

ASHLEY CHONTOS

Institute for Astronomy
2680 Woodlawn Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822

achontos@hawaii.edu
347-443-2505
ashleyin.space

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa *(expected June 2022)*
Thesis: *Precise Stellar and Planet Properties in the Kepler, K2 & TESS Era*
Advisor: Daniel Huber
M.Sc., Astronomy, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa 2018
B.Sc., Mathematics, *Summa Cum Laude*, SUNY Albany 2016
Focuses: Statistics, Applied Mathematics
Minor: Computer Science
B.Sc., Physics, *Summa Cum Laude*, SUNY Albany 2016

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

NSF Graduate Research Fellow 2018–present
Research Assistant, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa 2017–2018
Research Assistant, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center 2016
Research Assistant, Stanford University 2015–2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Asteroseismology, stellar evolution, exoplanet detection and characterization, photometry, spectroscopy, precise radial velocities, software development, computational astrophysics, post main-sequence planetary system dynamics and evolution, space telescopes, astronomical surveys.

SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

Friends of the IfA Outreach Award 2019
ARCS (Achievement Reward for College Scientists) 2019
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship 2018
Outstanding Outreach Award 2017
John C. Mather Nobel Scholar 2016

SELECTED TALKS

University of Chicago Exoplanet Journal Club *(invited)* September 2021
Carnegie EPL Astronomy Seminar *(invited)* September 2021
TESS Science Talk, MIT *(invited)* September 2021
Keck Science Meeting September 2021
TESS SciCon II August 2021
The Good Vibrations Seminar *(invited)* February 2021
TESS Science Team Meeting October 2020
Yale Exoplanets & Stars Seminar *(invited)* September 2020
Exoplanets III, Heidelberg, Germany July 2020
TASC5, MIT, Cambridge, USA July 2019
TESS SciCon I, MIT, Cambridge, USA July 2019
Kepler/K2 SciCon V, Glendale, CA March 2019
TASC4, Aarhus, Denmark July 2018
Columbia University Astronomy Seminar *(invited)* October 2017

TEACHING, SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

<i>Mentor</i> for high school students through HI STAR	2017– <i>present</i>
<i>Astronomy Graduate Outreach Coordinator & 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> , 60 nights on Keck/HIRES through the California Planet Search	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]

37 total: 4 first author and 10 with significant contributions, h-index=13, total citations~392

- Chontos, A.**, Sayeed, M. and Huber, D., “pySYD: Automated Measurements of Global Asteroseismic Parameters,” *JOSS*, *in review*. [NASA ADS]
- Chontos, A.**, et al., “The TESS-Keck Survey: Science Goals and Target Selection,” *in review* (with favorable referee report). [NASA ADS]
- Chontos, A.**, Huber, D., Kjeldsen, H., et al., “TESS Asteroseismology of α Mensae: Benchmark Ages for a G7 Dwarf and its M-dwarf Companion,” *ApJ*, *in press*. [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]

REFERENCES

Dr. Daniel Huber

Professor of Astronomy

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

2680 Woodlawn Drive

Honolulu, HI 96822 USA

Phone: 808-956-8573

Email: huberd@hawaii.edu

Website: [ifa.hawaii.edu/~dhuber]

Dr. Sara Seager

Class of 1941 Professor of Planetary Science

Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Professor of Physics

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

54-1718 77 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02139 USA

Phone: 617-253-6775

Email: seager@mit.edu

Website: [saraseager.com]

Dr. Andrew Howard

Professor of Astronomy

California Institute of Technology

1200 East California Boulevard

Pasadena, CA 91125 USA

Phone: 626-395-8747

Email: ahoward@caltech.edu

Website: [sites.astro.caltech.edu/~howard]

Dr. Stephen Kane

Director of the Planetary Research Laboratory

Professor of Planetary Astrophysics

Professor of Physics and Astronomy

University of California, Riverside

900 University Avenue

Riverside, CA 92521 USA

Phone: 951-827-6593

Email: skane@ucr.edu

Website: [stephenkane.net]