PhD student position in the area of simulations of star-planet interactions (m/f/d).

The focus of the offered PhD project is to numerically investigate possible scenarios for magnetic star-planet interactions, with particular emphasis on examining the consequences for both the star and the exoplanet. Processes such as exoplanet atmosphere loss driven by coronal mass ejections and the possible influence on stellar activity signatures due to interactions with the exoplanet’s magnetosphere will be considered. The successful candidate will employ supercomputer models that simulate the magnetized environment of the global system, including the corona, stellar wind and planetary magnetosphere and atmospheric outflows. The PhD student will be supervised by Prof. Katja Poppenhäuser and mentored by Dr. Julián D. Alvarado-Gómez.

Applicants should hold a Master’s degree or equivalent in astrophysics or a related discipline at the time of starting the position. Applicants are expected to have some experience in scientific coding.

We aim to fill this position by summer 2020. The salary will be based on the German public service scale (65% TV-L E13). Benefits include employer contributions to medical and dental insurance, maternity leave, and retirement benefits.

Applications for the position should be submitted via the AIP job application portal https://jobs.aip.de/rec057 and contain a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, and a statement of previous research experience, the latter not exceeding 2 pages. Applicants should also provide the contact information for 2 reference letter writers via the application portal. Applications received by April 30, 2020 will receive full consideration.

The AIP is an equal opportunity employer who values diversity and particularly encourages women and other underrepresented groups to apply. Preference will be given to people with disabilities with equal competence.

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