



The Thüringer Landessternwarte Tautenburg (Thuringia State Observatory, TLS) is seeking a highly motivated and dedicated astronomer to fill the position of

Postdoctoral Research Assistant.

She or he will be part of the DFG Research Unit "Blue Planets around Red Stars: Scientific Exploitation of the CARMENES Survey". In this Research Unit, five institutes in Germany collaborate with five Spanish institutes on the analysis of data from the new CARMENES instrument, located at Calar Alto Observatory in Andalusia, Spain.

CARMENES is a state-of-the-art high-resolution spectrograph that acquires precise radial velocity measurements of stars simultaneously at near Infrared and optical wavelength. The CARMENES Survey collects spectral time-series of several hundred M stars with the main goal of discovering nearby exoplanetary systems. Science topics include the development of tools for high-precision radial velocity measurements, photometric observations, fundamental stellar parameters and atmospheres, stellar activity, planet formation, and planetary habitability. An active involvement in other science topics within the CARMENES survey is highly welcome.

The successful candidate for this position will be responsible for helping in the data acquisition, performing frequency analyses on the radial velocity data, finding exoplanet candidates in the data, and working with the consortium on planning efficient observing strategies. Applicants should have a PhD in astronomy or related fields. Desired attributes of the candidate include: Experience in observational high resolution spectroscopy and precise radial velocity measurements, experience in the field of exoplanet research, a knowledge of time series analysis, in particular the extraction of periodic signals in the presence of stellar noise.

TLS provides an excellent environment for astronomical research that encourages creativity and initiative. Located in the Tautenburg forest our institute is 19 km north of the university town of Jena and 2-3 hours by train to the German capital of Berlin. We operate a 2-m optical telescope equipped with a wide field Schmidt Camera and high-resolution coude spectrograph. We are part of Low Frequency Array (LOFAR) radio telescope and we have our own LOFAR station. TLS offers a vibrant research environment with a scientific staff that works on such diverse areas exoplanets, stars and star formation, stellar oscillations, gamma ray bursts, quasars, and galaxy clusters. Our institute maintains a cooperation with the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena. Further information can be found at www.tls-tautenburg.de.

TLS is committed to diversifying the scientific and academic environment in Germany and fostering career opportunities for women and minorities. Qualified women and minorities are thus particularly encouraged to apply.

The nominal starting date is November 1, 2017 and is a limited contract for 3 years under the German pay grade 13 TV-L.

Applications should apply by October 1, 2017. The application should include a curriculum vitae, a publication list, a motivation letter, and the names of at least two persons who can be contacted for letters of references. Applications can be sent in electronic form or regular post to:

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