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Princeton, NJ 08540 Last updated: October 24, 2024

EDUCATION

2018-2024 The University of Maryland, Department of Astronomy

Dissertation: The Lives and Times of Stars and Black Holes in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei

Degrees: M.S. (2020), Ph.D. (2024) (Advisor: M. Coleman Miller)

2014-2020 The University of Illinois

Degrees: B.S. Physics (minor in Mathematics) & B.S. Astronomy (Advisor: Xin Liu)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2024-Present	Member, The Institute for Advanced Study, School of Natural Sciences	
2022-2024	Graduate Research Assistant, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Theoretical Division	
2020, Fall	Fall Pre-doctoral Fellow, Flatiron CCA	
2018-2024	Graduate Research Assistant, University of Maryland	
2016-2018	Research Assistant, University of Illinois	
2016, Summer	r SULI Research Assistant, General Atomics	
2014-2015	Summer Research Assistant, Catholic University of America	

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2024-2027	Einstein Fellowship
	NASA Hubble Fellowship Program
2024	Board of Visitors Outstanding Graduate Student Award
	University of Maryland College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences
2023	Andrew S. Wilson Prize for Excellence in Research
	University of Maryland, Department of Astronomy
2023	Michael J. Pelczar Award for Excellence in Graduate Study
	University of Maryland Graduate School
2022	Bruno Rossi Prize (with the NICER team)
	American Astronomical Society, High Energy Astrophysics Division
2021, 2022	Outstanding Research Assistant
	University of Maryland Graduate School
2018	Graduate School Dean's Fellowship
	University of Maryland
2018	Stanley Wyatt Memorial Award
	University of Illinois, Department of Astronomy

PUBLICATIONS

Submitted

2024 Multi-Point Hermite Methods for the N-Body Problem **Dittmann**, **A. J.**

2024 A Semi-Analytical Model for Stellar Evolution in AGN Disks **Dittmann, A. J.,** Cantiello, M.

Mapping the Outcomes of Stellar Evolution in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei Fabj, G., et al.

Exploring Waveform Variations among Neutron Star Ray-Tracing Codes for Complex Emission Geometries Choudhury, D., et al.

Journal Articles

Summary: 30 published, 15 first-author, 6 single-author.

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- A More Precise Measurement of the Radius of PSR J0740+6620 Using Updated NICER Data **Dittmann, A. J.**, Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., et al., ApJ 974, 295
- The Effects of Cooling on Boundary Layer Accretion **Dittmann, A. J.**, ApJ 974, 218
- Notes on the Practical Application of Nested Sampling: MultiNest, (Non)convergence, and Rectification Dittmann, A. J., OJA 7 (September)
- The Santa Barbara Binary-Disk Code Comparison Duffell, P. C., **Dittmann, A. J.**, D'Orazio, D.J., et al., ApJ 970, 156
- Runaway Eccentricity Growth: A Pathway for Binary Black Hole Mergers in AGN Disks Calcino, J., Dempsey, A. M., **Dittmann, A. J.**, Li, H., ApJ 970, 107
- The Evolution of Accreting Binaries: from Brown Dwarfs to Supermassive Black Holes **Dittmann, A. J.**, Ryan, G., ApJ 967, 12
- The Evolution of Inclined Binary Black Holes in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei **Dittmann, A. J.**, Dempsey, A. M., Li, H., ApJ 964, 61
- A Sensitive Search for Supernova Emission Associated with the Extremely Energetic and Nearby GRB 221009A
 - Srinivasaragavan, G., et al., ApJL 949, L39
- The Decoupling of Binaries from Their Circumbinary Disks Dittmann, A. J., Ryan, G., Miller, M.C., ApJL 949, L30
- The Influence of Disk Composition on the Evolution of Stars in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei **Dittmann, A. J.**, Jermyn, A. S., Cantiello, M., ApJ 946, 56
- The Radius of PSR Jo740+6620 from NICER with NICER Background Estimates Salmi, T., et al., ApJ 941, 450

2022	A Survey of Disc Thickness and Viscosity in Circumbinary Accretion:		
	Binary Evolution, Variability, and Disc Morphology		
	Dittmann, A. J. , Ryan, G., MNRAS 513, 6158		

- 2022 Effects of an Immortal Stellar Population in AGN Disks Jermyn, A. S., **et al.**, ApJ 929, 133
- An Analytical, Fully Relativistic Framework for Tidal Disruption Event Streams in Schwarzschild Geometry

 Dittmann, A. J., MNRAS 511, 3408
- 2021 On the Terminal Spins of Accreting Stars and Planets: Boundary Layers **Dittmann, A. J.**, MNRAS 508, 1842
- Preventing Anomalous Torques in Circumbinary Accretion Simulations **Dittmann, A. J.**, Ryan, G., ApJ 921, 71
- The Radius of PSR J0740+6620 from NICER and XMM-Newton Data Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., **Dittmann, A. J.**, et al., ApJL 918, L28
- NICER Detection of Thermal X-Ray Pulsations from the Massive Millisecond Pulsars PSR J0740+6620 and PSR J1614–2230 Wolff, M., et al., ApJL 918, L26
- Accretion onto Stars in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei **Dittmann, A. J.**, Cantiello, M., Jermyn, A. S., ApJ 916, 48
- Stellar Evolution in the Disks of Active Galactic Nuclei Produces Rapidly Rotating Massive Stars Jermyn, A. S., **Dittmann, A. J.**, Cantiello, M., Perna, R., ApJ 914, 105
- 2021 Constraining the Neutron Star Mass-Radius Relation and Dense Matter Equation of State with NICER. III. Model and Systematics Bogdanov, S., et al., ApJL 914, L15
- 2021 High-Order Multiderivative IMEX Schemes **Dittmann, A. J.**, Applied Numerical Mathematics 160, 205
- 2020 Modified Hermite Integrators of Arbitrary Order **Dittmann, A. J.**, MNRAS 496, 1217
- Star Formation in Accretion Disks and SMBH Growth Dittmann, A. J., Miller, M. C., MNRAS 493, 3732
- PSR Joo30+0451 Mass and Radius from NICER Data and Implications for the Properties of Neutron Star Matter Miller, M. C., Lamb, F. K., **Dittmann, A. J.**, et al., ApJL 887, L24
- 2019 Constraining the Neutron Star Mass-Radius Relation and Dense Matter Equation of State with NICER. II. Emission from Hot Spots on a Rapidly Rotating Neutron Star Bogdanov, S., et al., ApJL 887, L26
- A Candidate Tidal Disruption Event in a Quasar at z = 2.359 from Abundance Ratio Variability Liu, X., **Dittmann, A. J.**, Shen, Y., Jiang, L., ApJ 859, 8
- Separated kaon electroproduction cross section and the kaon form factor from 6 GeV JLab data Carmignotto, M., et al., PhysRevC 97, 025204
- The Aerogel Čerenkov detector for the SHMS magnetic spectrometer in Hall C at Jefferson Lab Horn, T., et al., NIMA 842, 28
- PSR J1930–1852: A Pulsar in the Widest Known Orbit Around Another Neutron Star Swiggum, J. K., et al., ApJ 805, 156

Seminars, Colloquia, and Symposia

2024	Accretion onto Supermassive Binary Black Holes		
	NASA Hubble Fellowship Program Symposium (NExScI), September 17		
2024	Neutron Star Masses and Radii from NICER Data		

- Particle, Nuclear, and Astrophysics Seminar (LANL), July 25
- 2024 Updated NICER constraints on the radius of the high-mass neutron star PSR J0740 Nuclear Physics Journal Club (UIUC), April 12
- Supermassive Black Hole Binary Mergers and their Multi-Messenger Signatures, Center for Astrophysical Sciences Seminar (JHU), October 9
- Supermassive Black Hole Binary Mergers and their Multi-Messenger Signatures, Los Alamos Astrophysics Seminar (LANL), August 25
- The Decoupling of Binaries from their Circumbinary Disks, Astrophysics Seminar (Columbia), April 13
- 2023 Inclined and Eccentric Binaries in AGN Disks, Compact Objects Group Meeting (CCA), April 13
- The Decoupling of Binaries from their Circumbinary Disks, Galread (Princeton), April 10
- 2022 The Evolution of Stars and Black Holes in AGN disks, Astrophysics Seminar (GMU), November 3
- 2022 The Evolution of Stars and Black Holes in AGN disks, Physics Colloquium (GWU), October 20
- The Evolution of Stars and Black Holes in AGN disks, Transient Astronomy Meeting (UMD), September 2
- The Evolution of Stars and Black Holes in AGN disks, Los Alamos Astrophysics Seminar (LANL), August 25
- The Orbital Evolution and Appearance of Binaries Fed by Circumbinary Disks, Gravitational Astrophysics Laboratory lunch seminar (GSFC), February 24
- Neutron Star Masses and Radii from NICER Data,
 JSI Minisymposium on Neutron Stars and Dense Matter (UMD), December 10
- The Orbital Evolution and Appearance of Binaries Fed by Circumbinary Disks, Center for Theory and Computation Seminar (UMD), November 10
- Measuring the Heaviest Known Neutron Star: the Radius of PSR Jo740 from X-ray Data, Compact Objects Group Meeting (CCA), April 22
- 2021 Circumbinary Disks, sink particles, and making simulations less sensitive to tuning parameters, Hernquist Group Meeting (CfA), March 5
- 2021 Stellar Evolution in AGN Disks, Flatiron/CCA Predoc Symposium, February 26
- 2021 Circumbinary Disks, sink particles, and making simulations less sensitive to tuning parameters, Compact Objects Group Meeting (CCA), January 28
- 2020 Stars in AGN disks, CCA lunch talk, October 1

Conferences and Workshops

- New NICER Constraints on the Equation of State of High-Density Matter contributed talk, APS April Meeting, April 5
- Neutron Star Masses and Radii from NICER Data invited talk, DMV Physics of Neutron Stars Workshop, October 27
- 2023 Circumbinary Disks: from Brown Dwarfs to Major Mergers contributed talk, DC Consortium Astrophysics Graduate Student Conference, August 19
- 2023 Multi-messenger signatures of black hole binary-disk interactions in the LISA regime, contributed talk, Summer AAS, June 7
- 2023 Binary black hole accretion across the disk and gravitational wave-driven regimes, poster, AAS HEAD, March 27
- 2022 Promoting BIPOC and Marginalized Students to Pursue Computational Physics through CRANE, contributed talk by Ernesto Barraza-Valdez, **et al.**, APS DPP, October 17
- 2018 A Time-domain Analysis of Nitrogen-Rich Quasars, poster, Winter AAS, January 10
- 2016 Ray-tracing studies of fast waves in the lower hybrid range of frequencies, poster, APS DPP, November 1
- Exploring the potential for studies of the electromagnetic structure of the kaon at 12 GeV JLab, contributed talk, APS DNP, October 31
- The Optical Characterization of Aerogel Tiles for Cherenkov Detectors at Jefferson Lab, poster, APS DNP, October 10

Public/Outreach

2023 Stars in Accretion Disks That Orbit Black Holes, National Capital Astronomers, March 11

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Maryland

2020 - spring	Theoretical Astrophysics	wrote and taught discussions, graded
2020 - spring	Black Holes	graded, updated lecture material
2019 - fall	General Astronomy	presented 3 lectures, taught discussions and labs, graded
2019 - spring	General Astronomy	taught and graded discussions and labs
2018 - fall	General Astronomy	taught and graded discussions and labs

COMPUTING

Languages C, Python, Fortran, CUDA, IDL

Tools git, SLURM

SERVICE, OUTREACH, AND PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Journals

Referee Nature, ApJ, MNRAS, A&A, OJAp

GRAD-MAP1

Winter Workshop mentoring N-body simulations of stellar binaries and SMBHs (2020),

the perturbed circular restricted 3-body problem (2022)

Winter Workshop Python Bootcamp Co-lead (2022, 2023), teaching (2020, 2021, 2023)

Hydrodynamical simulations of tidal disruption event streams Summer Scholars mentoring Summer Scholars teaching

Lectured on visualizing multidimensional data using Python

and an introduction to programming in C

CRANE²

Notebook co-author Runge-Kutta methods, PDEs

Lecturer Hyperbolic PDEs, the Boris push algorithm

Teaching assistant Numerical integration, ODEs, PDEs, PIC Methods

Undergraduate Curriculum

Introductory labs revised, restructured, and tested new labs

LISA Consortium

Astrophysics Working Group Coordinator for ongoing Working Group project

¹Graduate Resources Advancing Diversity with Maryland Astronomy and Physics, https://www.umdgradmap.org/

²Computational Research Access NEtwork, https://www.cranephysics.org/