

Ross Knapman

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Personal Information

Name Ross John Knapman
Date of Birth 15th July 1997
Place of Birth Northallerton, United Kingdom
Nationality British

Education

- 2019–Present **PhD**, *Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz*, Mainz, Germany.
Preliminary Title: Creation of Topological Magnetic Structures by Electrical Means.
Primary Supervisor: Dr. Karin Everschor-Sitte.
Secondary Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Jairo Sinova.
- 2015–2019 **Master of Physics**, *Durham University*, Durham, United Kingdom, *First Class Honours* (*best possible grade*).
Master's Project: Micromagnetic Simulations of Antiskyrmions.
Master's Project Supervisor: Prof. Peter Hatton.
- 2013–2015 **A Levels**, *Paston Sixth Form College*, North Walsham, United Kingdom,
A*A*A*Aaa (see explanation at bottom).
Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, AS Biology, AS Critical Thinking.
- 2011–2013 **GCSEs**, *Broadland High School*, Hoveton, United Kingdom, 7A*, 3A (see explanation at bottom).

Experience

Work Experience

- 07/2018–08/2018 **Computational Condensed Matter Physics Internship**, *Durham University*, Durham, United Kingdom.
Undertook a computational project under the supervision of Prof. Tom Lancaster, investigating the magnetic fields experienced by muons when embedded in skyrmion-like spin textures. The bulk of this was the development of a Python module in C++ to aid in quickly investigating various dipole moment structures.

06/2017– **DAAD RISE Research Internship**, *German Aerospace Center (DLR) Oberpfaffenhofen*, Weßling near Munich, Germany.

A highly competitive research placement funded by the DAAD, working as part of a small team developing a lidar system to detect atmospheric turbulence from aircraft. The work involved ground-based measurements and data analysis. Supervised by Dr. Jonas Herbst and Dr. Patrick Vrancken.

06/2016– **Galaxy Survey Visualisation Internship**, *University of Queensland*, Brisbane, Australia.

Production of virtual reality mobile apps to visualise galaxy redshift surveys. Worked primarily with C#, and participated in discussions with researchers in cosmology. Supervised by Dr. Ed Macaulay.

07/2014 **Work Experience in Post-Processing**, *Met Office*, Exeter, United Kingdom.

Week-long work experience placement tasked with analysis of data using IDL, as well as teamworking activities.

10/2013– **Work Experience**, *John Innes Centre*, Norwich, United Kingdom.

01/2014 Undertook weekly half-day work experience sessions, assisting with experiments and discussing ongoing research with experts in plant and microbial science, and genomics.

Teaching

SS 2020 **Senior Assistant**, *Mathematische Rechenmethoden/Mathematical Methods*, Prof. Dr. Jairo Sinova and Dr. Karin Everschor-Sitte.

WS 2019–20 **Tutor**, *Experimentalphysik 5a/Experimental Physics 5a*, Prof. Randolph Pohl.

University Societies

2018–19 **Co-President**, *Durham University Physics Society*.

2018–19 **Secretary**, *Durham University Astronomical Society*.

2017–18 **Treasurer**, *Durham University Astronomical Society*.

2016–18 **Publicity Officer**, *Durham University Physics Society*.

2016–17 **Webmaster**, *Durham University Astronomical Society*.

Skills

Language Skills

English Native

German Conversational Knowledge *Self-Taught & 6 Months' B2 (Upper Intermediate) Lessons*

French Elementary Knowledge *GCSE Grade A, Subsequent Self-Learning*

Computer Skills

Programming Python (very good), Shell (very good), C++ (fair), CUDA (fair), Java (fair), C# (fair).

OS Linux (Arch, Ubuntu, very good), macOS (very good), Windows (fair).

Simulation MuMax³ (very good), OOMMF (fair).

Calculation Microsoft Excel (very good), Mathematica (fair).

Graphics ParaView (very good), Blender (good), Inkscape (good), Processing (good).

Documents L^AT_EX (very good), Microsoft Word (very good).

Presentation Keynote (very good), Microsoft PowerPoint (very good), reveal.js (good).

Awards

- Jul 2019 **Florence Nightingale Prize for Graphical Excellence.**
Prize worth £100, given to one student in each year group per year at Durham University. Awarded for excellence in the illustration of antiskyrmion resonance modes in my Level 4 project report.
- Apr 2017 **DAAD RISE Scholarship.**
The Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE) scholarship awarded by the DAAD is a prestigious scholarship which funds research placements in Germany, including living expenses, a travel allowance, and a conference in Heidelberg.
- Feb 2015 **Silver in 2015 UK Chemistry Olympiad.**
- Nov 2014 **Silver in 2014 UKMT Senior Mathematical Challenge.**
- Sep 2013 **Sir William Paston Scholarship.**
Scholarship awarded by The Paston College Foundation worth £500 in recognition of outstanding GCSE results.

Explanation of Grading Schemes

These explanations are correct as of when I took the qualifications (2013 for GCSEs, 2014 for AS Levels, 2015 for A Levels, 2019 for degree), rather than for newer systems introduced since (though I use present tense regardless).

Degree

Integrated master's degrees at Durham University are four years long, and one does not explicitly receive a bachelor's beforehand. The second, third, and fourth years of the degree are weighted 2:3:4 in terms of calculating the overall degree result (the first year is not counted). The overall raw marks to obtain each grade is shown in the table below.

Grade	Raw Mark Percentage
First Class Honours	>70
Upper Second Class Honours	60-69
Lower Second Class Honours	50-59
Third Class Honours	40-49
Fail	<40

A Levels

A Levels are usually taken over two academic years between the ages of 16 and 18 during sixth form, which is the step between high school and university. AS Levels are awarded after the first year of study, and constitute half an A Level. A Levels are awarded after a further year of study of the subject (A2 units). Typically, students take four A Levels to begin with, and "drop" one subject at the end of the first year, so that they obtain three A Levels and one AS Level overall. No subjects are compulsory; they are all freely chosen by the student.

In order to calculate the grade, the raw marks are first scaled according to factors such as the difficulty of the exam relative to that of other exam boards for the same subject, as well as the marks obtained by students around the country, and this scaled mark is converted into a Uniform Mark Scale (UMS) mark. The percentage obtained from the UMS mark is then used to determine the grade to award, as shown in the table below.

Grade	Percentage UMS
A*	>90 average in A2 units, >80 average overall
A	>80
B	70-79
C	60-69
D	50-59
E	40-49
U (ungraded)	<40

AS Levels are graded in the same way, except that there is no A* grade; the highest possible grade is an A (80+%).

GCSEs

GCSEs are usually taken between the ages of 14 and 16 during high school and are compulsory for every student in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. This is in contrast to A Levels, for which there exist less academic options and more technical options (e.g. BTECs). Students typically take 10 GCSEs, of which six are compulsory (such as mathematics and religious studies), and four are chosen freely (such as geography and French). The possible grades are A* being the highest, then A through G, then U being a fail (ungraded).

I obtained A*'s in: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Geography, Religious Studies, English Language, and As in: English Literature, Information Technology, French.