

# Bryson Cale

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## Education

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- **George Mason University** **Fairfax, VA**  
*Ph.D., Physics* *2017-2021*  
*Areas of Study:* Physics & Astronomy. *Dissertation:* Retrieval and Applications of Precise Radial Velocities to Detect Exoplanets. *Advisor:* Dr. Peter Plavchan.
- **Missouri State University** **Springfield, MO**  
*Master of Natural and Applied Science, Transferred after one year* *2016-2017*  
*Areas of Study:* Physics, Astronomy, & Materials Science. Computer Science.
- **Grinnell College** **Grinnell, IA**  
*Bachelor of Arts* *2012-2016*  
*Areas of Study:* Double Major in Physics & Mathematics. *Advisor:* Dr. Eliza Kempton.

## Interests

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- Detection and characterization of extra-solar planets.
- Development of robust mathematical modeling codes to solve a variety of unique challenges in astronomical data science.

## Employment

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- **NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory / IPAC** **Pasadena, CA**  
*NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP) Fellow* *August 2021 - Current*
  - Utilizing a variety of spectrographs from around the world spanning visible and near-infrared wavelengths to detect exoplanets.
  - Developing a pipeline for the new diffraction-limited PARVI spectrograph at Palomar Observatory to process echelle spectra.
- **George Mason University** **Fairfax, VA**  
*Graduate Research Assistant* *August 2017 - August 2021*
  - Developed codes to search for exoplanets via the radial velocity technique with a variety of modern echelle spectrographs.
  - Logged > 100 partial nights of observing with the iSHELL spectrograph on the NASA Infrared Telescope Facility.
- **George Mason University** **Fairfax, VA**  
*Academic Tutor* *August 2017 - May 2021*
  - Tutored George Mason University student athletes in physics, calculus, differential equations, linear algebra, and other upper level math, physics, and computer science courses.
- **Missouri State University** **Springfield, MO**  
*Graduate Teaching Assistant* *August 2016 - May 2017*
  - Prepared lectures for and instructed students through an introductory astronomy lab course.
  - Resource for NASA Public Observing Nights at MSU's Baker Observatory.
- **Grinnell College** **Grinnell, IA**  
*Physics Lab Teaching Assistant* *September 2015 - December 2015*

- Guided students through an introductory physics lab.

## Grants and Funding

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- o George Mason University Physics Department Summer Fellowship (2020), \$7.5K
- o NASA Exoplanet Research Program Fellowship (XRP) (Co-I) (2019), 3-year stipend
- o George Mason University Physics Department Summer Fellowship (2018), \$6K

## Awarded Telescope Time

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- o **2022B**: PARVI/Hale - Commissioning Science with the Palomar Radial Velocity Instrument (PARVI). Co-I.
- o **2022A**: PARVI/Hale - Commissioning Science with the Palomar Radial Velocity Instrument (PARVI). Co-I.
- o **2021B**: WIYN/NEID - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Exoplanet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. Co-I.
- o **2021B**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Extrasolar Planet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. PI.
- o **2021A**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Extrasolar Planet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. PI.
- o **2020B**: HIRES/Keck - Measuring Stellar Activity with Chromatic Radial-Velocities in the Active and Planet-Bearing Nearby M dwarf AU Mic. Co-I.
- o **2020B**: CHIRON/CTIO - Measuring Stellar Activity with Chromatic Radial-Velocities in the Active and Planet-Bearing Nearby M dwarf AU Mic. Co-I.
- o **2020B**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Extrasolar Planet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. PI.
- o **2020A**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Extrasolar Planet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. PI.
- o **2019B**: CHIRON/CTIO - Measuring Stellar Activity with Chromatic Radial-Velocities in the Active and Planet-Bearing Nearby M dwarf AU Mic. Co-I.
- o **2019B**: IRTF/iSHELL - RVxTESS: Spectral Studies of M Dwarfs with Simultaneous TESS and IRTF/iSHELL Observations. Co-I.
- o **2019B**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow-up of Recently Discovered Transiting Planets Orbiting the Young and Active M Dwarf AU Mic. Co-I.
- o **2019B**: IRTF/iSHELL - Radial Velocity Follow Up of Extrasolar Planet Candidates Orbiting Cool Low Mass Stars Identified With TESS. PI.
- o **2019A**: IRTF/iSHELL - What Lies Beyond the TRAPPIST-1 Snow Line? Constraining Long Period Neptunes with iSHELL Radial Velocity Observations. Co-I.
- o **2019A**: IRTF/iSHELL - Hidden Binaries in the Beta Pictoris Moving Group. Co-I.
- o **2019A**: IRTF/iSHELL - Zodiacal Exoplanets In Time: Measuring the Masses of Young Exoplanets. PI.
- o **2018B**: IRTF/iSHELL - Zodiacal Exoplanets In Time: Measuring the Masses of Young Exoplanets. PI.
- o **2017A**: IRTF/iSHELL - What radial velocity precision is obtainable with iSHELL and the isotopic methane gas cell? Co-I.

## Publications

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- o ***Diving Beneath the Sea of Stellar Activity: Chromatic Radial Velocities of the Young AU Mic Planetary System.*** First Author. Published in *Astronomical Journal*. 2021.
- o ***Precise Radial Velocities of Cool Low Mass Stars With iSHELL.*** First Author. Published in *Astronomical Journal*. 2019.
- o ***Precise Near-Infrared Radial Velocities with iSHELL.*** First Author. White Paper submitted to

#### **the National Academies of Science. 2018.**

- *Transit Timing Variations for AU Microscopii b and c* Co-Author. Published in *Astronomical Journal*. 2022.
- *A Close-in Puffy Neptune with Hidden Friends: The Enigma of TOI 620*. Co-Author. Published in *Astronomical Journal*. 2022.
- *The Magellan-TESS Survey I: Survey Description and Mid-Survey Results*. Co-author. Published in *Astrophysical Journal*. Teske et al. 2021.
- *TOI-431/HIP 26013: A Super-Earth and a Sub-Neptune Transiting a Bright, Early K Dwarf, With a Third Planet Candidate*. Co-author. Published in *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. Osborn et al. 2021.
- *Precise mass and radius of a transiting super-Earth planet orbiting the M dwarf TOI-1235: a planet in the radius gap?* Co-author. Published in *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. Bluhm et al. 2020.
- *A planet within the debris disk around the pre-main-sequence star AU Microscopii* Co-author. Published in *Nature*. Plavchan et al. 2020.
- *Magnetism and spin-orbit alignment in the young planetary system AU Mic* Co-author. Published in *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. Martioli et al. 2020.
- *The CARMENES search for exoplanets around M dwarfs Two planets on the opposite sides of the radius gap transiting the nearby M dwarf LP 729–54*. Co-author. Published in *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. Nowak et al. 2020.
- *TOI 442: The CARMENES search for exoplanets around M dwarfs: TOI 442.01=LP714-47b: Populating the Neptune desert*. Co-author. Published in *Astronomy & Astrophysics*. Dreizler et al. 2020.
- *A Hot Saturn Orbiting an Oscillating Late Subgiant Discovered By TESS* Co-author. Published in *Astronomical Journal*. Huber et al. 2019
- *TOI 257: A Warm Sub-Saturn on a Moderately Eccentric Orbit*. Co-author. Published in *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*. Addison et al. 2021
- *EarthFinder Report*. NASA probe study report. Co-author. Plavchan et al. 2019
- *Exo-Transmit: An Open-Source Code for Calculating Transmission Spectra for Exoplanet Atmospheres of Varied Composition*. Co-author. Published in *Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific*. Kempton et. al 2017.

## **Panels Served On**

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- NOIRLab Telescope Allocation Committee

## **Invited Talks**

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- *Retrieval and Applications of Precise Radial Velocities to Detect Exoplanets* IPAC Seminar. February 2, 2022.

## **Conference Talks**

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- *2 Years of TESS Follow-up with iSHELL*. Talk. 22<sup>nd</sup> TESS Science Team Meeting. 2020.
- *Precise NIR RVs of Cool Low Mass Stars with iSHELL*. Talk. Chesapeake Bay Area Exoplanet Meeting. 2020.
- *iSHELL Data Analysis*. Talk. Extreme Precise Radial-Velocities. 2017
- *Precise Radial Velocity First Light Observations With iSHELL*. Session Talk. 229<sup>th</sup> American Astronomical Society Meeting. 2017

## Poster Presentations

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- *Precise Near Infrared Radial Velocities with iSHELL*. Poster. 235<sup>th</sup> American Astronomical Society Meeting. 2020
- *Precise Near Infrared Radial Velocities with iSHELL*. Poster. Sagan Meeting Workshop - *Did I Really Just Find an Exoplanet?*. 2018
- *Precise Near IR Radial Velocity First Light Observations With iSHELL*. Poster. 231<sup>st</sup> American Astronomical Society Meeting. 2018
- *Transiting Exoplanet Observations at Grinnell College*. Poster. 223<sup>rd</sup> American Astronomical Society Meeting. 2014

## Technical Skills

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- **Highly Proficient:** Python (Numpy+SciPy, plotting), Julia
- **Experienced With:** C, JavaScript, React+JSX, HTML/CSS, Java, Matlab, IDL, Scheme, PHP
- **Noteworthy Packages:**
  - **optimize:** Tools for solving Bayesian Inference problems in Python.
    - <https://optimize.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>
  - **IterativeNelderMead.jl:** A robust Nelder-Mead solver for non-linear regression in Julia with support for bounded parameters.
    - <https://astrobcl.github.io/IterativeNelderMead.jl/dev/>
  - **Echelle.jl:** A set of Julia packages for processing echelle spectra and inferring the existence of extrasolar planets.
    - <https://astrobcl.github.io/EchelleDocs/>
  - **RVModelingToolkit.jl:** A Julia package to model radial velocity observations with Keplerian orbits + Gaussian processes to infer the existence of extrasolar planets.
    - <https://astrobcl.github.io/RVModelingToolkitDocs/>