



Doctoral Student position in pulsar astronomy at Bielefeld University and MPIfR

Applications are invited for a position as a doctoral student in the field of pulsar timing and ionised ISM studies, to be taken up at Bielefeld University, in close collaboration with the Max-Planck-Institute for Radioastronomy (MPIfR) in Bonn.

The successful candidate would have the opportunity to get involved in a variety of scientific and technical developments related to the field of radio pulsar timing. Specifically, the group at Bielefeld University leads several pulsar timing campaigns with the LOFAR telescope (the LOw Frequency ARray; an SKA pathfinder at the lowest radio frequencies observable from Earth) and is deeply involved in international pulsar-timing-array collaborations.

Possible research topics include the study of the ionised interstellar medium through monitoring observations of pulsar dispersion and scattering; tests of relativity from timing of double neutron-star systems; investigations of stellar structure through timing eclipsing and close stellar-pulsar binaries; and high-precision timing of millisecond pulsars as part of the global efforts to detect gravitational waves.

Candidates are expected to have successfully finished an M.Sc. degree (or equivalent) in physics or a related field. Experience with programming, observational (radio) astronomy and previous research projects are an advantage, though not formally required. Students of any nationality are encouraged to apply.

Applications should be submitted electronically to reder@physik.uni-bielefeld.de as a single pdf file, by 20 June 2017.

They must include:

- A cover letter stating briefly the candidate's past research experience and current research interests
- A curriculum vitae
- A transcript of university records, including grades (scanned versions are allowed)
- Names and contact details for two potential referees

For further information, interested students are encouraged to contact:
Jun-Prof. Joris Verbiest, verbiest@physik.uni-bielefeld.de, (Bielefeld University, office D4-142) or Prof. Michael Kramer, mkramer@mpifr-bonn.mpg.de.