

# Abigail J. Lee

Email: [abbyl@uchicago.edu](mailto:abbyl@uchicago.edu) • Website: [abiglee7.github.io](https://abiglee7.github.io)

## EDUCATION

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### University of Chicago

*Ph.D. Candidate, Astronomy & Astrophysics*

Advisor: Wendy Freedman

Chicago, IL

2019 – Present

### University of Pennsylvania

*B.A., Physics & Astronomy (with Honors), summa cum laude*

Minors in Mathematics and Classical Studies

Senior Thesis: Reconstructing Lognormal Density Fields using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Techniques

Advisor: Gary Bernstein

Philadelphia, PA

May 2019

## AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

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**Hubble Space Telescope (HST) Cycle 30 AR Program, Principal Investigator**

2022

**Illinois Space Grant Consortium Graduate Fellowship**

2022

**LSST Cooperation Data Science Fellowship**

2021 – 2023

**Most Engaging Presentation Award, UChicago Three Minute Thesis Competition**

2021

**Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Award, 237th Meeting of the AAS**

2021

**Elaine K. Bernstein Women in Science Award, University of Chicago**

2019

**McCormick Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago**

2019 – 2021

**NASA Pennsylvania Space Grant Undergraduate Scholarship**

2018

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

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**UChicago**, Graduate Research Assistant

2019 – Present

**Penn**, Cosmology Undergraduate Research Assistant

2017 – 2019

**Stanford KIPAC**, Summer Undergraduate Research Assistant

2018

**Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics**, Summer Undergraduate Research Assistant

2017

**NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory**, Summer Intern

2017

**Penn**, Experimental Condensed Matter Undergraduate Research Assistant

2016 – 2017

## TALKS

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### INVITED TALKS

**Colloquium** University of Pennsylvania

Oct 2022

**Talk** University of Chicago Astronomy Lunch Seminar

Jan 2022

**Talk** Argonne National Lab Cosmology Group Meeting

Oct 2021

### CONTRIBUTED TALKS

**Talk** 240th Meeting of the AAS

Jun 2022

**Poster** 237th Meeting of the AAS, Winner of Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Award

Jan 2021

**Talk** 2017 Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium

Nov 2017

**Talk** 2017 Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM

Mar 2017

## PUBLICATIONS

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### FIRST AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS

1. **Lee, A. J.**, Rousseau-Nepton, L., Freedman, W. L., Madore, B. F., Cioni, M.-R., Hoyt, T. J., Jang, I. S., Javadi, A., Owens, K. A. *The Astrophysical Distance Scale: V. A 2% Distance to the Local Group Spiral M33 via the JAGB Method, Tip of the Red Giant Branch, and Leavitt Law*, 2022, accepted to ApJ, [arXiv:2205.11323](https://arxiv.org/abs/2205.11323)

2. **Lee, A. J.**, Freedman, W. L., Madore, B. F., Owens, K. A., Jang, I. S. *A Preliminary Calibration of the JAGB Method Using Gaia EDR3*, 2021b, [ApJ](#), **923**, 157
3. **Lee, A. J.**, Freedman, W. L., Madore, B. F., Owens, K. A., Monson, A. J., Hoyt, T. J. *The Astrophysical Distance Scale III: Distance to the Local Group Galaxy WLM using Multi-Wavelength Observations of the Tip of the Red Giant Branch, Cepheids, and JAGB Stars*. 2021a, [ApJ](#), **907** 112

## NTH AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS

1. Madore, B. F., Freedman, W. L., **Lee, A. J.**, Owens, K. A. *Milky Way Zero-Point Calibration of the JAGB Method: Carbon Stars in Galactic Open Clusters*, 2022, submitted to [ApJ](#).
2. Porth, L., Bernstein, G., Smith, R. E., **Lee, A. J.** *The Information Content of Projected Galaxy Fields*, 2021, submitted to MNRAS. [arXiv:2111.13702](#)
3. Owens, K. A., Freedman, W. L., Madore, B. F., **Lee, A. J.** *Current Challenges in Cepheid Distance Calibrations Using Gaia EDR3*, 2022, [ApJ](#), **927**, 8
4. Madore, B. F., Freedman, W. L., **Lee, A. J.** *Astrophysical Distance Scale IV. Preliminary Zero-Point Calibration of the JAGB Method in the HST/WFC3-IR Broad J-Band (F110W) Filter*. 2022, [ApJ](#), **926**, 153
5. Vishnubhotla, R., Ping. J., Gao, Z., **Lee, A.**, Saouaf, O., Vrudhula, A., Johnson, A. T. C. *Scalable Graphene Aptasensors for Drug Quantification* 2017, [AIP Advances](#) **7**, 115111

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Primary science mentor</b> for Coral Espinoza (Lake Forest College)	2022 – Present
• Project: Measuring the Distance to NGC 6822 using Observations from the Magellan Telescope	
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> , UChicago, <i>Galaxies</i>	2020
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , UChicago, <i>Galaxies</i>	2020
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , UChicago, <i>Stars</i>	2019
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Penn, <i>Classical Mechanics</i>	2019
<b>Observing Labs Teaching Assistant</b> , Penn, <i>Survey of the Universe</i>	2018, 2019
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> , Penn, <i>E&amp;M, Optics, and Modern Physics</i>	2018
<b>Lab Teaching Assistant</b> , Penn, <i>Classical Mechanics</i>	2017
<b>Tutor</b> , Penn Physics Department	2016, 2017

## SUCCESSFUL PROPOSALS & GRANTS

### NATIONAL GRANTS

PI: <b>HST</b> Cycle 30 AR	2022
<i>Quantifying Systematics in the JAGB Method Distance Scale in M31</i>	
Co-I: <b>JWST</b> Cycle 1 GO (PI: Wendy Freedman & Barry Madore)	2021
<i>Answering the Most Important Problem in Cosmology Today: Is the Tension in the Hubble Constant Real?</i>	
Co-I: <b>HST</b> Cycle 28 AR (PI: Wendy Freedman)	2020
<i>An Independent Appraisal of the Cepheid Distance Scale</i>	
Co-I: <b>HST</b> Cycle 28 AR (PI: Wendy Freedman)	2020
<i>Absolute Magnitude Calibration of SNe Ia at 1%: Doubling the Sample of TRGB Host-Galaxy SN Calibrators</i>	

### UNIVERSITY GRANTS

Co-I: <b>Midway</b> Research II Allocation (PI: Josh Frieman), 123k hours	2021
<i>Constraining dark energy's equation of state parameter <math>w</math> from strong lensing</i>	
PI: <b>UChicago Grad Council</b> Travel Grants, \$1k	2021, 2022
PI: <b>Penn University Scholars</b> Fund, \$14k	2016, 2018

## OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

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Public data – significant experience with data from HST, Gaia, 2MASS  
Magellan-Baade FourStar Near-Infrared imaging - 11 nights  
Magellan-Baade IMACS Optical imaging - 1 night

## PRESS

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**UChicago News**, *[Aging stars provide a new cosmological yardstick](#)* 2021  
**Penn Today**, *[Women in Physics Group inspires the next generation of physicists and astronomers](#)* 2019

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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**Science Referee** for The Astrophysical Journal (ApJ) – 1 paper total 2022 – Present  
**Climate Survey Committee Member**, UChicago 2021 – Present  
**Advising & Mentoring Program Organizer**, UChicago 2020 – Present  
**Inclusion, Diversity and Equity in Astronomy Club Member**, UChicago 2019 – Present  
**Alumni Interviewer**, Penn 2019 – Present  
**Faculty Meeting Graduate Student Representative**, UChicago 2019 – 2020  
**Society of Physics Students Board Member**, Penn 2018 – 2019

## OUTREACH

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**Writer**, Astrobites (find my articles [here](#)) 2022 – Present  
**Guest Lecturer** on “Mentorship in Academia”, UChicago Physics of Stars class 2021  
**Space Explorers Winter Institute Instructor**, UChicago 2020  
**Observing Nights Organizer**, Penn 2018 – 2019  
**Astronomy Tutor for Veterans**, Penn Veterans Upward Bound 2018 – 2019

## WORKSHOPS & SUMMER SCHOOLS

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**Fundamental cosmology from the ELT and space** 2021  
*4th Azores School on Observational Cosmology (attended virtually due to COVID-19)*  
**Gaia Early DR3 Early Science and Best Practices** 2021  
*Virtual*

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

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**Chicago Fire Rec Soccer League** 2019 – Present  
**Author of *The Bachelor* arXiv april fools paper**, [link here](#) 2022  
**University of Pennsylvania Womens’s Club Soccer Team**, treasurer (2015 – 2017) 2015 – 2019  
**University of Pennsylvania Symphony Orchestra**, first violin 2015 – 2019