



The Leibniz Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam (AIP) is a publicly funded German research institute with a long record in history, which included the Berlin Observatory and the Astrophysical Observatory Potsdam. The latter was the world's first observatory to emphasize explicitly the research area of astrophysics. Today, the AIP has an international reputation as a competence centre for the development of research technology in the fields of spectroscopy, robotic telescopes and E-Science. About 130 scientists work on a variety of astrophysical topics such as magnetic fields, solar and stellar physics, stellar and galactic evolution and cosmology. As a member of staff of the AIP, you will have the advantage to live very close to the Berlin metropolitan area as well as enjoying the calm, family-friendly area of Potsdam-Babelsberg for your work place and residency.

We are seeking an

Instrument Specialist (f/m)

for the phase-B design of ELT HIRES.

Applications are invited for a 3-year position of Instrument Specialist for AIP's contribution to the Extremely Large Telescope's (ELT) high-resolution spectrograph HIRES.

HIRES will be a second-generation instrument for the 39m ELT scheduled for delivery in 2027/28. It is an innovative high-resolution ($R=100,000$) stabilized spectrograph covering the optical as well as the infrared wavelength regions simultaneously from 400 nm to 1800 nm.

The applicant will be involved in all system levels from design to prototyping. Experience with high-resolution spectrographs, its usage and knowledge of the principles of optical and mechanical functions are mandatory. The position further requires knowledge of optical design software such as Zemax, or the knowledge of engineering simulation software such as Ansys, the use of appropriate electronics, and CCD detector technology, always from an astronomer's point of view. Definition and management of requirements, interfaces, and error budgets are essential components of the work.

A PhD in astronomy is preferred but not required, a Master Degree in astronomy or physics must have been obtained. Good command of the English language is mandatory and basic command of the German language is considered a valuable asset. The position is extendable. Salary is based on the German public service scale (TV-L; included are employer contributions to medical and dental insurance, maternity leave, and retirement benefits) and will depend on experience level (E13 or E14). The AIP is an equal opportunity employer and particularly encourages applications from women. It values diversity.

Applications are considered until the position is filled.

Please send your letter of application (in English), Curriculum Vitae, publication list and job references as a single pdf file preferably by e-mail to

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