



SUBJECT: ERC-funded PhD position in Star and Planet formation at ESO

One PhD position on observational studies of protoplanetary disk evolution and planet formation is offered. The PhD student will join the research group funded by the European Research Council (ERC) Project WANDA (www.eso.org/~cmanara/wanda_erc.html), led by Carlo F. Manara, at the ESO Headquarters in Garching, Germany.

The WANDA project aims at tackling the question on when and how exo-planets formed by investigating the origin of the ring-like and asymmetric structures observed in protoplanetary disks, the cradle of planets, and pushing such studies to the distant and massive star-forming regions, the locations that best represent the natal environments of the known exo-planets.

The WANDA team will employ a novel multi-wavelength and multi-technique observational approach, based on a combination of high-resolution spectroscopy, spatially resolved integral field spectroscopy, and high spatial resolution imaging at near-infrared and millimeter wavelengths.

The PhD student will develop an original research program based on optical high-resolution spectroscopy of pre-main sequence stars. The aim is to study the multiplicity of these targets, to be compared with disk morphologies, as well as their stellar and accretion properties. The student will collaborate with the WANDA team (https://www.eso.org/~cmanara/wanda_erc.html#team) and other collaborators at ESO, and interact with collaborators from the international ULLYSES and PENELLOPE projects (see here <https://sites.bu.edu/odysseus/> for details) and many other colleagues, while being fully inserted in the ESO science environment.

The position will be funded for a duration of 3 years (36 months), with possible extensions of up to 6 additional months depending on the available budget and the needs of the student. Salary will be aligned with ESO Student salaries. The employment conditions associated with this position are outlined under <https://www.eso.org/public/jobs/conditions/students/> and come together with a generous travel budget. The applicant must have a MSc or equivalent degree in physics or astrophysics, completed before the start of the position. Expertise with optical spectroscopy and programming (e.g. Python) is desirable. We regard diversity as an asset within a team, and welcome applicants with diverse backgrounds and experiences.

The application form is available at [this link](#). This form includes a summary of education, previous research experience(s), skills, and motivation. The candidate should arrange for two letters of recommendation to be sent directly to Carlo F. Manara (cmanara@eso.org). **The deadline for applications is Friday January, 13th 2023 at 12:00 (noon) CET**, and the selection process will start shortly after, and interviews for the selected candidates are expected in February. The starting date is negotiable, but it must be between April and December 2023.

Contact for application and further information: Carlo F. Manara (cmanara@eso.org)