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To all members of the  
Faculty of Physics

Vienna, 01 September 2025

Invitation to the public defense of the doctoral thesis

**“Dynamics of Cosmological Fluids in the Critical Regime  
of Slow Expansion”**

by

**Maximilian Ofner**

Monday, 08 September 2025, 10:00 a.m.  
Digital

Homogeneous and isotropic solutions to the relativistic Euler equations are known to be unstable on a Minkowski background. However, for FLRW models with a fast expansion rate, relativistic fluids stabilize. This scenario suggests a transition between stable and unstable behavior, somewhere along a family of spacetimes parametrized by their expansion rate. In this talk, we give a short overview of the results of the present thesis. They comprise a set of theorems regarding the stability properties of solutions to the relativistic Euler equations as well as the Einstein-Euler system near a hypothesized transition line. In particular, the fully coupled problem is analyzed in the regime of linear expansion, while fluids on a fixed background are examined in the decelerated region.

Defense committee:

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