

PhD position in astrophysical interferometry

The infrared group at MPE Garching (near Munich) invites applications for a PhD project, combining instrumentation development for the GRAVITY+ project at ESO's Very Large Telescope Interferometer with observational studies of centers of galaxies using GRAVITY. We are a leading institute for the development of instruments for large telescopes, and use them for our astrophysical research program that focusses on galaxy evolution in the early universe, local active galaxies, and the Galactic Center.

Our GRAVITY instrument for precision astrometry and interferometric imaging of faint objects is in regular science operations at the VLTI and producing breakthrough results. We are embarking on GRAVITY+ to take near-infrared interferometry to the next level of faint science, all sky, high contrast, milli-arcsecond interferometric imaging. This will provide dramatic improvements of depth and sky coverage by combining upgrades to the instrument proper with wide field dual beam capability and state of the art natural and laser guide star adaptive optics at all four 8m VLTs.

Applicants should hold a Master's degree or equivalent in astrophysics, physics, or a related discipline at the time of starting the position. Remuneration follows the regulations of the Max Planck Society. Applications before May 15, 2020 will receive full consideration.

Please contact Dr. Frank Eisenhauer (eisenhau@mpe.mpg.de) for further information.

