## Primary Area of Specialization: Astrophysics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identification number</th>
<th>Workload</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Term of studying</th>
<th>Frequency of occurrence</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN-P-SP-Astro</td>
<td>(540 + 90) h</td>
<td>21 CP</td>
<td>1st to 3rd semester</td>
<td>Details are provided online in the table “Course Offerings”.</td>
<td>3 semesters</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 1 Type of lessons
- a) Lecture
- b) Problem class
- c) Advanced Seminar
- d) Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact times</th>
<th>Self-study times</th>
<th>Intended group size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>depending on the individual choice</td>
<td>depending on the individual choice</td>
<td>15–20 Students per problem class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 h</td>
<td>80 h</td>
<td>individual counseling for the seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 h</td>
<td>24 h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2 Aims of the module and acquired skills
The students will gain the ability to apply fundamental concepts of physics to describe astrophysical phenomena and will obtain an overview of the experimental foundations of our knowledge about the cosmos. The courses will enable them to understand the fundamental principles of the universe and its history. The courses also give an introduction to topics of active research in astrophysics and thus prepare the students towards their own research activity within the master thesis.

### 3 Contents of the module
The module is subdivided into a core course, specialized courses and the advanced seminar:

#### 1. Core Courses
- Advanced Astrophysics (4+2 HPW, 9 CP)

#### 2. Specialized courses
- Active Galaxies (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Astrochemistry (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Data Analysis (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Experimental Methods in Astrophysics (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Galaxy Dynamics (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Fourier-Transform and its Applications (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Hydrodynamics (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- The Physics of the Interstellar Medium (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Star Formation (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Optical/Infrared Interferometry (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Methods of Molecular Astrophysics (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Observational Methods in Infrared Astronomy (2+1 HPW, 4.5 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Observational Cosmology (Bonn, 2+1 HPW, 4 CP) / (2 HPW, 3 CP)
- Radiointerferometry: Methods and Science (Bonn, 2+2 HPW, 6 CP)

#### 3. Advanced Seminar in Astrophysics (2 HPW, 3 CP)

The contents of the specialized courses can be found in the “kommentiertes Vorlesungsverzeichnis” and in the lecture descriptions online.
### 4 Teaching/Learning methods

Besides the teaching in lectures, the self-study based on books and lecture notes plays an important role. The students work individually on problem sets. In discussions with others and in the problem classes, they learn to solve challenging problems in a team and to present their approaches and results. By preparing an advanced seminar, they become acquainted with a current topic of research, scientific methods and literature. They also learn to communicate in a pedagogical way on an advanced topic.

### 5 Requirements for participation

Atomic Physics, Astrophysics and Quantum Mechanics at the level of the bachelor courses in physics

### 6 Type of module examinations

The module is passed by passing an oral examination covering the topics of all attended courses. To be admitted to the exam, students must actively participate in the problem sessions (including the solution of homework problems) and present a scientific talk in the advanced seminar course. The grade given for the module is equal to the grade of the oral examination.

### 7 Requisites for the allocation of credits

The Primary AoS Astrophysics is composed of:

1. Core course Advanced Astrophysics (Lectures and Exercises)
2. Specialized courses (Lectures and Exercises) in Astrophysics
3. Advanced Seminar in Astrophysics

### 8 Compatibility with other Curricula and Soft Skills

As elective subject in other M.Sc. programs.

Scientific reading and presentation skills, in particular oral presentations. Computer aided analysis of scientific data.

This module prepares for topics of current research in molecular physics and astrophysics and provides the basis for the preparation of the master thesis.

### 9 Significance of the module mark for the overall grade

The weight of the module is $21/111 \approx 18.9\%$.

### 10 Module coordinator

P. Schilke

### 11 Additional information

Detailed information on the occurrence and the course contents are provided online and in the “kommentiertes Vorlesungsverzeichnis”.

Version: 05.06.2015 HK