

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

I am **Harsh Bellam**, applying for **MSc Astrophysics at LMU Munich**. In this statement of purpose, I want to share my academic success, motivations, and my interest in studying astrophysics.

I completed my **Bachelor of Science degree in Physics** at Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology in Chennai, India from August 2021 to May 2024. My cumulative grade point average (CGPA) stood at 8.73 out of 10 by the end of the 5th semester. Before that, I scored 89.6% on the 10th-grade exam in May 2019. Then, I got 93.8% on the 12th grade exam in July 2021.

Moreover, I got a **band score of 7.0 (to C1 level)** on the International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**) exam held on April 5, 2024. In this test, I obtained scores of 7.5 for listening, and in the reading, writing, and speaking sections, I scored a mark of 7.0.

I worked in the physics department at my college from December 2023 to April this year. During that time, I committed to a bachelor's project which was titled "**Growth, Characterization, and Analysis of Single Inorganic Crystals with Non-Linear Optical Properties.**" I also gained experience from an internship at **VEI TECHNOLOGIES PVT LTD** in Tamil Nadu, India. There, I used the sci.AI platform from June 15th to June 28th. It helps in understanding and explaining biomedical research papers. In addition to academics, I did many extracurricular activities. I got second place in the **Ultimate Badminton Battle at the SMASH SHOWDOWN event**. The Sports Club of my university organized it on March 20, 2024.

I want to pursue this course as I want to contribute my best to astrophysics, a constantly evolving field. The curriculum includes advanced modules such as Introduction to Advanced Astrophysics Lecture and Methods and Tools of Advanced Astrophysics. These modules are in line with my academic interests and professional goals. I am very interested in exploring how physics and astrophysics interact.

After completing this course, I want to join a top research institution or university. There, I can work on advanced projects about cosmic phenomena and theoretical models. Also, I aim to use my expertise in astrophysics to make new technologies and methods. These can help us explore space and understand the universe. I am also interested in teaching. I want to mentor the next generation of physicists to create a collaborative and innovative environment.

Germany invests a lot in research and development, putting about 3.14% of its GDP into R&D. This is one of the highest ratios in the world. Additionally, Germany leads in scientific papers as it contributes over 6% of the world's research. The German environment also allows to creation of strong links with universities and industry. Furthermore, the German educational system is well known for its excellent standards and pragmatic approach, which guarantees that I will have invaluable practical experience.

LMU Munich stands out with a rich legacy in astrophysics. It is ranked 54th globally and 2nd in Germany by the QS World University Rankings 2024. According to the US News Subject Rankings in 2022, it is ranked 26th out of 743 globally and 1st out of 41 in Germany for physics. The university has top facilities, great faculty, and the best research opportunities. About all this, I feel it is an ideal choice for me to advance my studies and contribute to science.

I am confident that my academic background, curiosity, and determination will help me excel in the MSc. Astrophysics program at LMU Munich. It will also give me the skills and knowledge I need. These are crucial for a rewarding careers in research, academia, or industry. I am eager to start this academic journey and am looking forward to contributing to astrophysics through new research and discoveries.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Harsh Bellam