

22 August 2007, 8:30 - 12:00
Hörsaal 1
Free Entrance, talks in English!

Welcome audience:
undergraduate and graduate
students & science faculty

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
Fakultät für Physik, Nordbereich
Friedrich-Hund-Platz 1

Waves, Waves & Waves

Scientific talks by world leading experts in physics, geophysics and astrophysics



Mathias Fink is a Professor of Physics at the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles de la Ville de Paris (ESPCI) and at Paris 7 University (Denis Diderot), France. In 1990 he founded the Laboratoire Ondes et Acoustique at ESPCI. His research is concerned with the propagation of waves in complex media and the development of instrumentation based on this basic research. The domain of applicability is vast: medical imaging and therapy, underwater acoustics, seismology, non-destructive testing, telecommunications, tactile screens and instrumentation. Mathias Fink has a long history of collaboration with industry and works with companies in a wide variety of sectors (medical, aeronautics, underwater acoustics, nuclear, metallurgy, instrumentation). He pioneered many innovative approaches such as "time-reversal mirrors" or "transient elastography". He was elected at the French Academy of Engineering in 2002 and at the French Academy of Sciences in 2003.

Mathias Fink will talk about **Time reversal acoustics**.

Bruce Cornuelle is a Researcher in Physical Oceanography at the University of California's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and is Director of the Physical Oceanography Research Division. He has longstanding interests in acoustic imaging of ocean structure and the use of methods from control theory to combine dynamical constraints from ocean models with observations. He spends several weeks a year at sea, most recently in the Mediterranean doing experiments with acoustic tomography between vertical arrays. He is a fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and a recipient of the Medwin Prize in Acoustic Oceanography.

Bruce Cornuelle will talk about **Ocean acoustic tomography**.



Guust Nolet is the George J. Magee Professor of Geophysics and Geological Engineering at Princeton University, New Jersey. One of his main interests is three-dimensional seismic tomography. He proposed a way to reconcile surface wave theory with the now obvious lateral heterogeneity of the Earth using efficient nonlinear waveform inversions. Over the past ten years, he and Tony Dahlen have been developing methods to take wave diffraction into account in seismic tomography, which led to the unexpected discovery of twenty plumes penetrating deep into the lower mantle. Among his awards are the EGU Gutenberg Medal and the Bownocker medal. He is a member of the Academia Europaea, a fellow of the American Geophysical Union, and a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Guust Nolet will talk about **Terrestrial seismic tomography**.

Robert Wagoner is a Professor of Physics at Stanford University, California. While a postdoctoral fellow at Caltech, he worked in collaboration with William A. Fowler and Fred Hoyle on the definitive calculation of the abundances of the elements produced in the primordial universe. Professor Wagoner's recent research in theoretical astrophysics focuses on strong gravitational fields in the universe (black holes and neutron stars). This includes relativistic diskoseismology: using the oscillations of the surrounding accretion disk to probe the nature of the central mass. It also includes studies of potential sources of gravitational radiation that may be detected by upcoming facilities such as LIGO. He has also investigated the use of supernovae to determine cosmological distances and he has studied alternative theories of gravitation. His academic honors include Sloan Foundation and Guggenheim Foundation Fellowships. In 1976 he was a Sherman Fairchild Distinguished Scholar at Caltech and in 1978 he was the George Ellery Hale Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society.

Robert Wagoner will talk about **Relativistic diskoseismology**.



Bernard Schutz is the director of the Astrophysical Relativity Department of the Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute) in Potsdam, Germany. The work of the department mainly involves studies of neutron stars, black holes, and the gravitational radiation they may emit. One group in the department studies the astrophysics of these objects and develops data analysis techniques to enable the detection of gravitational radiation from them. Another group performs simulations, using supercomputers, of collisions between black holes and/or neutron stars. His own research is principally in the study of the physics and astrophysics of possible gravitational wave sources, including black holes and neutron stars; and in methods of analyzing data from gravitational wave detectors to discover and study gravitational waves. He leads the data analysis and data acquisition teams of the GEO600 collaboration and he is a member of the LISA International Science Team, which guides the joint ESA-NASA project to place a gravitational wave detector in space. He retains a part-time appointment as a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Cardiff University in Wales.

Bernard Schutz will talk about **Oscillations of neutron stars and black holes**.

Edward L. (Ned) Wright is a Professor of Physics and Astronomy at UCLA. After working as physicist in the Underwater Sound Division of NRL, he became a Junior Fellow in the Society of Fellows at Harvard University and then taught at the MIT Physics Department. He moved to UCLA in 1981. Prof. Wright is interested in infrared astronomy and cosmology. He is currently the Principal Investigator on the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) NASA medium-class Explorer mission, scheduled for launch in 2009. He has worked on the COsmic Background Explorer (COBE) since 1978, and he received the NASA Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal for this work in 1992. Prof. Wright is also working on the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP), which is a mission to follow-up the COBE discovery of fluctuations in the early Universe and was launched in June 2001. He is an Interdisciplinary Scientist on the Spitzer Space Telescope. He maintains an illustrated cosmology tutorial on the Web.

Prof. Wright will talk about **Acoustic Oscillations in the early universe**.



Conveners: Dr. Laurent Gizon (Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research)
Prof. Stefan Dreizler (Institute for Astrophysics, University of Göttingen)

Sponsors: European Union (European Helio- and Asteroseismology Network)
Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research





Eine Woche lang haben 150 Physiker aus aller Welt in Göttingen über Wellenphänomene diskutiert, wie sie in Schwarzen Löchern vorkommen. Prof. Robert Wagoner beschreibt deren Faszination.

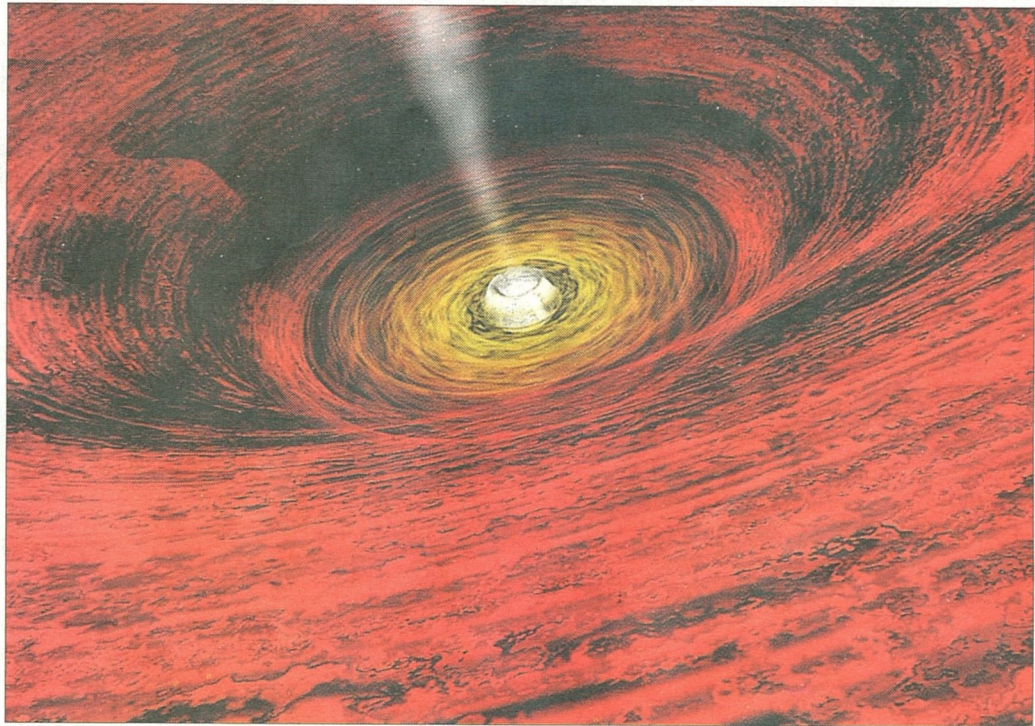
Schwarze Löcher schwingen

Weltweit führende Wissenschaftler diskutieren über Wellenphänomene

Mehr als 150 Physiker aus aller Welt haben eine Woche lang in Göttingen getagt. Die Wissenschaftler diskutierten Wellenphänomene, wie sie zum Beispiel bei Schwarzen Löchern eine Rolle spielen.

Wellenphänomene in Physik, Geophysik und Astrophysik waren die Gesprächsthemen der vom Max-Planck-Institut für Sonnensystemforschung in Katlenburg-Lindau organisierten Internationalen Konferenz Helas II. Bei einer Vortragsreihe der Universität Göttingen mit sechs weltweit führenden Physikern wurden wegweisende Entdeckungen erörtert. Die Experten sprachen über neueste Erkenntnisse über Schwingungs- und Wellenphänomene, die unter anderem in der Medizin Anwendung finden könnten.

Robert Wagoner, Professor für Physik an der Universität von Stanford in den USA, referierte über Relativistische Seismologie von Scheiben, die sich um Schwarze Löcher und Neutronensterne bilden. Dabei wertete er die Schwingungen in Akkretionsscheiben aus, um die Zentralmasse zu untersuchen. Eine Akkretionsscheibe ist eine um ein Objekt rotierende Scheibe, die Materie



„Was passiert, wenn ich in ein Schwarzes Loch falle?“ Illustration der Akkretionsscheibe. Reuters

in Richtung des Zentrums transportiert (akkretiert). Schwarze Löcher entstehen beim Zusammenbruch massereicher Sterne. Ein Schwarzes Loch ist ein astronomisches Objekt, das aufgrund seiner hohen Dichte die Raumzeit (in der Physik ist Zeit die vierte Dimension) so stark krümmt,

dass von außen betrachtet nichts aus seiner inneren Region enttrinnen kann. Die Grenze dieses Bereiches heißt Ereignishorizont. Der Ausdruck Schwarzes Loch verweist auf den Umstand, dass auch elektromagnetische Wellen, wie sichtbares Licht, den Ereignishorizont nicht verlas-

sen können und es einem menschlichen Auge daher vollkommen schwarz erscheint. Neben dem zentralen Schwarzen Loch in unserer Galaxis mit einer Masse von drei bis vier Millionen Sonnen gibt es eine Reihe weiterer kleiner Schwarzer Löcher, die in der Milchstraße verteilt sind. *juw*

Tageblatt-Interview mit Prof. Robert Wagoner

„Was geht da draußen vor?“

Prof. Robert Wagoner von der Stanford University, USA, gilt als einer der führenden Wissenschaftler auf dem Gebiet der Astrophysik. Jens Wucherpfennig sprach mit ihm über die Faszination fremder Welten.

Tageblatt: Schwarze Löcher, Neutronensterne und Galaxien sind weit, weit entfernt. Warum erforschen Sie sie?

Wagoner: Wir wollen ein-

fach unsere kosmische Umgebung erkunden. Was geht da draußen vor? Und wir wollen herausfinden, wie das Universum am Anfang beschaffen war.

Schwarze Löcher faszinieren auch viele Menschen, die sich sonst nicht für Astrophysik interessieren. Warum?

Das ist eine gute Frage. Es ist wohl der Reiz des Unbekannten: Was passiert, wenn

ich in ein Schwarzes Loch hineinfalle? Können wir durch Schwarze Löcher Zeitreisen machen?

Welche großen Erkenntnisse sind in den nächsten Jahren in der Astrophysik zu erwarten?

Ich hoffe, dass wir in wenigen Jahren die Gravitationswellen mit Hilfe von Geräten wie dem Observatorium Ligo nachweisen können. Vielleicht entdecken wir



Mischke

auch etwas völlig Neues: noch unbekannte Teilchen aus der frühesten Zeit des Universums.