RESEARCH INTERESTS

Formation and Evolution of Planets, Protoplanetary Disks, and Planetary Systems

• Numerical simulations (Hydro-dynamics and N-body dynamics)

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

August 2015 – Present

Ph.D. Candidate in Astronomy and Astrophysics

Advisor: Professor Kaitlin Kratter

Cornell University, College of Arts and Sciences, Ithaca, NY

May 2015

B.A. in Physics with an Astrophysics Concentration

[Minor in Computer Science]

AWARDS

(1) NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

August 2015 – June 2020

(2) Co-I, NASA Astrophysics Theory Program Grant

Awarded December 2016

• Hydrodynamic processes in planet-forming accretion disks

GRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher

August 2015 – Present

Star and Planet Formation Theory Group, University of Arizona

Tucson, AZ

Advisor: Professor Kaitlin Kratter (

Collaborators: Prof. Paola Pinilla and Prof. Min-Kai Lin

- Determined planet-induced vortices are less capable of forming when including planet's growth time
- Determined these vortices have elongated appearances in dust observations

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (selected)

Undergraduate Researcher

January 2014 – June 2015

Theoretical Astrophysics Group, Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

Advisors: Dr. Diego Muñoz and Professor Dong Lai

• Utilized the Mercury package to analyze the stability of circumbinary planets with inclined orbits

LEAPS Intern (LEAPS Program at Leiden)

June 2014 - August 2014

Computational Astrophysics Group, Sterrewacht Leiden

Leiden, The Netherlands

Advisors: Dr. Lucie Jílková and Professor Simon Portegies Zwart

• Determined which types of stellar flyby orbits can transfer objects from one disk to the other

NSF REU Intern

June 2013 – August 2013

Solar Physics Group, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Cambridge, MA

Advisors: Dr. Kamen Kozarev and Dr. Kelly Korreck

• Analyzed kinematics of coronal shock waves with the goal of predicting space weather at the Earth

COMPUTATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Languages: Python, Java, IDL, Unix, C, C++, MATLAB, OCaml, HTML

Packages: FARGO, FARGO3D, & PLUTO (hydro), AMUSE (multi-purpose), Mercury and HUAYNO (N-body)

PUBLICATIONS (2 first-author, 6 total)

- [1] **Hammer, M.**, Pinilla, P., Kratter, K., Lin, M.-K., 2019, *Observational diagnostics of elongated planet-induced vortices with realistic planet formation time-scales*, MNRAS, 482, 3609
- [2] Kozarev, K., Davey, A., Kendrick, A., **Hammer, M.**, Keith, C., 2017, *The Coronal Analysis of SHocks and Waves (CASHeW) framework*, JSWSC, 7A, 32
- [3] **Hammer, M.**, Kratter, K., Lin, M.-K., 2017, *Slowly-growing gap-opening planets trigger weaker vortices*, MNRAS, 466, 3533
- [4] Jílková, L., Hammer, A., Hammer, M., & Portegies Zwart, S., 2016, Mass transfer between debris discs during close stellar encounters, MNRAS, 457, 4218
- [5] Jílková, L., Portegies Zwart, S., Pijloo, T., & **Hammer, M.** 2015, *How Sedna and family were captured in a close encounter with a solar sibling*, MNRAS, 453, 3157
- [6] Kozarev, K. A., Raymond, J. C., Lobzin, V. V., **Hammer, M.** 2014, *Properties of a Coronal Shock Wave as a Driver of Early SEP Acceleration*, ApJ, 799, 167

TALKS (selected)

Planet-induced vortices: The effects of realistic planet formation timescales

(1) Star and Planet Formation in the Southwest 2 (Oracle, AZ)

March 2018

(2) Protoplanetary Disk Discussion Workshop (Los Alamos, NM)

August 2017

(3) Steward Observatory Internal Symposium (*Tucson*, *AZ*)

September 2016

(4) Emerging Researchers in Exoplanets Symposium (Ithaca, NY)

June 2016

Transferring Disks during Stellar Flybys

(1) LEAPS Symposium (Leiden, The Netherlands)

August 2014

POSTERS (selected)

- [1] **Hammer, M.**, Jílková, L., Portegies Zwart, S. 2015, *Transferring Mass between Circumstellar Disks during Stellar Flybys*. AAS 225, #349.02
- [2] **Hammer, M.**, Kozarev, K. A., & Korreck, K. E. 2014, *Kinematics of Waves in the Solar Corona: Analyzing Potential Shock Waves to Predict Solar Energetic Particle Fluxes in Space Weather*. AAS 223, #158.02

WORKSHOPS

(1) NExSS Winter School: *Planetary Habitability* (Tucson, AZ):

February 2016

(2) NExScI Sagan Summer Workshop: *Exoplanet Demographics (Pasadena, CA)*:

July 2015

OUTREACH

- (A) **Teacher-in-training**, ISEE Professional Development Program March 2019 June 2019 Teaching two-day instructional activity to undergraduate participants in AstroCom NYC
- (B) **Author**, Astrobites December 2015 December 2018 (i) My Articles: https://astrobites.org/author/mhammer/, (ii) Advertising chair, (iii) Social media czar
- (C) **Teaching Astronomer**, Project ASTRO September 2017 May 2018 Taught three classes of 7th grade students astronomy-themed lessons
- (D) **Contributing Author**, ZME Science September 2014 January 2015 *My Articles: http://www.zmescience.com/author/michaelhammer/*
- (E) **Outreach Coordinator**, Cornell Society of Physics Students January 2012 December 2014 (i) Organized outreach events, (ii) Recruited students to volunteer, (iii) Co-managed SPS Website
- (F) **President**, Cornell Astronomical Society June 2013 June 2014 (i) Ran weekly stargazing nights, (ii) Gave public lectures, (iii) Set up events with Astro. Dept.