



Universität Heidelberg
Zentrum für Astronomie
– Astronomisches Rechen-Institut –



PhD Position at the Zentrum für Astronomie of the University of Heidelberg

Applications are invited for the position of a PhD student in the field of stellar astrophysics. The aim of the project is the interpretation of observations (optical and UV spectra, astrometric measurements with the Hubble Space Telescope FGS) of a very unusual rotating magnetic white dwarf with theoretical models.

In particular, the work would comprise

- simulations of the polarized radiative transfer through the magnetized stellar atmosphere.
- the determination of the magnetic field and rotational geometry with the help of evolutionary and/or genetic algorithms.
- the determination of the mass and radius from the atmospheric analysis
- the measurement of the parallax.
- the interpretation of the data in the context of stellar evolution and the evolution of magnetic fields in stars.

The candidate should have a good background in astronomy and astrophysics, ideally with some knowledge in radiative transport. Some experience in programming is another important requirement.

The position is financed by the German Space Agency (DLR=Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) for three years and should not start much later than July 2007. The salary will be according to the German civil service scale (TVL-13/2).

The successful applicants will work with Priv.-Doz. Dr. Stefan Jordan at the Astronomisches Rechen-Institut (ARI), which is part of the Zentrum für Astronomie of the University of Heidelberg. More information about the ARI may be found at the URL <http://www.ari.uni-heidelberg.de>.

Heidelberg University plans to increase the fraction of female scientists in research and teaching and hence particularly encourages qualified female scientists to apply. Handicapped candidates are given preference if equally qualified. Applicants should send a CV, a bibliography, a statement of research interests and experience, and arrange for one or two letters of reference to be sent to:

Priv.-Doz. Dr. Stefan Jordan
Astronomisches Rechen-Institut
University of Heidelberg
Mönchhofstr. 12-14
D-69120 Heidelberg
Germany

Address for electronic submissions (PDF or postscript, all in one file): [jordan AT ari.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:jordan@ari.uni-heidelberg.de). If you have any questions, please call by phone (+49 6221 54 1842)! Applications received by May 31, 2007 will receive full consideration. The envisioned starting date is September 2007, but earlier or later dates can be negotiated.