for Experimentalist" in your documents.</p>
Contacts	<p>Please address questions to Mohit Melwani Daswani, Associate Professor  E-mail: melwani [at]elsi.jp (replace [at] by @)</p>
Other	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. During the selection process, candidates may be requested to provide additional information.</li> <li>2. Application documents will not be returned. The personal information provided in the submitted documents will be used solely for recruitment and not for any other purpose, pursuant to the Institute's applicable rules and regulations.</li> <li>3. The Institute, in order to ensure a diverse workforce, guarantees equal opportunities for all individuals regardless of nationality or gender.</li> <li>4. Smoking is prohibited on campus except in designated areas.</li> <li>5. Questions regarding the applicability of the "Specific Categories" under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act may be asked during the selection process.</li> <li>6. For more information, please refer to the following link.  <a href="https://www.jinji2.jim.titech.ac.jp/koubo/en/">https://www.jinji2.jim.titech.ac.jp/koubo/en/</a></li> </ol>