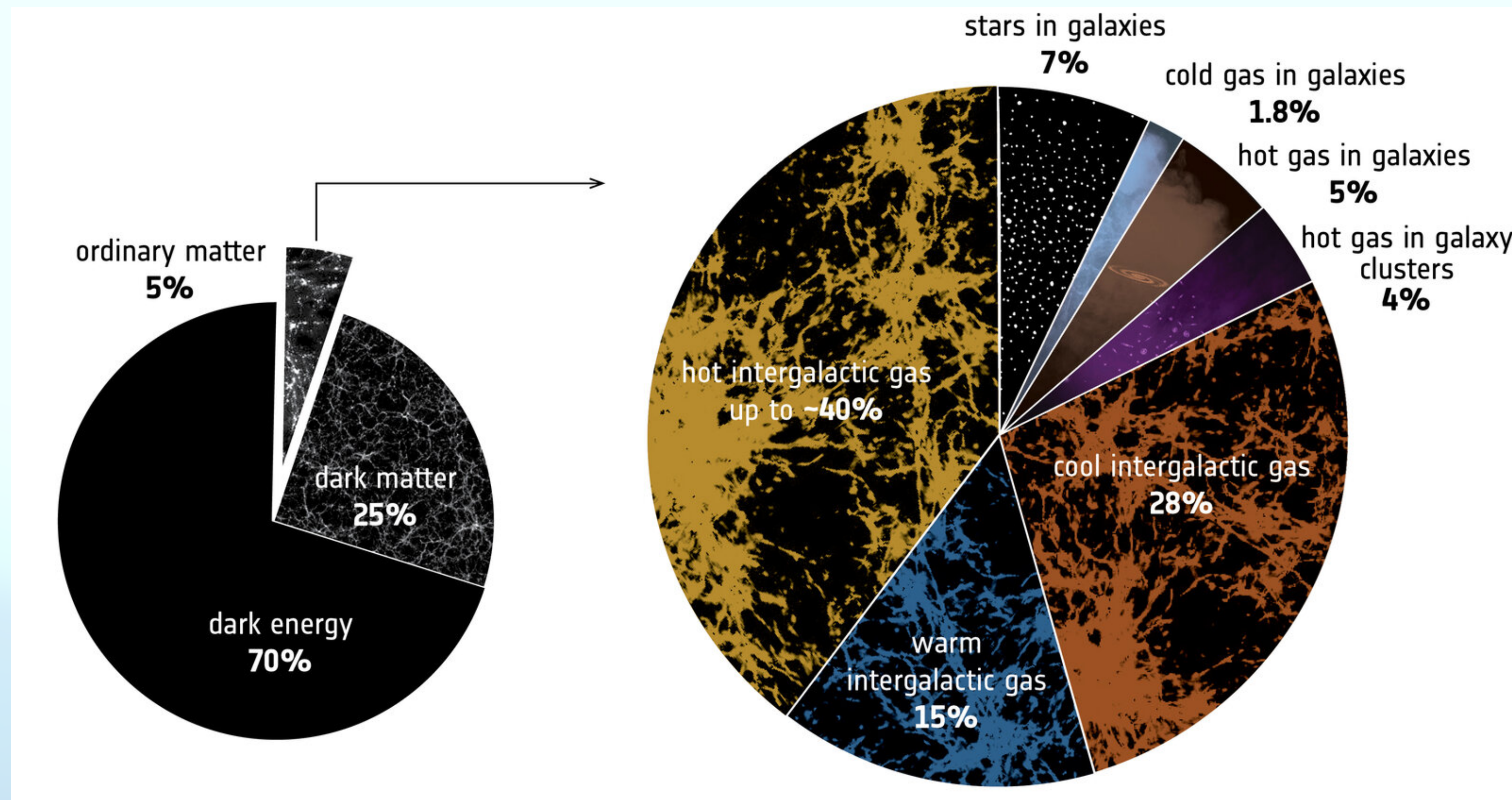


MSCA-PF Online Workshop (2026)

My career track

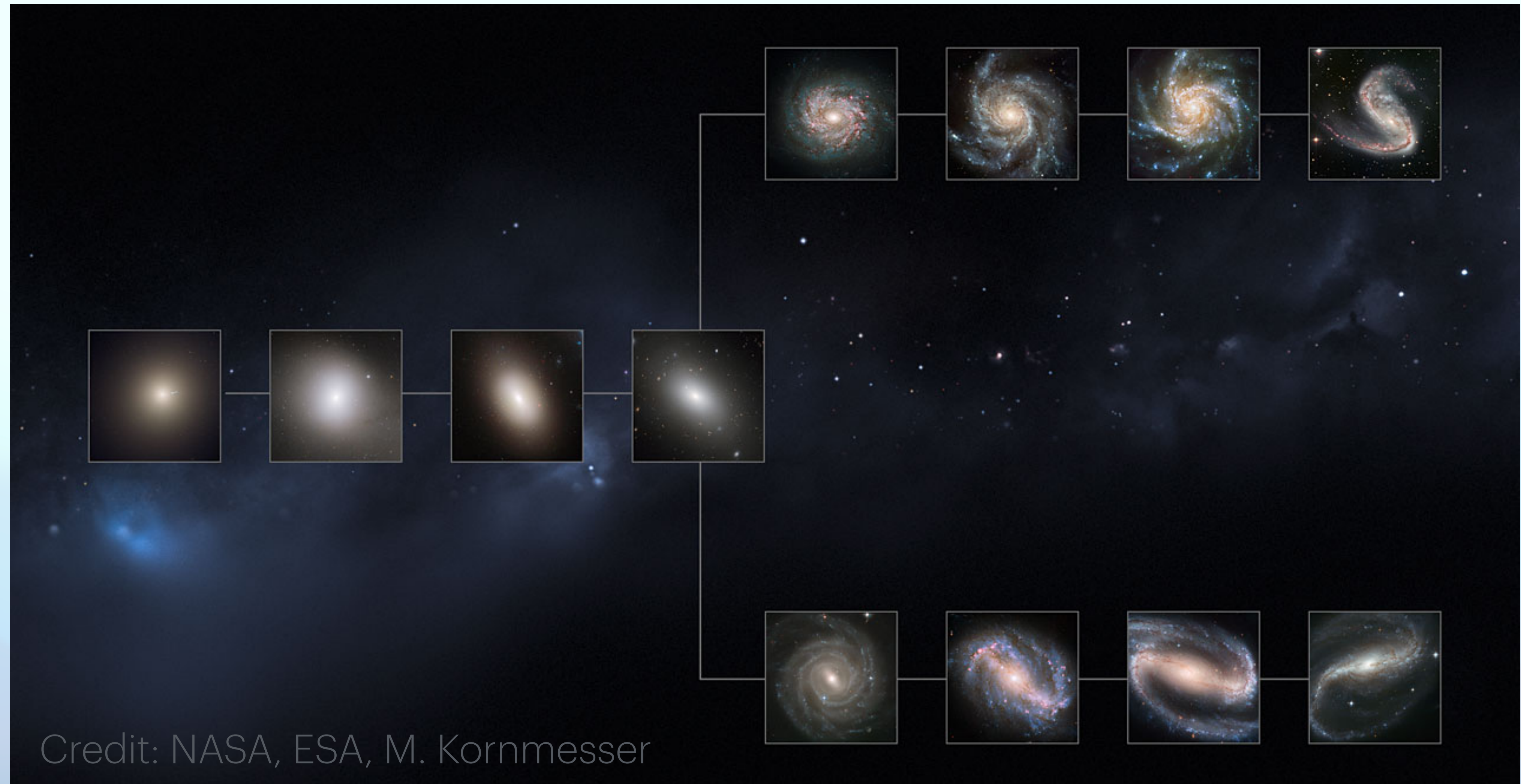
- 2021-2023 and 2025-present: DAWN fellow at DTU/DAWN, Denmark
- 2023-2025 : MSCA fellow at DTU/DAWN, Denmark
- 2018-2021 : Postdoctoral researcher at Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE), Germany
- 2018 : University of Tokyo, PhD in astronomy, Japan

What I research: understanding galaxy formation and evolution



Credit : ESA

What I research: understanding galaxy formation and evolution



DTU Space



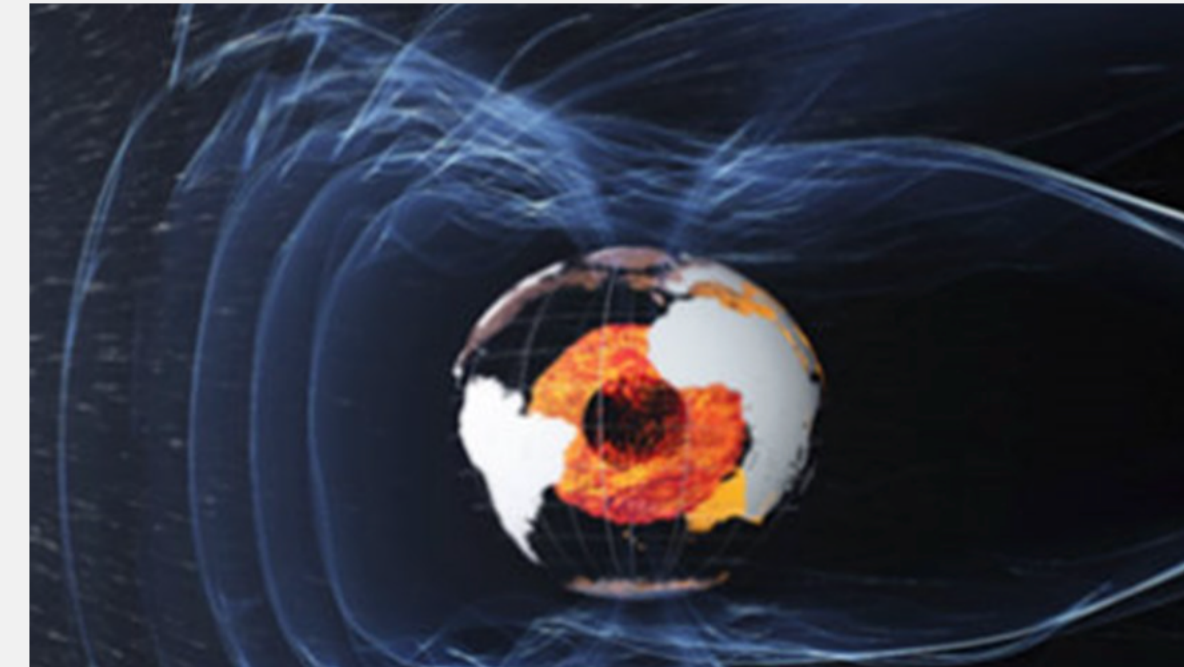
Astrophysics and Atmospheric Physics

The division conduct research in stars, galaxies, planets, exoplanets, the Solar System and the Universe as a whole, as well as the interaction between space and the Earth's atmosphere.



Geodesy and Earth Observation

The division researches in observation, surveying and mapping of the Earth concerning primarily climate change. Other focus areas are measuring and observing the Earth's gravitational field, displacements in the Earth's crust, ice cover changes, soil and sea surface levels and land uplift.



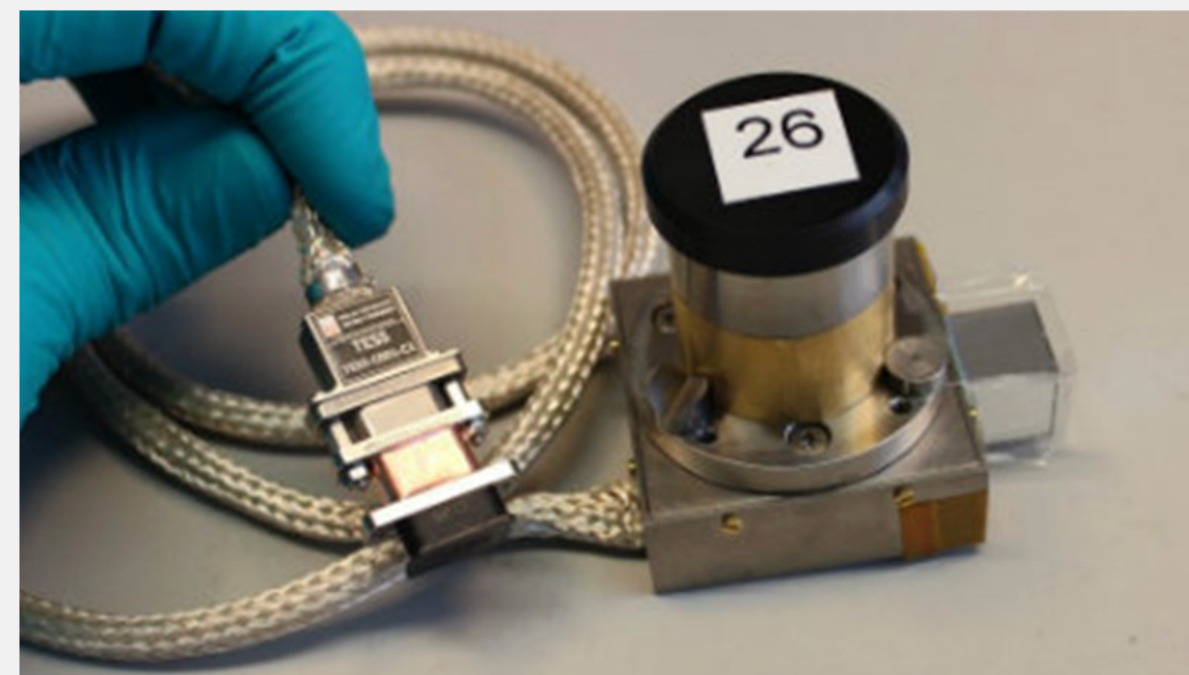
Geomagnetism and Geospace

The division uses satellites and ground-based measuring stations to explore and map the Earth's magnetic field. The research provides insight into changes in the magnetic field and processes coupled to the sun.



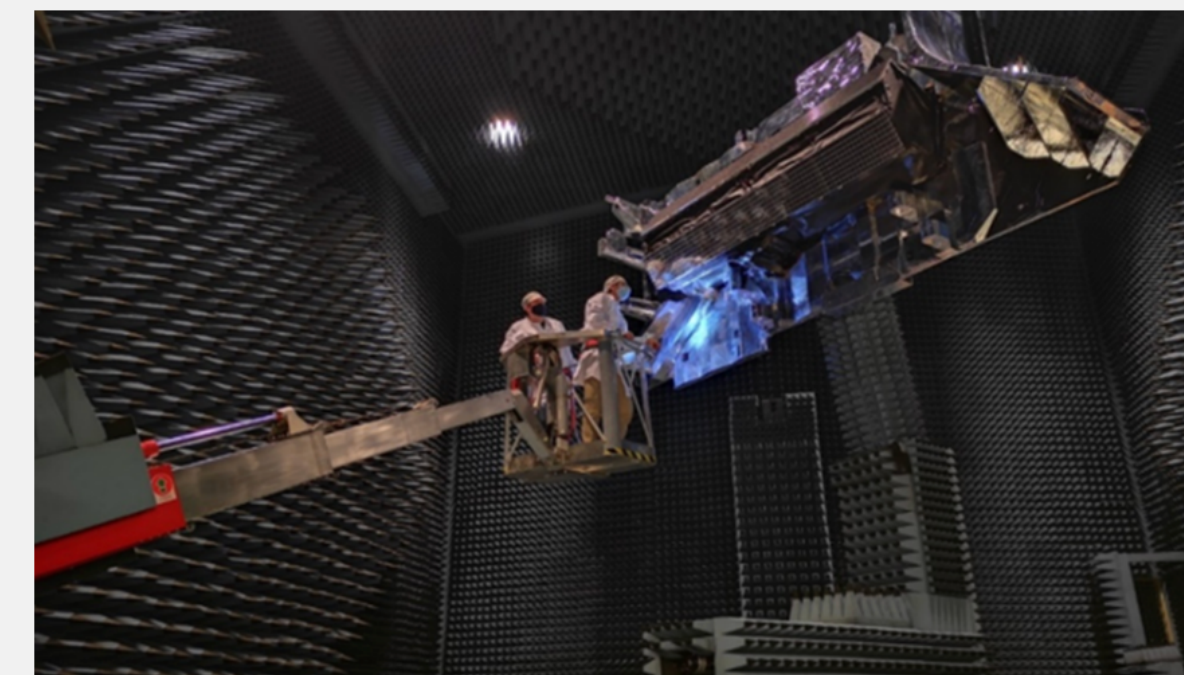
Microwaves and Remote Sensing

The division deals with research, development and use of microwave sensors. We research both passive and active sensors - which are microwaves, radiometers and radars - that are used to observe the earth's surface.



Measurement and Instrumentation Systems

Research and development activities in the division focus on high-precision instrumentation systems for space missions and on research based on data gathered via these instruments.



Electromagnetic systems

The department works with testing, research and development within electromagnetic field theory, antenna technology, meta-materials, microwave technology and terahertz technology.

DTU Space



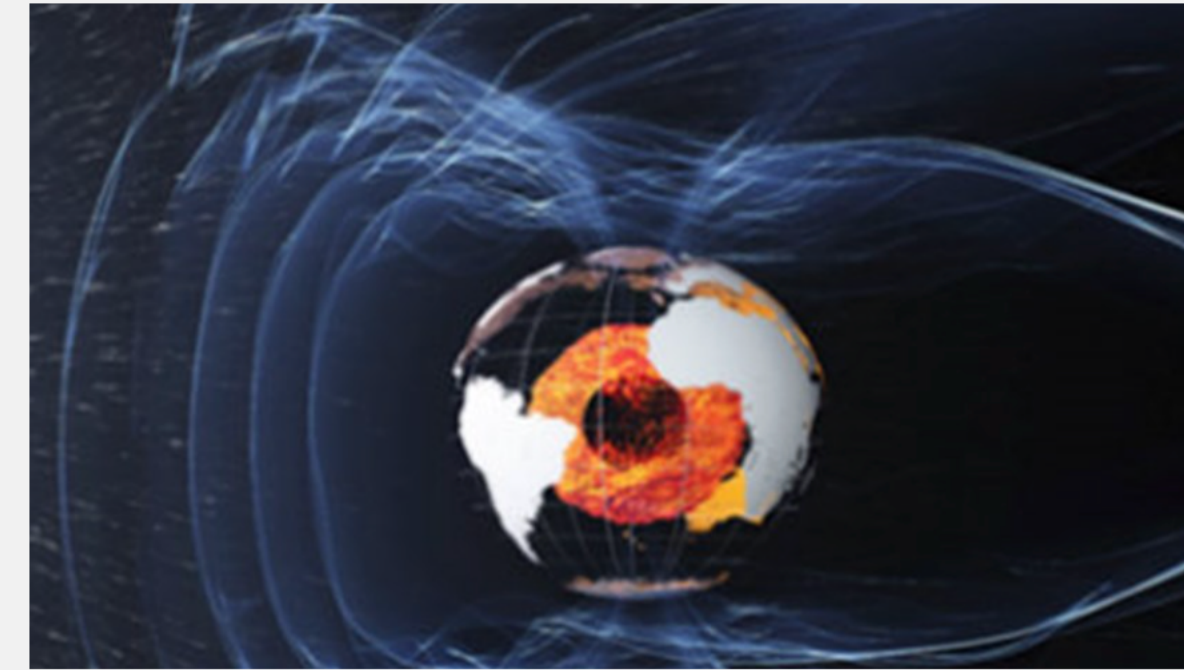
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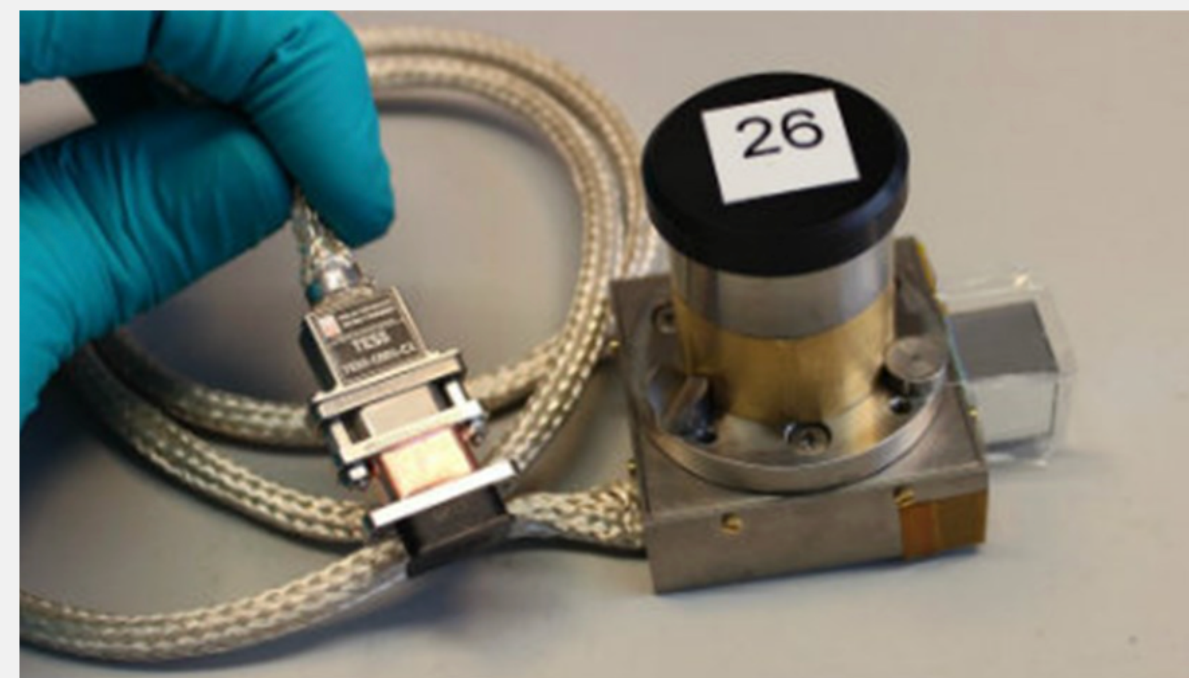
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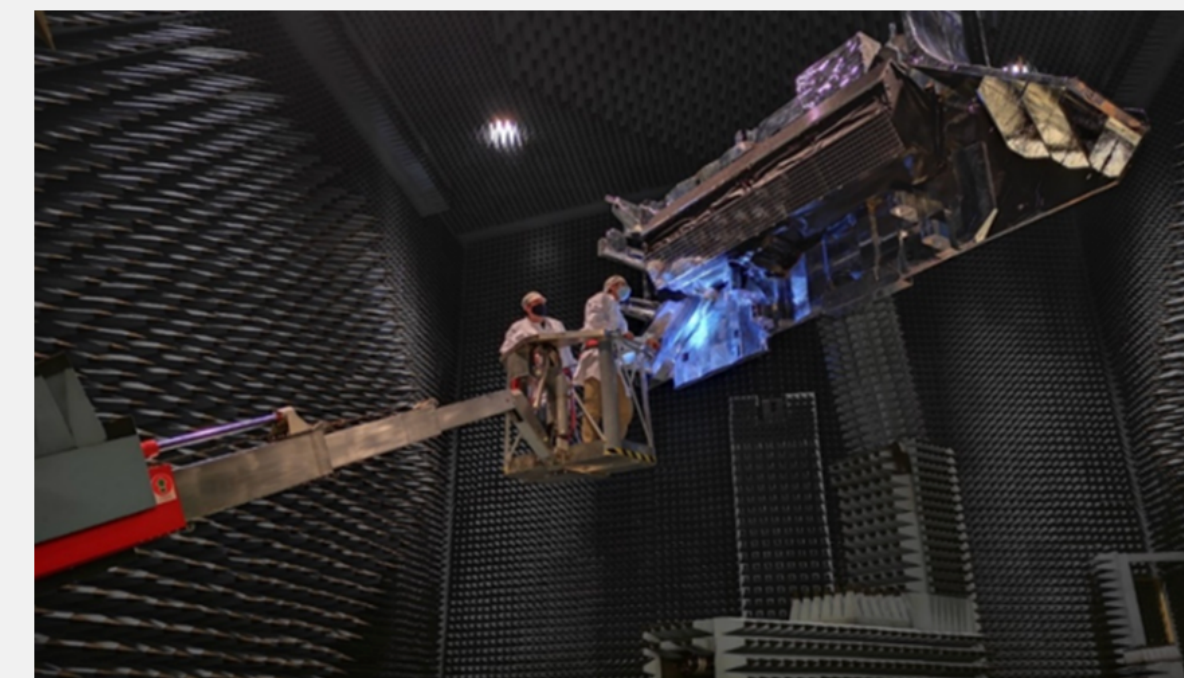
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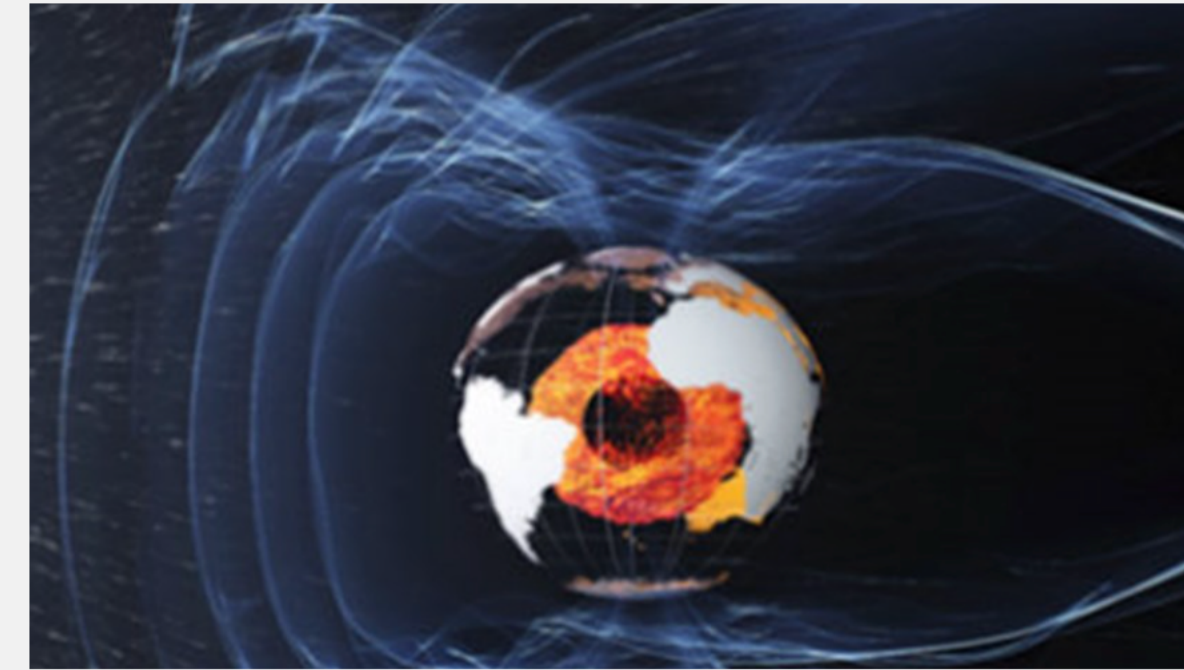
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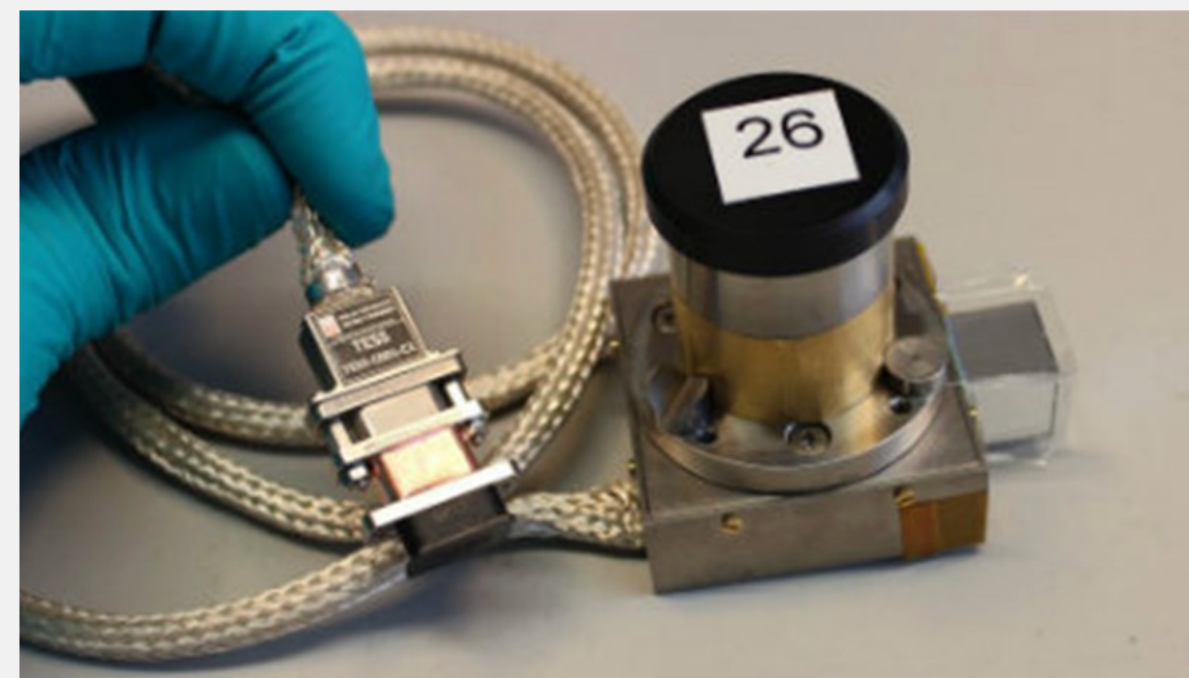
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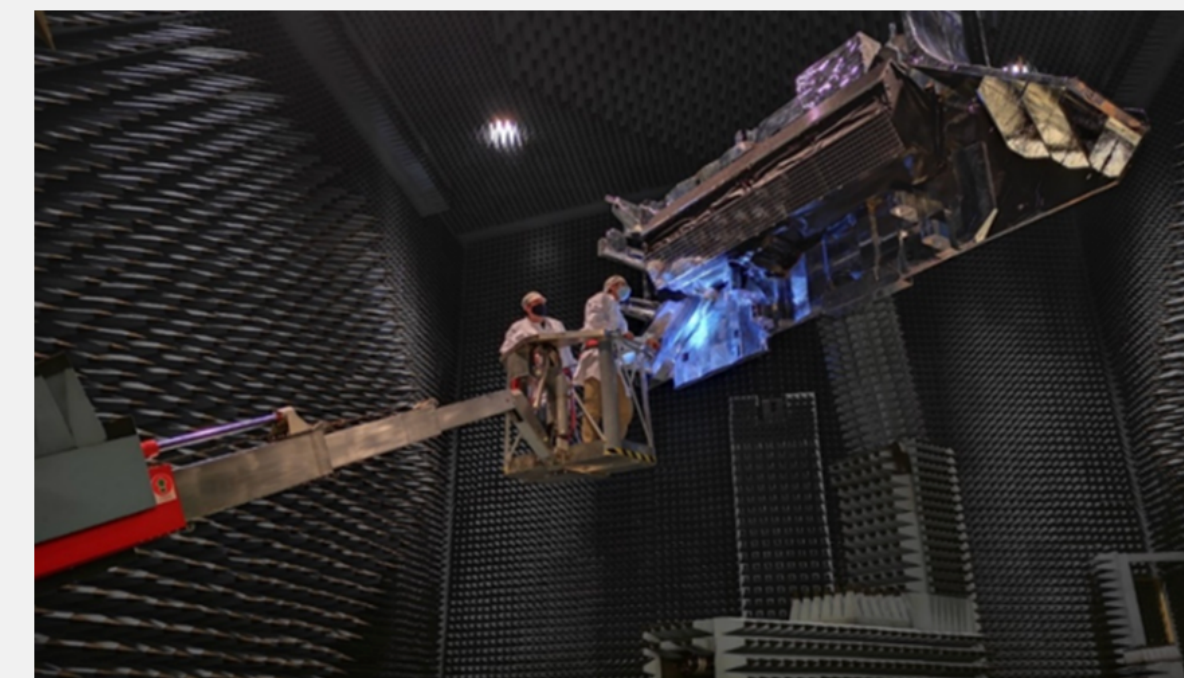
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Cosmic Dawn Center



- **An international research center for Astrophysics** supported by the Danish National Research Foundation (10-year fixed-term; ending in a couple of years)
 - Budget size: $\sim$ 16 million EUR
 - Offices both at the Niels Bohr Institute at the University of Copenhagen, and at DTU Space at the Technical University of Denmark.
- **Focus : uncovering how and when the first galaxies, stars and black holes formed**, through observations with the prime telescopes of the next decade (ALMA, JWST, Euclid, E-ELT, HST) as well as through theoretical work and simulations.
- Size: $\sim$ 60 people — 1/3 staff (including international associates), 1/3 postdoc, 1/3 student

What is the MSCA Fellowship and why does it matter?

- **Reputation** : One of the most *prestigious and independent* fellowships available in EU across the academic area
- **Good salary and compensation** (such as the allowance to travel and self-develop):
 - However, also worth considering the tax and living costs for some cities
- Up to 2 years for European Postdoctoral Fellowships (EF)

Choice of the host institute and supervisor

- Should be a **nice match with your proposed project** (see the evaluation part)
 - The **supervisor (in the host institute)** should offer advice and guidance
- **Contact early** if you know the place that you would like to have as a host
 - To get feedback from the host supervisor, and the host institute
 - It is also helpful as there might be some ‘legacy’ information available in the host institute from the previous successful awardees

Rules to keep in mind

- **Mobility rule :**
 - You cannot apply for the institute if you have stayed there for more than 12 months in the 36 months immediately before the call deadline
 - I came to Denmark in Nov, and the call for MSCA was in Oct in the following year, which allowed me to keep the same host — This was a very positive aspect, as I already knew the people and understood how the institute operates well in advance, even before I decided to apply.
- **PhD year:**
 - Maximum 8 years (full-time equivalent) research experience from the date of award of the (first) doctoral degree
- **Resubmission Rule:**
 - Applicants from the 2025 call who received an evaluation below 80% (before it was 70%) are not eligible to apply in 2026.

Evaluation

- 15-20% acceptance rate typically

MSCA-PF-2022: Cumulative percentage of proposals above threshold, with a given score or higher (funding range marked in green)																
Number of eligible proposals	920 proposals	109 proposals	911 proposals	668 proposals	1367 proposals	138 proposals	733 proposals	1387 proposals	42 proposals	11 proposals	82 proposals	85 proposals	103 proposals	11 proposals	57 proposals	285 proposals
Cut off score for funding*	91.8	89.4	92.4	92.6	93.6	92.2	92.4	93.0	95.0	81.0	96.4	94.0	92.6	90.8	93.4	93.6
Score equal to or above	EF-CHE	EF-ECO	EF-ENG	EF-ENV	EF-LIF	EF-MAT	EF-PHY	EF-SOC	GF-CHE	GF-ECO	GF-ENG	GF-ENV	GF-LIF	GF-MAT	GF-PHY	GF-SOC
100	0.65%	1.83%	0.33%	0.90%	0.51%	0.72%	0.82%	1.15%	0.00%	0.00%	2.44%	2.35%	1.94%	0.00%	0.00%	1.75%
99	1.41%	1.83%	0.66%	1.35%	1.98%	0.72%	1.64%	2.02%	2.38%	0.00%	4.88%	4.71%	3.88%	0.00%	1.75%	2.46%
98	2.93%	2.75%	2.74%	4.04%	4.68%	2.90%	3.55%	4.25%	11.90%	0.00%	10.98%	5.88%	6.80%	0.00%	1.75%	4.91%
97	4.02%	3.67%	4.83%	5.99%	7.75%	6.52%	4.77%	6.71%	11.90%	0.00%	18.29%	9.41%	7.77%	0.00%	3.51%	7.72%
96	6.30%	4.59%	7.03%	8.23%	10.75%	9.42%	7.78%	9.66%	19.05%	0.00%	24.39%	15.29%	11.65%	9.09%	8.77%	11.58%
95	8.70%	6.42%	8.89%	11.08%	14.34%	10.87%	9.96%	12.26%	21.43%	0.00%	29.27%	17.65%	13.59%	9.09%	10.53%	15.09%
94	11.52%	9.17%	12.62%	14.52%	16.97%	13.04%	13.10%	14.92%	21.43%	0.00%	32.93%	22.35%	13.59%	9.09%	14.04%	18.95%
93	14.78%	10.09%	15.37%	16.47%	20.19%	16.67%	16.78%	17.74%	21.43%	0.00%	32.93%	27.06%	17.48%	9.09%	21.05%	22.11%
92	17.28%	12.84%	18.22%	18.86%	23.04%	18.84%	20.05%	20.55%	28.57%	0.00%	36.59%	30.59%	22.33%	9.09%	26.32%	25.26%
91	20.00%	14.68%	20.75%	22.01%	25.82%	21.74%	22.51%	22.78%	30.95%	0.00%	40.24%	37.65%	24.27%	9.09%	26.32%	27.02%
90	23.70%	15.60%	23.16%	25.75%	29.33%	26.09%	26.19%	25.16%	35.71%	0.00%	42.68%	37.65%	29.13%	18.18%	31.58%	29.82%
89	26.85%	18.35%	26.56%	28.29%	32.48%	30.43%	29.60%	27.54%	40.48%	0.00%	48.78%	42.35%	33.98%	18.18%	36.84%	31.23%
88	30.11%	20.18%	28.65%	30.69%	35.70%	34.06%	32.20%	29.99%	42.86%	0.00%	51.22%	45.88%	38.83%	18.18%	40.35%	35.44%
87	33.04%	23.85%	31.06%	34.88%	38.84%	37.68%	35.33%	32.23%	45.24%	0.00%	54.88%	49.41%	41.75%	18.18%	47.37%	36.49%
86	36.74%	24.77%	33.59%	38.32%	42.06%	40.58%	38.74%	34.10%	57.14%	9.09%	59.76%	52.94%	44.66%	18.18%	49.12%	38.25%
85	39.35%	24.77%	36.55%	41.92%	45.87%	44.20%	43.38%	36.27%	64.29%	9.09%	62.20%	55.29%	48.54%	27.27%	54.39%	41.75%
84	41.85%	26.61%	38.97%	44.91%	49.38%	46.38%	47.75%	38.43%	66.67%	9.09%	64.63%	56.47%	52.43%	27.27%	56.14%	43.86%
83	45.65%	30.28%	41.05%	47.75%	52.52%	50.72%	51.30%	40.95%	71.43%	9.09%	67.07%	61.18%	57.28%	36.36%	59.65%	46.67%
82	47.50%	32.11%	44.35%	50.15%	54.79%	52.17%	54.02%	43.40%	76.19%	18.18%	70.73%	63.53%	61.17%	36.36%	61.40%	49.82%
81	50.43%	33.94%	46.21%	53.59%	57.72%	53.62%	57.98%	45.06%	80.95%	27.27%	70.73%	65.88%	63.11%	36.36%	61.40%	52.63%
80	54.57%	35.78%	47.97%	57.04%	60.57%	55.07%	61.66%	47.15%	80.95%	45.45%	73.17%	70.59%	66.02%	36.36%	63.16%	54.74%
79	56.85%	37.61%	50.27%	59.28%	63.13%	57.25%	64.12%	49.32%	80.95%	54.55%	73.17%	71.76%	66.02%	36.36%	68.42%	56.14%
78	59.57%	39.45%	53.24%	62.28%	65.91%	59.42%	68.35%	51.69%	80.95%	54.55%	74.39%	75.29%	67.96%	36.36%	70.18%	57.89%
77	62.50%	44.04%	55.54%	64.22%	67.96%	61.59%	70.80%	53.71%	83.33%	54.55%	76.83%	76.47%	69.90%	36.36%	70.18%	60.35%
76	65.33%	48.62%	57.30%	66.62%	70.37%	64.49%	73.12%	55.44%	88.10%	54.55%	76.83%	80.00%	70.87%	45.45%	73.68%	62.81%
75	67.61%	50.46%	59.39%	69.31%	72.49%	67.39%	75.17%	57.46%	88.10%	54.55%	79.27%	80.00%	74.76%	45.45%	73.68%	62.81%
74	70.11%	52.29%	61.69%	71.26%	73.52%	70.29%	76.53%	59.34%	90.48%	54.55%	80.49%	81.18%	74.76%	45.45%	75.44%	64.21%
73	72.17%	54.13%	63.67%	73.50%	74.76%	73.19%	77.49%	61.07%	90.48%	63.64%	80.49%	84.71%	74.76%	45.45%	78.95%	67.02%
72	74.67%	56.88%	65.53%	75.30%	76.44%	76.81%	79.54%	62.36%	92.86%	63.64%	82.93%	85.88%	75.73%	54.55%	78.95%	70.53%
71	75.76%	57.80%	67.62%	76.80%	77.98%	78.26%	81.45%	64.24%	92.86%	72.73%	84.15%	87.06%	77.67%	54.55%	84.21%	72.98%
70	77.39%	61.47%	69.48%	78.89%	79.37%	78.99%	83.08%	66.04%	92.86%	72.73%	85.37%	87.06%	80.58%	54.55%	87.72%	74.04%
Percentage of proposals below threshold (<70)	22.61%	38.53%	30.52%	21.11%	20.63%	21.01%	16.92%	33.96%	7.14%	27.27%	14.63%	12.94%	19.42%	45.45%	12.28%	25.96%

* your proposal can have the same score as the cut off score yet not be funded, due to additional priorities (as defined in Work Programme) and the ex-aequo ranking decisions by the Panel.

How to interpret this table
The percentage of proposals above the overall threshold and with a given score or higher is shown per ranking list. Green shows the funding range. Proposals below the overall threshold are shown separately and are not part of the cumulative total.
For example: -in the EF-PHY ranking, 26.19% of all eligible proposals submitted in this ranking list scored 90 or higher. The funding cut off is 92.4. -in the GF-SOC ranking, 25.96% of all eligible proposals submitted in this ranking list scored less than the threshold (70) and were rejected.

Evaluation

- 15-20% acceptance rate typically
- ...however worth noting that the situation got ~2x worse especially last year (with cut-off <10%)

MSCA-PF-2022: Cumulative percentage of proposals above threshold, with a given score or higher (funding range marked in green)																
Number of eligible proposals	920 proposals	109 proposals	911 proposals	668 proposals	1367 proposals	138 proposals	733 proposals	1387 proposals	42 proposals	11 proposals	82 proposals	85 proposals	103 proposals	11 proposals	57 proposals	285 proposals
Cut off score for funding*	91.8	89.4	92.4	92.6	93.6	92.2	92.4	93.0	95.0	81.0	96.4	94.0	92.6	90.8	93.4	93.6
Score equal to or above	EF-CHE	EF-ECO	EF-ENG	EF-ENV	EF-LIF	EF-MAT	EF-PHY	EF-SOC	GF-CHE	GF-ECO	GF-ENG	GF-ENV	GF-LIF	GF-MAT	GF-PHY	GF-SOC
100	0.65%	1.83%	0.33%	0.90%	0.51%	0.72%	0.82%	1.15%	0.00%	0.00%	2.44%	2.35%	1.94%	0.00%	0.00%	1.75%
99	1.41%	1.83%	0.66%	1.35%	1.98%	0.72%	1.64%	2.02%	2.38%	0.00%	4.88%	4.71%	3.88%	0.00%	1.75%	2.46%
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83	45.65%	30.28%	41.05%	47.75%	52.52%	50.72%	51.30%	40.95%	71.43%	9.09%	67.07%	61.18%	57.28%	36.36%	59.65%	46.67%
82	47.50%	32.11%	44.35%	50.15%	54.79%	52.17%	54.02%	43.40%	76.19%	18.18%	70.73%	63.53%	61.17%	36.36%	61.40%	49.82%
81	50.43%	33.94%	46.21%	53.59%	57.72%	53.62%	57.98%	45.06%	80.95%	27.27%	70.73%	65.88%	63.11%	36.36%	61.40%	52.63%
80	54.57%	35.78%	47.97%	57.04%	60.57%	55.07%	61.66%	47.15%	80.95%	45.45%	73.17%	70.59%	66.02%	36.36%	63.16%	54.74%
79	56.85%	37.61%	50.27%	59.28%	63.13%	57.25%	64.12%	49.32%	80.95%	54.55%	73.17%	71.76%	66.02%	36.36%	68.42%	56.14%
78	59.57%	39.45%	53.24%	62.28%	65.91%	59.42%	68.35%	51.69%	80.95%	54.55%	74.39%	75.29%	67.96%	36.36%	70.18%	57.89%
77	62.50%	44.04%	55.54%	64.22%	67.96%	61.59%	70.80%	53.71%	83.33%	54.55%	76.83%	76.47%	69.90%	36.36%	70.18%	60.35%
76	65.33%	48.62%	57.30%	66.62%	70.37%	64.49%	73.12%	55.44%	88.10%	54.55%	76.83%	80.00%	70.87%	45.45%	73.68%	62.81%
75	67.61%	50.46%	59.39%	69.31%	72.49%	67.39%	75.17%	57.46%	88.10%	54.55%	79.27%	80.00%	74.76%	45.45%	73.68%	62.81%
74	70.11%	52.29%	61.69%	71.26%	73.52%	70.29%	76.53%	59.34%	90.48%	54.55%	80.49%	81.18%	74.76%	45.45%	75.44%	64.21%
73	72.17%	54.13%	63.67%	73.50%	74.76%	73.19%	77.49%	61.07%	90.48%	63.64%	80.49%	84.71%	74.76%	45.45%	78.95%	67.02%
72	74.67%	56.88%	65.53%	75.30%	76.44%	76.81%	79.54%	62.36%	92.86%	63.64%	82.93%	85.88%	75.73%	54.55%	78.95%	70.53%
71	75.76%	57.80%	67.62%	76.80%	77.98%	78.26%	81.45%	64.24%	92.86%	72.73%	84.15%	87.06%	77.67%	54.55%	84.21%	72.98%
70	77.39%	61.47%	69.48%	78.89%	79.37%	78.99%	83.08%	66.04%	92.86%	72.73%	85.37%	87.06%	80.58%	54.55%	87.72%	74.04%
Percentage of proposals below threshold (<70)	22.61%	38.53%	30.52%	21.11%	20.63%	21.01%	16.92%	33.96%	7.14%	27.27%	14.63%	12.94%	19.42%	45.45%	12.28%	25.96%

* your proposal can have the same score as the cut off score yet not be funded, due to additional priorities (as defined in Work Programme) and the ex-aequo ranking decisions by the Panel.

How to interpret this table
The percentage of proposals above the overall threshold and with a given score or higher is shown per ranking list. Green shows the funding range. Proposals below the overall threshold are shown separately and are not part of the cumulative total.
For example: -in the EF-PHY ranking, 26.19% of all eligible proposals submitted in this ranking list scored 90 or higher. The funding cut off is 92.4. -in the GF-SOC ranking, 25.96% of all eligible proposals submitted in this ranking list scored less than the threshold (70) and were rejected.

Evaluation: Excellence (~50%)

★ Strengths

- ✓ The proposal addresses **interesting questions** with potentially important implications from the results. The topic is **timely, ambitious and innovative**.
- ✓ ...with **appropriate open science practice**.
- ✓ The **supervisor** ... has **outstanding research and management skills**
- ✓ clear and specific **training goals and plans for transfer of knowledge** that are valuable for both sides

★ Weakness:

- ✓ ...specific **methodology** is **not discussed in sufficient detail**

Evaluation: Impact (~30%)

★ Strengths

- ✓ .. **excellent and credible plans** for the researcher...
- ✓ The **new observations** will have **substantial scientific impact**

Evaluation: Implementation (~20%)

★ Strengths

- ✓ The overall duration of the work packages is very reasonable and overlaps in time are well justified ... **with appropriate milestones and deliverables**
- ✓ ..well planned and identified in the **Gantt Chart**
- ✓ ..host provides outstanding logistics, facilities and support

★ Weakness:

- ✓ **Risks** for work package 2 are not sufficiently discussed

Final tip

- Make the narrative easy to follow, and if possible, **a good summary plot** can be helpful (as is in any other grant, (observing) proposals)
- Innovation is great but **do not make an overly ambitious project** (it's only 2 years and it needs to be completed)
 - Note that final report (reflecting the progress and accomplishment) is also needed
- Bear with some bureaucratic processes

I wish you the best of luck!