



The Leibniz-Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam (AIP) invites applications for a

PhD student position (m/f/d) in the area of protoplanetary discs

joining an ERC-funded research project at the MHD and Turbulence Section.

Advertised Position / Requirements – We are seeking for a highly motivated, talented individual, who will be part of an ERC-funded research team. Motivated by understanding planet-forming environments, the ambitious research project encompasses theoretical, numerical and observational aspects of accretion physics in the context of poorly ionised and, at the same time, *self-gravitating* protoplanetary discs. Candidates with interests in the areas of astrophysical *fluid dynamics and MHD* are particularly encouraged to apply. Existing skills in scientific computing will be considered valuable assets.

The position is available for initially *three years*, as part of the ERC project. It is then subsequently supported for another year on institute funding. Applicants are required to hold a Master's degree in astronomy / (astro)physics, and should show promise of an independent approach to identifying and tackling relevant scientific questions in their subject area. A basic conception of (astro)physics in general, as well as good English skills (written and spoken) are essential. An existing rudimentary background in the field of star formation / protoplanetary disks will be considered advantageous. The salary will be based on the German public service collective agreement (at 65% TV-L E13). Adequate project funding for work-related travel is available, as well as dedicated local computing resources. Employer contributions to medical and dental insurance, parental leave, and retirement benefits are included. The nominal *starting date is September–November 2024*, but individual arrangements will be possible.

Your Application – To apply, please submit the following documents, concatenated into a single PDF document: **1)** a Cover Letter (1 page) motivating your application, **2)** a short Curriculum Vitae (1 page), **3)** a brief Summary of your past achievements (≤ 2 pages) via e-Mail to **<bewerbung-2023-12@aip.de>**.

Please also provide contact information for one or two individuals willing to provide **reference letters** upon request. Note that we will request such letters only for a subset of applicants after an initial selection step. Applications that are submitted until **December 8, 2023** will receive full consideration.

The AIP is an equal opportunities employer, who values diversity and particularly encourages women and other underrepresented groups to apply. People with disabilities will be given preferential consideration if they are equally qualified and skilled. Application documents will be kept for at least three months after completion of the appointment process. The documents will per default be made available to a selection committee and to other committees and officers to be involved.

The Host Institution – The Leibniz Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam (AIP) has about 200 employees and is dedicated to astrophysical research questions ranging from the exploration of our Sun to the evolution of the universe as a whole. Key aspects are cosmic magnetic fields and extragalactic astrophysics, supplemented by the development of research technology in the fields of spectroscopy, robotic telescopes, and e-science. The institute is located in the beautiful Potsdam/Babelsberg area, at the South-western perimeter of the Berlin metropolitan area. The AIP continues the tradition of the Astrophysical Observatory Potsdam and the Berlin Observatory (founded in 1700 AD). Potsdam is also the home of the Albert-Einstein Institute for Gravitational Physics, the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Potsdam, and several other research institutions. The AIP offers an open-minded and cooperative working atmosphere in a modern and very well equipped working environment. All institute members

and guests agree to comply with the Code of Conduct. The AIP promotes gender equality and invites all institute members to engage by promoting equality and diversity.

Contact – Please feel free to direct any informal inquiries or questions about the advertised position (as well as the context of the research programme) directly to Dr. Oliver Gressel <ogressel@aip.de>, who is in charge of the ERC-funded project and oversees the application process. For sending your final application, please then use the dedicated e-mail address listed above.

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