

# *Academic Journey of my Life*

2022



2009

*The TREE of LIFE gives us MEMORIES as a TASTE of LIFE!  
With all the flavours: Sweet, Sour, Bitter, Umami, and some are even Tangy!  
The best part is: they all are yours, Whatever they are!*

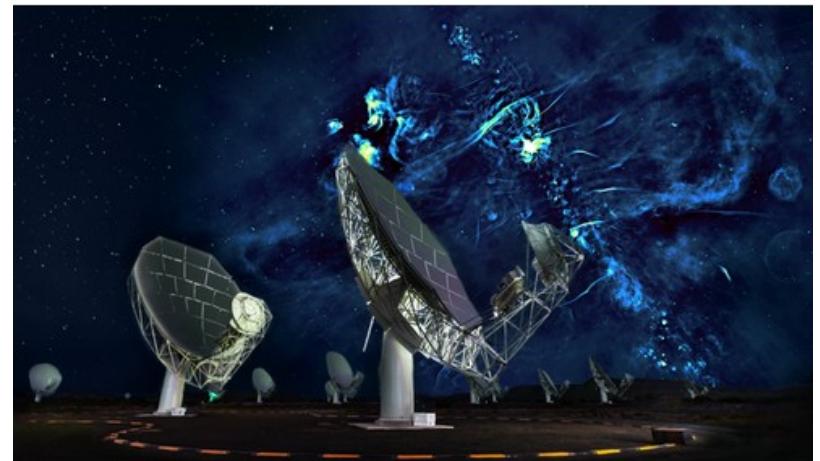
*Here are some of mine.....*

# 2021

In the last year of my PhD, I used to wonder about winning an independent grant to start my research career in astrophysics (as a postdoc). I was very self-conscious, but Prof. Glenn van der Ven, Prof. Mark Swinbank and Prof. Mattia Vaccari helped me a lot to put my ideas in the right order. Thanks to them, my idea was selected for the Royal Society Newton Fellowship (on November 3, 2021), but could not win due to lack of funds. However, on November 27, 2021, I won the SARAO (South African Radio Astronomy Observatory) Fellowship for three years. I will be working at the University of Western Cape from April 2022. I was thrilled when this news was shared by SISSA on Facebook and Twitter....

Congratulations to our recent graduate Gouri Sharma on receiving the prestigious SARAO Fellowship! This grant will allow Dr. Sharma to pursue her research at the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory, using cutting edge radio instruments like MeerKat and SKAP, to trace the evolution of dark matter over the last 10 billion years.

Photo credits: Meerkat composite image, SARAO

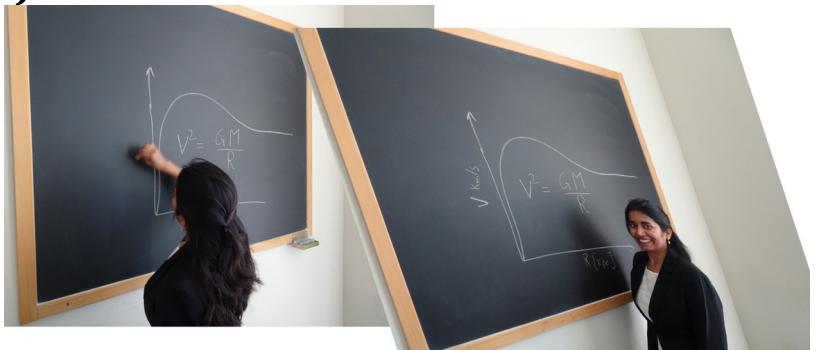


[Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

# 2021

4<sup>th</sup> October 2021, Morning roughly 10:30 am, I was waiting for the announcement of my Ph.D degree. When the time came, it sounded like- "Gauri Sharma, On behalf of SISSA and examining committee, we give you the title of Doctor of Philosophy in Astrophysics and Cosmology-*cum laude*". What! Is it *cum laude*? did I heard correct? Well! Yes it is! ^.^

Completed my Ph.D. with Latin Honour!



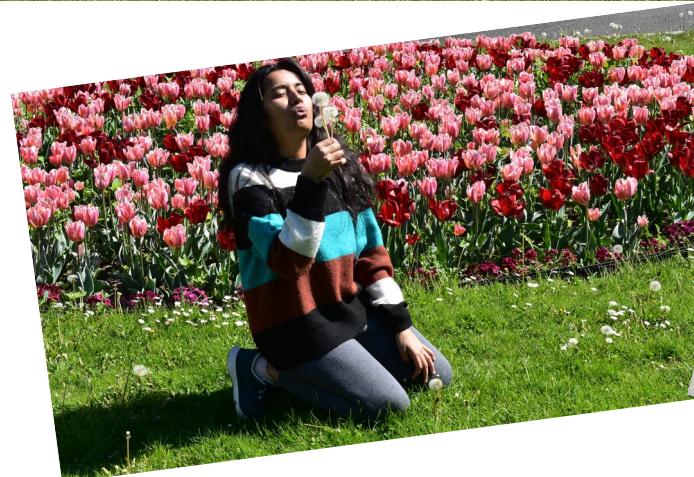
# 2020

## ERASMUS Ph.D. exchange

(Spring 2020). It started during the CORONA hit, so I was locked-in for the entire period. But DYNAMICS GROUP at the University of Vienna is super cool. The lockdown did not have much impact on my work. I spent a lot of time being alone, taking pictures, relaxing and exploring Vienna on foot, and of course a lot of scientific reading. At the end of my visit, I was able to go hiking with the group...



Photo credit of-course Gauri Sharma :P



# 2017

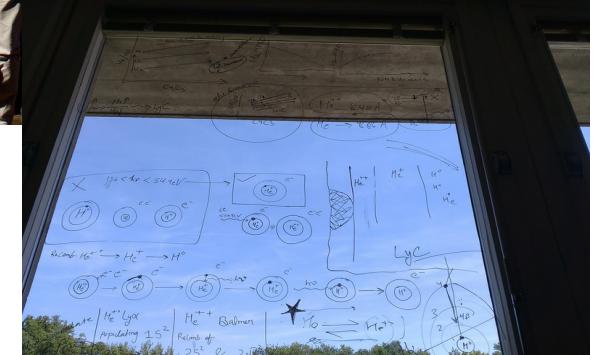


Joined Ph.D. at Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati (SISSA), Trieste, Italy. I worked with Professor Paolo Salucci, an expert in dark matter and rotation curve studies. Under his supervision, I also had the privilege to get affiliated with renowned Italian institutions: INFN, IFPU. I was fortunate to work with Prof. Andrea Zapi and Prof. Luigi Danese. I had the opportunity to interact with world-renowned scientists: Alessandro Bressan, Antonio Lanza, Carlo Baccigalupi, Stefano Liberati, Roberto Trotta, Nicoletta Krachmalnicoff, and many others. I got to work with great colleagues: Lara, Sam, Hasti and Lumen. And the PhD life went on, keep on adding new people, new friends in life.....

# 2016

## Master's Thesis

Thanks to Dr. Stephane de Barros for selecting me for \*stage\* (master's thesis project). This gave me the opportunity to join the extra-galactic group of Prof. Pascal Oesch and Prof. Daniel Schaerer. For the first time, I learned to run simulations, professional programming, and scientific reading & writing. This experience really shaped me for life. A big thank you to Prof. Corinne Charbonnel. She is one of the best examples of women in science.....



# 2015

In September 2015, I participated in SpaCE Master, an international master's programme in astrophysics at Aix-Marseille University in France, in collaboration with the Laboratoire d'Astrophysique de Marseille (LAM). This was a big leap for my academic career. For the first time I was exposed to international studies, where students came from all over the world. This was \*a life-changing experience\* for me. I met great professors and learned to work in a collaborative environment. I struggled a bit with the food and language, but that was not so bad. Thanks to Google and 21st century supermarkets where you can get practically anything. How can I forget my wonderful friends JON and MATHEW, it's great that we met...



# 2015

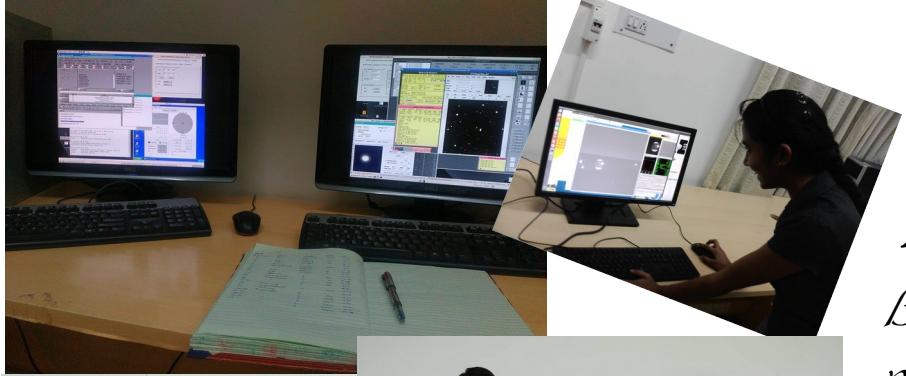
## Summer School in Taipei

My first international exposure! I can not forget that this was the first time I travelled by air-plane. I knew nothing about airports, their services, etc. I had a bad experience with losing my luggage. Nevertheless, I had a wonderful stay in Taipei, Taiwan. I worked at ASIAA with Meg Schwamb and Prof. Shiang-Yu Wang and learned about \*MARS \*the seasonal processes at the South Pole and wind directions. Due to the language barrier, I was not able to make too many friends, but I can say that I met such humble, friendly, and down-to-earth people that I can not forget them.....



# 2013

*A call from Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA)*  
Believe it or not, I passed the nationwide selection process for the 'Telescope Trainee Post' at IIA. When I heard this news, I was thrilled. For the first time, my parents realized that their little girl was now going to fly away. I think it was a proud moment for them, but also sad. For me, it was an experience that changed my life and made a dream come true. I started earning money earlier than all my friends (with a very prestigious and very well-paid #government job). I was posted at the CREST campus of IIA, where I met Venkatesh, Pramod, Suresh Bhai and many other people and made many friends. The sound of my \*early career expedition\* still reverberates in my head...



*2009*

*Under graduation from GOVT. VIJAYARAJE  
GIRI'S P.G.COLLEGE, MORAR, GWALIOR,  
Madhya Pradesh, India.*

