

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

**Recruitment at CAMK 2026/2027**

Radek Smolec

# Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center

- We exist since 1976
- We conduct research in astronomy and astrophysics
- We employ 60+ researchers



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# Nicolaus Copernicus Astronomical Center



Cerro Murphy  
Observatory  
@Atacama, Chile

# Doctoral School

- A relatively new form of education introduced by the Law on Higher Education and Science (July 2018)
- From 2019/2020, the only way (apart from the extramural mode) to obtain a doctoral degree
- The doctoral school must provide training **in at least two scientific disciplines**

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- Eight institutes: 7 institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences and one National Research Institute
- **CAMK PAN is the school's leader**
- 5 disciplines: **astronomy**; automation, electronic and electrical engineering and space technologies; Earth and environmental sciences; physical sciences; social and economic geography and spatial planning



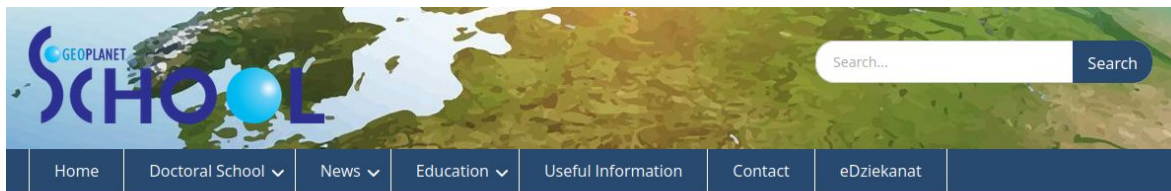
Instytut Geografii  
i Przestrzennego  
Zagospodarowania  
Polska Akademia Nauk

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- About 70 students all together
- 22 students at CAMK PAN (including 20 international; 3 in Toruń)
- all lectures and activities **in English**
- for students from outside of Warsaw there is a possibility of accommodation in CAMK guest rooms (there is no such possibility in Toruń)

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- [www.geoplanetschool.pl](http://www.geoplanetschool.pl)



## Monographic lectures

Spring 2025/2026

Registration is closed.



ASTRONOMY



PHYSICS

Lectures in the discipline of astronomy are offered within collaboration of GeoPlanet Doctoral School, Warsaw-4-PhD, Doctoral School of Exact and Natural Sciences of the University of Warsaw and The Graduate School of Physics and Chemistry of the NCBJ. *For the lectures below, register also using this form.*

- *Gravitational Waves – Theory and Analysis*, Dr Sreekanth Harikumar (CAMK PAN)  
Date and time: Tuesdays, 11:00-13:00; form: in-person (at CAMK PAN, small seminar room) and **Zoom upon justified request**; **First lecture: March 3rd**  
**Course syllabus**
- *Star Cluster Dynamics and Evolution*, Dr Abbas Askar (CAMK PAN)  
Date and time: Tuesdays, 17:15-19:00; form: **in-person in OA UW** (Al. Ujazdowskie 4), first lecture: **March 3rd**

### Recent Posts

- ›› PhD position in the GeoPlanet Doctoral School, Space Research Center
- ›› PhD positions in the GeoPlanet Doctoral School, Institute of Geological Sciences
- ›› PhD student fellowship position at Center for Theoretical Physics PAS
- ›› 2025/26 Inaugural Lecture “Whence the cat? Progress in paleontology of Central European wildcat and domestic cat”
- ›› PhD student fellowship position at Center for Theoretical Physics PAS

### Categories

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

Four documents you should read:

- Regulations of the doctoral school
- **Recruitment rules**
- Program of the studies
- **2026/2027 Recruitment announcement**

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- Each doctoral student receives a scholarship, but for no longer than 4 years.
- Minimum amount of the scholarship is set in the law and currently is:
  - ≈3077 PLN (net amount) before mid-term evaluation (years I-II),
  - ≈4740 PLN (net amount) after mid-term evaluation (years III-IV).
- Some of the students receive higher scholarship paid from the supervisor's grant (typically 3795/4933 PLN net for the grant duration)
- Obligatory contribution to pension scheme
- 2026/2027 recruitment: **3 grant funded topics. One institute funded position** (7 topics proposed, 10 altogether)
- Grant funding usually comes with more benefits (funds for equipment, conference, collaborations, observations)

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- Opportunities for outstanding doctoral students:
  - scholarship for outstanding young scientists from the Minister
  - START Fellowship (Foundation for Polish Science)
  - CAMK's young researcher award
  - additional scholarship from own grant (like NCN's Preludium)
- Public health insurance
  - covered for EU citizens
  - non-EU students have to pay 60PLN/month
- All CAMK students are entitled for **free of charge private health insurance** (covers basic appointments; but no emergency or hospital treatment)

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- Doctoral education lasts 8 semesters (possible extension by two years)
- The supervisor shall be appointed within 3 months of commencing education
- A doctoral student shall pursue:
  - **Program of the studies in GeoPlanet doctoral school**  
lectures, seminars, papers, conferences, popularization, etc.; 35 ECTS
  - **Individual Research Plan**  
a schedule for PhD thesis; submitted within 12 months
- Education ends with the submission of a doctoral dissertation

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- **Interdisciplinary lectures**
  - *Researcher's toolkit*
  - *Statistical inference*
  - *Philosophy of science*
- **GeoPlanet interdisciplinary lectures**
  - *Space robotics*
  - *Introduction to hydrogeology and sustainable groundwater management*
  - *All you want to know about climate change and its impact from the ocean perspective*

# GeoPlanet Doctoral School

- **Monographic lectures** at CAMK and collaborating institutes, eg.,
  - *Introduction to General Relativity*
  - *Star Cluster Dynamics and Evolution*
- **Seminars**
  - Wednesday seminar, Journal Club, PhD seminar
- ECTS credits are also awarded for: papers, grants, conference presentations (talks, posters), attending summer schools, individual training, teaching, popularization

**However, the most important thing is to work with supervisor**

**→ PhD thesis & doctoral degree**

# Individual Research Plan

YEAR OF EDUCATION (year of 20.../20..).			
Lp	Name of the research task (expected period of implementation in months)	Description of the implementation of the research task	Expected outcomes of the research task, in particular measurable effects <sup>3</sup>
I.1			
I.2			
I.3			
<b>Planned activities aimed at increasing qualifications of the doctoral student and preparing for the research and/or didactic work<sup>4</sup>:</b>			
Lp	Description of the activity:		
I.a			
I.b			
I.c			
<b>Remarks, including possible risks for the implementation of the scientific tasks and means to minimize them (explicitly refer to task numbers)<sup>5</sup>:</b>			

# Individual Research Plan

- Implementation of the Individual Research Plan is evaluated during the **mid-term evaluation** (after two years). In case of **negative evaluation**, a student is removed from the student's list.
- Poor implementation of the Individual Research Plan may be grounds for removal from the student list at any stage of study.

# Doctoral Degree

- Doctoral School does not conduct proceedings for granting the degree – it is done by the doctoral granting body, ie. the Scientific Council of CAMK PAN
  - The procedure is initiated upon the application of the doctoral student, accompanied by the thesis and positive opinion of the supervisor
  
- Procedure includes:
  - **astrophysics exam**
  - **three reviews**, two must be positive
  - public defense

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- **Recruitment is open!** Application deadline: **April 12th** (23:59 CEST, sharp!)
  - Young Astronomers Meeting
  - presentation of CAMK PAN and the GeoPlanet doctoral school
  - presentation of possible research topics by potential supervisors and/or their team members
  - presentation of cooperation opportunities: summer internships, scientific projects
- ▶ Please follow our website!

# Recruitment 2026/2027

Application for a specific research topic to a specific supervisor

- it is a good idea to make contact at this conference or during summer programme

An information about the proposed research topics and their supervisors is attached to this announcement. Candidates can apply for only one topic. Before applying, candidates should contact their potential supervisors to obtain more details on the proposals. Candidates should read the recruitment regulations also available [on the CAMK PAN website](#).

# Recruitment 2026/2027

Application for a specific research topic to a specific supervisor

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Project 7

Subject: Monitoring X-ray Background from High Energy Particles on the Board of NewATHENA Mission

**Supervisor:** prof. dr hab. Agata Róžańska (CAMK PAN; contact: [agata@camk.edu.pl](mailto:agata@camk.edu.pl))

The main goal of this project is to predict the X-ray background radiation induced by high energy particles interacting with NewATHENA spacecraft and its payload. NewATHENA is the future flag ESA (European Space Agency) mission to observe hot and energetic Universe in X-rays. The actual background level is

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- funding (scholarship): either from research grant or from the institute

**Location:** Warsaw

**Funding:** Grant fellowship (National Science Center SONATA grant no 2024/55/D/ST9/02585) for 3 years: 5000 PLN/month, gross gross, before the mid-term evaluation (ca. 3795 PLN/month net; years 1-2), 6500 PLN/month, gross gross, after positive mid-term evaluation (ca. 4933 PLN/month net; year 3), followed by a scholarship under general regulations for the remaining period, up to a total of four years. Funding is available for travel to conferences/workshops/schools and computing equipment.

**Note:** A single position is available. A separate ranking list will be created for this topic.

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- funding (scholarship): either from research grant or from the institute

**Location:** Warsaw

**Funding:** By the institute, as set in the announcement.


**Note:** A single ranking list will be created for topics 3-9


# Recruitment 2026/2027


- Application documents: CV, motivation letter, BSc and MSc degree certificates, transcripts of grades, recommendation letter (or two)
  1. The application for admission to the doctoral school together with GDPR statement (following [this template](#)).
  2. A copy of their master's/university and bachelor's degree diplomas. **In case master's degree diploma is not yet available, it must be provided before the candidate is admitted to the school.**
  3. A transcript of grades (Bachelor and Master Courses).
  4. A Curriculum Vitae including an education and employment records, list of publications, information on involvement in scientific activities – membership in scientific groups/societies, participation in scientific conferences, internships and training, awards and distinctions.
  5. A letter of motivation containing a short description of the candidate's interests and scientific achievements, and justification of the intention to undertake education at the Doctoral School.
  6. English language certificate(s), if available.

# Recruitment 2026/2027

eRekrutacja



 Sign in!

 Register!

Recruitment documents

- [Program of the studies](#)
- [Regulations of the Doctoral School](#)
- [GeoPlanet Doctoral School Recruitment Regulations](#)

Proposed dissertation topics

- [Accretion Discs and Outflow Phenomena in Accreting White Dwarf Binaries](#)
- [Generating Synthetic Observations of Star Clusters from Numerical Simulations](#)
- [Development of a Novel Electrostatic Focusing Readout for Large-Scale Hybrid Time Projection Chambers in Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay Searches?](#)

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- Only PDF files,
- no images, no docx
- good quality scans
- don't attach same document multiple times
- All docs in English
- **Don't use CAPS LOCK**

Bachelor's grade transcript

Upload a file:

No file selected.

(max. file size: 5MB)

If it is not available, provide an explanation below (e.g., integrated Master's course) \*

Master's degree Certificate

Upload a file:

No file selected.

(max. file size: 5MB)

If not available, provide an explanation below (e.g., degree expected by September, 500 characters max). Please note that the master's degree must be awarded before the candidate can be admitted to the school \*

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- Committee: 3 or 4 members, doctoral school coordinator (head)
  - prospective supervisor
  - director of CAMK PAN may also be present
  - student's representative (as observer)
- Two stage evaluation
  - **I stage:** evaluation of the application documents
  - less than 20% of candidates are invited to
  - **II stage:** interview

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- Good application documents
  - good grades
  - strong CV (papers, conferences, projects, outreach)
- Strong motivation letter
  - Why are you interested in the project, why you think you are a good fit, what is your motivation
- Strong recommendation from the referee
  - do not request reference letter on the very last minute

# Recruitment 2026/2027

- Prepare for interview
  - Check your internet and Zoom in advance! **You won't convince the committee if they can't understand you. Use headphones and a microphone. Test them out.**
  - Be ready to talk about your research in a time given (if I request max. **10 minute presentation, do prepare max. 10 minute presentation**)
  - Are you applying for a topic related to white dwarfs? You should already know something about them. Do some research, read up on the subject, and find out what your potential supervisor is interested in. **Discussion about the topic is integral part of interview.**
  - Be ready to answer general astrophysics question
  - Be ready for a task
  - Be ready to demonstrate that astronomy and research are your goals!

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**Good luck!**