Paul James Wright

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United Kingdom Publication List: SAO/NASA ADS

EDUCATION

University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK

10/2014 - 04/2019

Ph.D. Solar Physics

Thesis Title: The Energetics of Small Solar Flares and Brightenings

Advisers: Dr Iain G. Hannah, Dr Alexander MacKinnon

University of Southampton, Southampton, UK

10/2010 - 06/2014

MPhys Astrophysics with a year abroad

First-class honours (1:1)

Thesis Title: *The Superflare Rates of Solar-Like Stars* Advisers: Dr Steven H. Saar, Dr Jeremy J. Drake

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Stanford University

06/2019 -

W. W. Hansen Experimental Physics Laboratory

Mentor, NASA Frontier Development Lab (FDL)

06/2019 -

SETI Institute/NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, CA

Project: Super-resolution magnetograms

SELECTED
PREVIOUS
APPOINTMENTS

Affiliate Staff Member, University of Glasgow

10/2017 - 04/2019

• Used the EBTEL hydrodynamics code to model light curves from coronal loops. The parameter space of these simulations will be constrained by observations obtained during the *NuSTAR* heliophysics campaign, and to test a variety of coronal analysis techniques.

Researcher, NASA Frontier Development Lab (FDL)

06/2018 - 08/2018

- Predicted MEGS-A Solar Spectral Irradiance (SSI) with median absolute relative uncertainties of less than 1.6% per emission line using a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) augmented with a Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP).
- Used a 1x1 CNN to improve the computational speed (10³× increase) for differential emission measure (DEM) inversion.

Post-Graduate Research Assistant, University of Glasgow

10/2014 - 07/2017

- Analysed observations of the Sun with *NuSTAR*, a telescope not designed for heliophysics. These observations are the most sensitive of their kind and have resulted in numerous, wide-ranging, highly-collaborative peer-reviewed publications.
- Studied the temperature distribution of the solar atmosphere through the recovery of an ill-posed inverse problem (the differential emission measure, DEM) using techniques such as Tikhonov regularisation, Markov-chain Monte Carlo, Spline fitting, and Sparse Inversion (by Basis Pursuit).

Visiting Researcher, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC)

04/2016

• Explored the possibility of implementing DEM maps in the Helioviewer project, and their usefulness as an input for various established time-series analysis techniques.

Research Scholar, Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian

10/2013 - 06/2014

• Designed and implemented a sophisticated stellar flare detection routine for long-cadence (30 mins) *Kepler* data obtained from a proprietary set of spectroscopically verified solar-type stars in three open clusters: this work had coverage by Science and the Smithsonian.

MEMBERSHIPS

NuSTAR Heliophysics Working Group, Member

2015 – present

Royal Astronomical Society, RAS Fellow

2014 – present

International Space Science Institute (ISSI), Young Scientist Member

2015 - 2018

Member of Paola Testa's ISSI Team: New Diagnostics of Particle Acceleration in Solar Coronal Nanoflares from Chromospheric Observations and Modelling

Paul James Wright List of Publications

REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Marsh, A. J., Smith, D. M., Glesener, L. et al 2017. First NuSTAR Limits on Quiet Sun Hard X-Ray Transient Events, ApJ, 849, 131
- [2] Wang, J., Simões, P. J. A., Jeffrey, N. L. S. et al 2017. Observations of Reconnection Flows in a Flare on The Solar Disk, ApJL, 847, L1
- [3] **Wright, P. J.**, Hannah, I. G., Grefenstette, B. W., et al 2017. Microflare Heating of a Solar Active Region Observed with NuSTAR, Hinode/XRT, and SDO/AIA, ApJ, 844, 132
- [4] Kuhar, M., Krucker, S., Hannah, I. G., et al 2017. Evidence of Significant Energy Input in the Late Phase of a Solar Flare from NuSTAR X-ray Observations, ApJ, 835, 6
- [5] Galvez, R., Fouhey, D. F., Jin, M., et al 2019. A Machine Learning Dataset Prepared From the NASA Solar Dynamics Observatory Mission, ApJS, (accepted)

BOOK CHAPTERS

[6] Wright, P. J., Cheung, M. C. M., Thomas, R., et al 2018 DeepEM: A Deep Learning Approach to DEM Inversion. In M. Bobra & J. Mason, eds., Machine Learning, Statistics, and Data Mining for Heliophysics, Chapter 4

FIRST AUTHOR
PUBLICATIONS IN
PREPARATION
(WORKING
TITLES)

- [7] Wright, P. J., Galvez, R., et al 2019. DeepEM: A Deep Learning Approach to DEM Inversion
- [8] **Wright, P. J.**, Hannah, I. G., Viall, N. M., et al 2019. The Thermal Time Evolution of Active Regions Determined by SDO/AIA
- [9] Wright, P. J., Saar, S. H., Meibom, S., et al 2019. The Age-Dependent Superflare Rates of G-Type Dwarfs In Three Kepler Clusters