

Jonah T. Hansen

ASTRONOMY PHD CANDIDATE | AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

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Summary

Current PhD candidate in astronomical instrumentation at the Australian National University. Career aim is to work as a researcher in a field related to astronomy, satellites, and astronomical instrumentation. Particularly interested in optical/IR space interferometry, with involvement in the Large Interferometer For Exoplanets (LIFE) mission concept.

Education

Australian National University

Feb. 2020 - Exp. Jul. 2023

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Canberra, ACT

- Recipient of an RTP and Dean's Merit HDR Supplementary Scholarship in Science
- Supervised by Prof. Michael Ireland, Dr. Tony Travoignon, Dr. Tiphaine Lagadec and Prof. John Monnier

Australian National University

Feb. 2016 - Dec. 2019

BACHELOR OF PHILOSOPHY - SCIENCE, HONOURS IN ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS

Canberra, ACT

- Recipient of a Tuckwell Scholarship
- High Distinction Average and University Medal recipient

Employment History

Australian National University

Jul. 2016 - Present

STUDENT RESEARCHER

Canberra, ACT

- PhD project centred on developing a beam combiner for the Pyxis interferometer (see www.mso.anu.edu.au/pyxis for more information). Have also been involved with the LIFE (Large Interferometer For Exoplanets) initiative (see www.life-space-mission.com) in simulating nulling interferometry compatible telescope configurations. Interested in the properties of Mira variables using high angular resolution measurements from the CHARA and VLT interferometric facilities.
- Honours project with Prof. Michael Ireland in simulating a linear formation flying, space interferometer mission with the aim of detecting biosignatures on exoplanets.
- Undergraduate projects with Prof. Michael Ireland, Dr Brad Tucker, Dr Tony Travoignon and Dr Luca Casagrande. These varied from tracing back the positions of stars in order to determine cluster membership, to building an instrument designed to measure turbulence inside a telescope dome, to identifying relationships between exoplanets and their host star's properties.

Mount Stromlo Observatory

April 2018 - Present

OUTREACH ASSISTANT

Canberra, ACT

- Assisted with the ANU Stargazing World Record Attempt.
- Regularly give tours and present to school and private groups at Mt Stromlo Observatory.
- Assisted in giving talks to schools around regional South Australia and local Canberran schools.
- Given many talks and written newspaper articles about astronomy (see <http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~jhansen/#outreach>)

HEO Robotics

Oct. 2020 - Jan. 2021

PHD INTERN

Sydney, NSW

- Researched and designed an optical payload for a future space situational awareness (SSA) satellite.
- Purchased and tested a potential optical system, both for optical quality and for survivability in space.

Australian Astronomical Observatory

Dec. 2017 - Feb. 2018

STUDENT FELLOWSHIP HOLDER

Sydney, NSW

- Conducted a research project with Dr. Barnaby Norris in Adaptive Optics Instrumentation.
- Designed and tested a photonic lantern based wavefront sensor, designed to increase the speed and accuracy at which atmospheric turbulence can be detected.

Australian National University

Jan. 2017 - Jan 2020

STUDENT AMBASSADOR

Canberra, ACT

- Lead tours of the ANU campus on a fortnightly basis.
- Team leader for major events, such as ANU Commencement Address and ANU Open Day.
- Gave presentations to prospective ANU students.

Max Planck Institute for Astronomy

Jul. - Aug. 2015

STUDENT RESEARCHER

Heidelberg, Germany

- Conducted a research project into galaxy evolution and morphology with Dr Kai Noeske.

Honours & Awards

AWARDS

2020-Present	Dean's Merit HDR Supplementary Scholarship in Science , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2022	Joan Duffield Research Award Scholarship , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2020	Peter McGregor Scholarship , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2019	University Medal , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2016 - 2019	Tuckwell Scholarship , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2016, 2017, 2019	Chancellor's Letter of Commendation , Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2017, 2018	Brescia Award for Academic Achievement , Ursula Hall, Australian National University	Canberra, ACT
2015	Governor's Commendation Award for Outstanding Achievement , South Australian Certificate of Education Merit Ceremony	Adelaide, SA
2015	Chinner Memorial Prize (Valedictorian Award) , Loxton High School	Loxton, SA

OPPORTUNITIES

2015	Participant , International Summer Science School	Heidelberg, Germany
2015	Participant , National Youth Science Forum	Canberra, ACT

Publications

- Hansen, Jonah T.**, Michael J. Ireland, Romain Laugier, and LIFE Collaboration (Feb. 2023). "Large Interferometer For Exoplanets (LIFE). VII. Practical implementation of a five-telescope kernel-nulling beam combiner with a discussion on instrumental uncertainties and redundancy benefits". In: *Astronomy and Astrophysics* 670, A57, A57. doi: 10.1051/0004-6361/202243863. arXiv: 2204.12291 [astro-ph.IM].
- Munro, Josephine, **Jonah Hansen**, Tony Travoignon, Doris Grosse, and Andrei Tokovinin (Jan. 2023). "Dome seeing analysis of the Anglo-Australian Telescope". In: *Journal of Astronomical Telescopes, Instruments, and Systems* 9, 017004, p. 017004. doi: 10.1117/1.JATIS.9.1.017004.
- Hansen, Jonah T.**, Michael J. Ireland, and the LIFE Collaboration (Aug. 2022). "Large Interferometer For Exoplanets (LIFE). IV. Ideal kernel-nulling array architectures for a space-based mid-infrared nulling interferometer". In: *Astronomy and Astrophysics* 664, A52, A52. doi: 10.1051/0004-6361/202243107. arXiv: 2201.04891 [astro-ph.IM].
- Hansen, Jonah T.**, Michael J. Ireland, Tony Travoignon, Samuel Wade, Michael Ellis, Steven Ellis, Shanae King, Tiphaine Lagarde, Joice Mathew, Patrick Miller, Stephanie Monty, Adam Rains, Thomas Scott, and Hancheng Shao (Aug. 2022). "The Pyxis Interferometer (I): scientific context, metrology system, and optical design". In: *Optical and Infrared Interferometry and Imaging VIII*. Ed. by Antoine Mérand, Stephanie Sallum, and Joel Sanchez-Bermudez. Vol. 12183. Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) Conference Series, 121831B, 121831B. doi: 10.1117/12.2627768.
- Munro, Josephine, **Jonah Hansen**, Doris Grosse, Tony Travoignon, and Andrei Tokovinin (Aug. 2022). "Results of the dome turbulence sensor at the Anglo-Australian Telescope". In: *Observatory Operations: Strategies, Processes, and Systems IX*. Ed. by David S. Adler, Robert L. Seaman, and Chris R. Benn. Vol. 12186. Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) Conference Series, 121860A, 121860A. doi: 10.1117/12.2629702.
- Wade, Samuel, **Jonah T. Hansen**, Michael J. Ireland, Tony Travoignon, Nicholas Bohlsen, Logan Corry, Steven Ellis, Nicholas Herrald, Weihao Luo, Stephen Madden, Joseph Mangos, Michael Polkinghorne, and Kunlun Yan (Aug. 2022). "The Pyxis Interferometer (II): control system, telescope, and mechanical design". In: *Optical and Infrared Interferometry and Imaging VIII*. Ed. by Antoine Mérand, Stephanie Sallum, and Joel Sanchez-Bermudez. Vol. 12183. Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) Conference Series, 121831C, p. 121831C. doi: 10.1117/12.2627772.

Hansen, Jonah T., Michael J. Ireland, Andrew Ross-Adams, Simon Gross, Tiphaine Lagadec, Tony Travouillon, and Joice Mathew (Apr. 2022). “Interferometric beam combination with a triangular trisampler photonic chip”. In: *Journal of Astronomical Telescopes, Instruments, and Systems* 8, 025002, p. 025002. doi: 10.1117/1.JATIS.8.2.025002. arXiv: 2112.05017 [astro-ph.IM].

Hansen, Jonah T., Luca Casagrande, Michael J. Ireland, and Jane Lin (Mar. 2021). “Confirming known planetary trends using a photometrically selected Kepler sample”. In: *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* 501.4, pp. 5309–5318. doi: 10.1093/mnras/staa3921. arXiv: 2009.08154 [astro-ph.EP].

Hansen, Jonah T., Michael J. Ireland, Tony Travouillon, Tiphaine Lagadec, Joice Mathew, and Nicholas Herrald (Dec. 2020). “Linear formation-flying astronomical interferometry in low-Earth orbit: a feasibility study”. In: *Space Telescopes and Instrumentation 2020: Optical, Infrared, and Millimeter Wave*. Ed. by Makenzie Lystrup, Marshall D. Perrin, Natalie Batalha, Nicholas Siegler, and Edward C. Tong. Vol. 11443. International Society for Optics and Photonics. SPIE, pp. 955–967. doi: 10.1117/12.2560890.

Lagadec, T., M. Ireland, **J. Hansen**, J. Mathew, T. Travouillon, and S. Madden (Dec. 2020). “Compact unambiguous differential path-length metrology with dispersed Fabry-Perot laser diodes for a space interferometer array”. In: *Optical and Infrared Interferometry and Imaging VII*. Ed. by Peter G. Tuthill, Antoine Mérand, and Stephanie Sallum. Vol. 11446. International Society for Optics and Photonics. SPIE, pp. 549–556. doi: 10.1117/12.2561927.

Hansen, Jonah T. and Michael J. Ireland (May 2020). “A linear formation-flying astronomical interferometer in low Earth orbit”. In: *Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia* 37, e019, e019. doi: 10.1017/pasa.2020.13. arXiv: 1912.02350 [astro-ph.IM].

Crundall, Timothy D., Michael J. Ireland, Mark R. Krumholz, Christoph Federrath, Maruša Žerjal, and **Jonah T. Hansen** (Nov. 2019). “Chronostar: a novel Bayesian method for kinematic age determination - I. Derivation and application to the β Pictoris moving group”. In: *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* 489.3, pp. 3625–3642. doi: 10.1093/mnras/stz2376. arXiv: 1902.07732 [astro-ph.SR].

Service Roles and Leadership

2022-Present	Outreach Team Leader , Mt Stromlo Outreach Program	Canberra, ACT
2022-2023	HDR Student Representative , Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics Executive	Canberra, ACT
2021-2023	Meeting Coordinator , Planets Group Meeting, Instrumentation Journal Club	Canberra, ACT
2021-2022	Member , Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics Telescope Time Allocation Committee	Canberra, ACT
2020, 2021	Organiser and Advisor , Mt Stromlo Student Seminars	Canberra, ACT
2016-2019	Volunteer and Group Leader , ConocoPhillips Science Experience	Canberra, ACT
2017-2018	Secretary and Treasurer , ANU Physics Society	Canberra, ACT
2018	Organiser , ANU National Science Week Program	Canberra, ACT

Presentations

Keck Institute For Space Studies Workshop: Exploring Exoplanets With Interferometry

Nov. 2022

PRESENTER ON THE PYXIS INTERFEROMETER AND ARCHITECTURES FOR THE LARGE INTERFEROMETER FOR EXOPLANETS

Pasadena, California, USA

20th Australian Space Research Conference

Sep. 2022

PRESENTER ON THE PYXIS INTERFEROMETER

Sydney, Australia

Optical and Infrared Interferometry and Imaging VIII, SPIE Astronomical Telescopes and Instrumentation

Jul. 2022

PRESENTER ON THE PYXIS INTERFEROMETER (PAPERS 12183-48 AND 12183-49)

Montreal, Canada

Astronomical Society of Australia, Annual Science Meeting 2022

Jun. 2022

POSTER PRESENTER ON THE PYXIS INTERFEROMETER

Hybrid; Melbourne, Australia

Astronomical Society of Australia, Annual Science Meeting 2021

Jul. 2021

POSTER PRESENTER ON THE PYXIS INTERFEROMETER

Hybrid; Hobart, Australia

43rd COSPAR Scientific Assembly

PRESENTER ON FORMATION-FLYING INTERFEROMETRY IN LOW EARTH ORBIT (PAPER E1.20-0013-21)

Jan. 2021

Online; Sydney, Australia

**Space Telescopes and Instrumentation 2020: Optical, Infrared, and
Millimeter Wave, SPIE Astronomical Telescopes and Instrumentation**

Dec. 2020

POSTER PRESENTER ON FORMATION-FLYING INTERFEROMETRY IN LOW EARTH ORBIT (PAPER 11443-177)

Online