

Katerina Isabel Benevides

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EDUCATION

University of British Columbia, Department of Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences

MSc. Physical Oceanography

- Observational analysis of Pan-Arctic stratification over the last few decades
- Judging Canada's role in the degradation of the Pan-Arctic permafrost

Vancouver, BC
Sept 2024 – June 2026

University of Toronto, Department of Arts & Science

HBSc. Specializing in Planetary Science. Minor in Archaeology. Minor in Geoscience

Toronto, ON
Sept 2020 – June 2024

EXPERIENCE

Project Supervisor, Visions of Science, Dunlap Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics

- Supervised two projects for four high school students partaking in Visions of Science
- Wrote Python to help the students characterize exoplanet habitability via physical properties and characterize galaxy types through the light they emit
- Helped students problem solve and debug their Python code

Toronto, ON
Jun 2023 – Aug 2023

Campus Organizations Assistant, Student Life, University of Toronto

- Fostered inclusive environments by hosting EDI meetings, ensuring students felt supported and comfortable in seeking assistance to effectively address their challenges

Toronto, ON
Sept 2022 – Aug 2023

President of PhySU & ASX, University of Toronto

- VP for both the Physics Student Union and the Astronomy and Space Exploration Association, previously the VP Internal/External and Events Director respectively
- Held financial meetings with the Arts & Science Student Union, UTSU, and UofT staff
- Hosted the annual symposium and gave a platform for prominent physics and astronomy figures

Toronto, ON
May 2022 – May 2023

Information Officer, Allan I. Carswell Observatory, York University

- Organized monthly training sessions for volunteers and researchers, leveraging their expertise to conduct engaging educational public tours
- Designed weekly newsletters and managed social media announcements

Toronto, ON
June 2020 – Mar 2022

RESEARCH

HII Region Identification for Stellar Clusters, Astronomy Department, University of Toronto

- The study involves tailored target selection for studying star forming regions evolution, data analysis techniques, emission line fitting and dust extinction correction using H α /H β ratios
- Aims to innovate methods for assessing the life cycles of HII regions; gas density, cluster mass determination, exploring the spatial correlation, giving insight to the dynamics of star formation
- This project is being supervised by Laurie Rousseau-Nepton, Professor in the Astronomy and Astrophysics Department at the University of Toronto

Toronto, ON
Sept 2023 – Apr 2024

Sub-surficial Geophysical Imaging of an Artesian Spring, University of Toronto

- Using geophysical imaging techniques like Resistivity Lines and Ground-Penetrating Radar to analyze sub-surface dynamics of artesian springs found in Laurentian Hills, Ontario
- MATLAB and Python scripts written to create cross-sections for analysis

Toronto, ON
Sept 2023 – Apr 2024

Geophysical Field Techniques, ESS450, University of Toronto

- Course offered at the University of Toronto where only 15 students per year are taken to Deep River, ON to perform analyses using various hands-on geophysical instrumentation devices
- Applying various data collection techniques, and performing data analysis in gravity, magnetic, seismic, electrical, electromagnetic, and radar surveys

Deep River, ON
Aug 2023 – Sept 2023

Source Mechanism Analysis Earthquake in Kahramanmaras, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Toronto

- Applied the MTUQ package to examine the earthquake source mechanism and aftershock sequences, as well as its temporal and spatial relationship to the mainshock.

Toronto, ON
May 2023 – Nov 2023

- Explore utilizing a regional 3D background model for the source mechanism of the earthquake. Built models to examine the events leading up to and beyond the main earthquake.
- This project was supervised by the J. Tuzo Wilson award professor, Qinya Liu

CONFERENCES & PANELS

Annual Canadian Space Conference, SEDS Canada

Montreal, QC
Jan 2023

- Chosen, along with the other executives of the Astronomy and Space Exploration Association, to take part in this conference
- Presented past symposium events and workshops to hundreds of people
- Participated in interactive discussion with James Webb Space Telescope engineers

Life (not) As We Know It, ASX, University of Toronto

Toronto, ON
Feb 2023

- Organized accommodations for speakers to present for the symposium event internationally
- Budgeted large sums of money to accommodate our needs, the needs of the speakers, and catering for 400 people; totaling over \$10,000

GAIA Data-Release 3 (DR3) Hike, Canadian Institute of Theoretical Astrophysics (CITA), University of Toronto

Vancouver, BC
June 2022

- Authored a paper about the integration of nearby GAIA stars orbits, computing orbits in the default Milky Way mass model implemented in the Gala astropy package
- Used Java and TopCat software to graph GAIA data into readable formats

Stellar Spectacles 18th Annual Symposium, ASX, University of Toronto

Toronto, ON
Feb 2022

- Hosted an astrophotography workshop, teaching guests on how to use equipment to take deep-space images
- Introduced DORADO and HoggCam to interested parties

PROJECTS

DORADO, Allan I. Carswell Observatory

Toronto, ON
Sept 2019 – Feb 2021

- Co-founded the Digitizing Observatory Resources for Automated Data Responses, an open-source Python package made to replace IRAF in research data processing/analysis at the observatory, now accommodating public outreach efforts

HoggCam, Allan I. Carswell Observatory

Toronto, ON
May 2019 – June 2020

- Co-created a low-cost, versatile space camera using a Raspberry Pi HQ camera board
- Supports most thread-mount lenses and attaches to any telescope

SKILLS

Tools/Equipment

Python, Java, TopCat, 1m/60cm/40cm/16in/8in Telescopes, Spectrophotometers, CCD Cameras, Seismometers, Radar Surveys, ResiPY, GPRpy, MTUQ

Languages

English, French, Greek, Spanish, Portuguese