

# ASHLEY CHONTOS

Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University  
Peyton Hall · 4 Ivy Lane · Princeton, NJ 08544

ashleyin.space  
ashleychontos@princeton.edu

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	2022
Thesis: <i>The Space Photometry Revolution</i>	
Advisor: Daniel Huber	
M.Sc., Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa	2018
B.Sc., Mathematics, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> , SUNY Albany	2016
B.Sc., Physics, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> , SUNY Albany	2016

## PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

<i>Henry Norris Russell Fellow</i> , Princeton	2022– <i>present</i>
<i>Visiting Research Scientist</i> , TESS Science Office, MIT	2019–2022
<i>NSF Graduate Research Fellow</i> , UH Mānoa	2018–2022
<i>Research Assistant</i> , UH Mānoa	2017–2018
<i>Research Assistant</i> , NASA Goddard Space Flight Center	2016
<i>Research Assistant</i> , Stanford	2015–2016

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Asteroseismology; exoplanet detection and characterization; subgiant demographics; software development; stellar evolution; space telescopes; astronomical surveys; computational astrophysics.

## SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

Student Excellence in Research Award, UH Mānoa	2022
Henry Norris Russell Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton	2021
IfA Director's Award for Outstanding Outreach, UH Mānoa	2019
Achievement Reward for College Scientists (ARCS) Scholar, UH Mānoa	2019
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2018
IfA Director's Award for Outstanding Outreach, UH Mānoa	2017
John C. Mather Nobel Scholar Award, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center	2016

## SELECTED TALKS

<i>Invited Colloquium</i> , University of Kansas	April 2022
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , Princeton Exoplanets	February 2022
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , Stanford KIPAC Tea Talk	November 2021
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , UChicago Exoplanet Journal Club	September 2021
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , Carnegie EPL Astronomy Seminar	September 2021
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , MIT TESS Science Talk	September 2021
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , The Good Vibrations Seminar	February 2021
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , Yale Exoplanets & Stars Seminar	September 2020
<i>Contributed Talk</i> , Exoplanets III	July 2020
<i>Contributed Talk</i> , TESS Asteroseismic Science Consortium V	July 2019
<i>Contributed Talk</i> , TESS Science Conference I	July 2019
<i>Contributed Talk</i> , Kepler/K2 SciCon V	March 2019
<i>Contributed Talk</i> , TESS Asteroseismic Science Consortium IV	July 2018
<i>Invited Seminar</i> , Columbia Astronomy Seminar	October 2017

## TEACHING, SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

---

<i>Mentor</i> for high school students through HI STAR	2017– <i>present</i>
<i>Astronomy Graduate Outreach Coordinator &amp; Volunteer</i>	2016–2020
Selected Events:	
· Punahou Speaker Series (Oahu, HI)	2018– <i>present</i>
· Boy Scouts of Hawai'i Astronomy Merit Badge (Oahu, HI)	2017, 2018, 2019
· Stem Fest (Oahu, HI)	2017, 2018, 2019
· Hawaiian Astronaut Lacy Veach Day (Oahu, HI)	2017, 2018, 2019
· Astroday (Big Island, HI)	2016, 2017a/b, 2018a/b
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , ASTR 110: Lab, University of Hawai'i	2016
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , ASTR 110: Lecture, University of Hawai'i	2016
<i>Teaching Assistant</i> , ICSI 124X: Lecture, SUNY Albany	2013, 2014

## PRESS COVERAGE

---

Kepler's First Exoplanet Discovery [Chontos et al. 2019]: The discovery was announced during my talk at Kepler SciCon V, which included a coordinated press release between [NASA] and [UH]. Articles featuring the science result included [CNN], [Space.com], [Universe Today], [Science News], and many others. The story made the front page of the main [Hawaiian newspaper] as well as my [hometown newspaper]. I was also invited as a guest speaker to talk about the planet on live [Hawai'i public radio].

## AWARDED TELESCOPE TIME & OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

---

<i>PI</i> , 16 nights over 4 semesters using HIRES on Keck I 10m Telescope	2019– <i>present</i>
<i>Exoplanets Orbiting Subgiants: Benchmark Systems with TESS</i>	
Co-Is: Daniel Huber, Andrew Howard, Howard Isaacson, Lauren Weiss	
<i>Co-I</i> , 4 nights in 2019B using HIRES on Keck I 10m Telescope	2018
<i>The TESS-Keck Survey of Exoplanets Orbiting Asteroseismic Host Stars</i>	
PI: Daniel Huber; Co-Is: Andrew Howard, Howard Isaacson, Lauren Weiss	
<i>Co-I</i> , 0.5 night in 2019B using HIRES on Keck I 10m Telescope	2018
<i>Spin-Orbit Alignment in Kepler's First Exoplanet System</i>	
PI: Daniel Huber; Co-I: Teruyuki Hirano	
<i>Observer</i> , 74 nights on Keck/HIRES through the CPS & TKS collaborations	2018– <i>present</i>
<i>Observer</i> , 5 nights on Gemini South/GPI through the GPI Exoplanet Survey	2015

## SELECTED PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS [NASA ADS]

---

**45 total: 4 first author and 13 with significant contributions, h-index=16, total citations~700**

- Chontos, A.**, Sayeed, M. and Huber, D., “pySYD: Automated Measurements of Global Asteroseismic Parameters,” *JOSS*, *in review*. [NASA ADS]
- Chontos, A.**, Murphy, J., MacDougall, M., et al., “The TESS-Keck Survey: Science Goals and Target Selection,” *AJ*, **163**, 297 (2022). [NASA ADS]
- Chontos, A.**, Huber, D., Kjeldsen, H., et al., “TESS Asteroseismology of  $\alpha$  Mensae: Benchmark Ages for a G7 Dwarf and its M-dwarf Companion,” *ApJ*, **922**, 229 (2021). [NASA ADS]
- Guerrero et al. [including **Chontos, A.**], “The TESS Objects of Interest Catalog from the TESS Prime Mission,” *ApJSS*, **254**, 39 (2021). [NASA ADS]
- Huber, D., Chaplin, W., **Chontos, A.**, et al., “A Hot Saturn Orbiting an Oscillating Late Subgiant Discovered by TESS,” *AJ*, **157**, 245 (2019). [NASA ADS]
- Chontos, A.**, Huber, D., Latham, D., et al., “The Curious Case of KOI 4: Confirming Kepler's First Exoplanet Detection,” *AJ*, **157**, 192 (2019). [NASA ADS]