

## Open PhD positions

The Department of Aquatic Microbial Ecology, Institute of Hydrobiology, CAS, invites applications from prospective PhD students for the Doctoral Study Programme in Hydrobiology at the Faculty of Science, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

Two PhD positions are open in the Department of Aquatic Microbial Ecology, Institute of Hydrobiology, Ceske Budejovice, Czech Republic to study microbial and viral communities in freshwater environments using metagenomics.

**Background:** The major focus of the laboratory is high-resolution sequencing based analyses of freshwater bodies (metagenomics) to reconstruct genomes of entire natural microbial populations and relating their dynamics to their environment. We are interested in both the microbes and the viruses that infect them. In the absence of pure cultures such approaches are the only way to begin to understand such systems. The second major thrust is towards understanding evolutionary diversifications in natural viral populations and virus-host interactions.

In collaboration with other members of the institute, a polyphasic approach, combining metagenomics, data from cultures of environmentally relevant strains and the environment gained via e.g. specific FISH probes targeting the major bacterioplankton players will be used to refine our understanding and of the microbial communities in diverse freshwater environments.

**Requirements:** Applicants should have a M.Sc. in the Biological Sciences (e.g. Microbiology, Ecology, Biochemistry) and must be strongly motivated to work in a genomics laboratory. The vast majority of the work is expected to be computational but there will be a necessary laboratory component. Prior experience in linux/unix/perl/python programming might be favourably considered but is not a prerequisite for selection. However, candidates will be expected to learn fast.

Please submit 1) a detailed CV including your grades, 2) a brief statement of your research interests, 3) short descriptions of any research work performed (if any) and 4) the names and contact information for at least one referee (preferably all this information combined into a single PDF file). The positions will remain open until suitable candidates are found.

**Contact:** Please send your application to [ghai.rohit@gmail.com](mailto:ghai.rohit@gmail.com) and indicate "PhD Application" in the subject.

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### **Links**

[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rohit\\_Ghai](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Rohit_Ghai)

<https://scholar.google.cz/citations?user=aVSu92MAAAAJ&hl=en>

<http://www.hbu.cas.cz/en/staff/profil/1174/>

**Background:** Ceske Budejovice is a medium-sized town ca. 150 km south of Prague with 100,000 inhabitants, a relaxed atmosphere, and a growing expat community at the Biology Centre and the University of South Bohemia. Both the town and the surrounding countryside provide numerous opportunities for research and leisure activities. Living costs are low by international standards. PhD students have access to accommodation in dormitories at the campus shared by the Biology Centre and the University. Czech courses are available for foreign staff and students to reach a basic level of proficiency in everyday situations.