



International Max Planck Research School on Gravitational Wave Astronomy

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I will introduce our structured doctoral program, International Max Planck Research School on Gravitational Wave Astronomy. Since its start in 2006, more than 160 PhD students graduated from our school. I will give an overview of what we teach and offer in our IMPRS and show you the whereabouts of those who graduated with a doctor's degree.

38th International Cosmic Ray Conference (ICRC2023) 26 July - 3 August, 2023 Nagoya, Japan



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1. IMPRS in Hannover

The IMPRS on Gravitational Wave Astronomy (IMPRS-GW) in Hannover is a structured doctoral program of the AEI Hannover. The program run in Hannover combines the different fields of gravitational wave astronomy: from laser development, interferometry on ground and space to data analysis for ground and space, and opens a new space to learn and develop ideas beyond currently running missions like LISA and third generation detectors. Hostory

2. What our IMPRS brings

The IMPRS has been and continues to innovate graduate training. With these IMPRS activities, our PhD students in Hannover learn from each other, from postdocs and alumni members who will get involved as trainers or lecturers during the Lecture Week series or career development events. Through active participation in the IMPRS Lecture Week project week, our young scientists can have significant benefits that they cannot otherwise get from a normal doctoral education. This approach involves doctoral students working collaboratively on a project, with a team of peers with a different background (experimental, or theoretical), to create a scientific project and generate new knowledge in their field. Training offered in our IMPRS promotes collaboration and teamwork skills, which are valuable in both academia and other fields. Students learn how to work with others, communicate effectively, and share ideas and expertise to achieve a common goal. Doctoral students are often focused on their own individual research, but working on an active project can provide them with opportunities to develop additional skills and experience in conducting research. They can learn new research techniques, and data analysis methods, and gain experience in project management.

3. Career path

Since its beginning in 2006, 162 doctoral students have graduated from this IMPRS and all of them have obtained PhD degrees. As of today, 44% of our alums are working in industry areas, 25% are postdocs all around the world, 22% are professors or group leaders in physics and 3% are teachers in high schools. Comparing this data to our last published data in 2018 [1], we see a trend that many who are postdocs after a few years will obtain a job in industry areas, and some will become professors or group leaders in physics.

References

[1]

Fumiko Kawazoe and Sandra Bruns 2018 J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 957 012008 DOI 10.1088/1742-6596/957/1/012008