Catherine Zucker

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia

B.A. in Astronomy-Physics and B.A. in History

Spring 2015

Harvard University

M.A. in Astronomy and Astrophysics

Fall 2017

PhD in Astronomy and Astrophysics

May 2020 (anticipated)

Advisors: Alyssa Goodman and Douglas Finkbeiner

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Delineating the spiral structure of the Milky Way
- Characterizing the physical properties of the largest-scale filaments in the interstellar medium of our Galaxy via observations and simulations
- Mapping the distribution of the Milky Way's dust in 3D using stellar photometry
- Combining gas and dust measurements to determine distances to local molecular clouds

PUBLICATIONS

First Author

- **Zucker**, **C**; Schlafly, E.; Green, G.; Speagle, J.; Portillo, S.; Finkbeiner, D.; Goodman, A. 2018c. ApJ, 869, 83. Mapping Distances across the Perseus Molecular Cloud Using CO Observations, Stellar Photometry, and Gaia DR2 Parallax Measurements.
- **Zucker**, **C**; Chen, H. H. 2018b. *ApJ*, 864, 162. RadFil: A Python Package for Building and Fitting Radial Profiles for Interstellar Filaments.
- **Zucker**, **C**; Battersby, C.; Goodman, A. 2018a. *ApJ*, 864, 2. The Physical Properties of Large-scale Galactic Filaments.
- Zucker, C; Walker, L.M..; Johnson, K.; Gallagher, S.; Alatalo, K.; Tzanavaris, P. 2016. ApJ, 821, 113. Hierarchical Formation in Action: Characterizing Accelerated Galaxy Evolution in Compact Groups using Whole-Sky WISE Data.
- Zucker, C; Battersby, C.; Goodman, A. 2015. ApJ, 815, 23. The Skeleton of the Milky Way.

Contributing Author

- Monsch, K.; Pineda, J.; Liu, H.; Chen, H.; **Zucker, C.**; Pattle, K.; Offner, S.; Di Francesco, J.; Ginsburg, A.; Ercolano, B.; Arce, H.; Friesen, R.; Kirk, H.; Caselli, P.; Goodman, A. 2018. *ApJ*, 861, 77. Dense Gas Kinematics and a Narrow Filament in the Orion A OMC1 Region using NH₃.
- Lisenfeld, U.; Alatalo, K.; **Zucker, C.**; Appleton, P. N.; Gallagher, S.; Guillard, P.; Johnson, K.. 2017. A&A, 607, A110. The role of molecular gas in galaxy transition in compact groups

• Walker, L.M.; Butterfield, N.; Johnson, K.; **Zucker, C.**; Gallagher, S.; Konstantopoulos, I., Hornschemeier, A.; Tzanavaris, P.; Charlton, J. 2013. *ApJ*, 775,129. The Optical Green Valley vs Mid-IR Canyon in Compact Groups

PRESENTATIONS

Contributed Talks

- Harvard-Heidelberg Meeting on Star Formation (Heidelberg, Germany; December 2018), Better Distances to Local Molecular Clouds with Gaia (Starting with Perseus)
- ITC Luncheon Talk (Cambridge, MA; November 2018), Large-scale Galactic Filaments Shock and Shear in the Milky Way?
- The Interstellar Filament Paradigm (Nagoya, Japan; November 2018), The Physical Properties of Observed (and Synthetic!) Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- The Milky Way in the Age of Gaia (Orsay, France; October 2018), Better Distances to Local Molecular Clouds with Gaia
- MIT Haystack Lunch Talk (Westford, MA; August 2018), Visualization and Outreach with glue and the WorldWide Telescope
- The Olympian Symposium (Paralia, Greece; May 2018), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- AAS Splinter Session (Washington DC; January 2018), Better Data Visualization and Exploration with GLUE
- Sun, Stars, and Galaxies Lunch Talk (Manchester, UK; October 2017), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics Astrostats Day (Cambridge, MA; September 2017), Interactive multi-dimensional data exploration and linking with the glue visualization software
- Galactic Star Formation with Surveys Conference (Heidelberg, Germany; July 2017), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics (Toronto, Canada; May 2017), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- Dunlap Institute for Astronomy & Astrophysics (Toronto, Canada; May 2017), Interactive multidimensional data exploration and linking with the glue visualization software
- New England Regional Star Formation Meeting (Cambridge, MA; January 2016), The Skeleton of the Milky Way
- Filamentary Structure in Molecular Clouds Workshop (Charlottesville, VA; October 2014), The Skeleton of the Milky Way
- 2014 SAO Astronomy Intern Symposium (Cambridge, MA; August 2014), The Milky Way Skeleton

Posters

- Harvard-Heidelberg Meeting on Star Formation (Heidelberg, Germany; November 2016), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments
- Via Lactea: The Milky Way as a Star Formation Engine (Rome, Italy; September 2016), The Physical Properties of Large-Scale Galactic Filaments

- The Milky Way in Molecular Clouds Meeting (Charlottesvile, VA; April 2016); The Skeleton of the Milky Way
- 225 AAS (January 2015; Seattle, WA) The Skeleton of the Milky Way
- VA Space Grant Research Conference (Hampton, VA; April 2014) Hierarchical Formation in Action: Characterizing Accelerated Galaxy Evolution in Compact Groups
- 221st AAS (January 2013; Long Beach, CA) Hierarchical Formation in Action: Characterizing Accelerated Galaxy Evolution in Compact Groups

OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

Cerro Tololo Observatory, Chile (Blanco 4m) (2 nights)	August 2018
Cerro Tololo Observatory, Chile (Blanco 4m) (3 nights)	February 2018
MMT Observatory; Tucson, AZ (4 nights)	August 2014
Kitt Peak Observatory (Bok 90"); Tucson, AZ (5 nights)	December 2012

SELECTED AWARDS

• Harvard Astronomy Departmental Teaching Award	Spring 2018
• Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	Spring 2018
• La Serena School for Data Science Full Scholarship	Summer 2017
• NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Award	Fall 2016-Fall 2019
\bullet John P. and Carol J. Merrill Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University	Fall 2015-Present
• Peirce Fellowship, Harvard Astronomy	Fall 2015-Fall 2018
• UVA Undergraduate Physics Research Symposium, 1st Place	Fall 2014
• Vyssotsky Prize, University of Virginia Astronomy	Spring 2014
• Double Hoo Research Award, University of Virginia	Spring 2014
• Intermediate Honors, University of Virginia	Fall 2013
• Virginia Space Grant Consortium Research Fellowship	Summer 2013–Spring 2014
• Kate Cabell Claiborne Cox Scholarship, University of Virginia History	Spring 2013
• Harrison Undergraduate Research Award, University of Virginia	Summer 2013–Spring 2014
• Echols Scholarship Fund Grant, University of Virginia	Summer 2012
• Small Research and Travel Grant, University of Virginia	Summer 2012
• Wolfe Undergraduate Docent Award, University of Virginia	Spring 2012
• Echols Scholar, University of Virginia	Fall 2011–Fall 2015

SERVICE

• Echols Scholar, University of Virginia	Fall 2011–Fall 2015
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• Referee for Astronomy & Astrophysics, The Astronomical	l Journal Fall 2018 - Present
• Astronomy Rewind, Volunteer Lead	Fall 2018 - Present
• Public Talk, New Hampshire Astronomical Society	Spring 2018
• Cambridge Explores the Universe Volunteer, Harvard Uni	iversity Spring 2016, 2017, 2018
• Development of MilkyWay3D.com Galactic Plane Mapper	r Tool Fall 2016
• Harvard College Undergraduate Research Association Con	nference Invited Speaker Fall 2016
• Interview with Science News on the Milky Way Skeleton	December 2015

• Interview with Space.com on the Milky Way Skeleton January 2015

- Dark Skies, Bright Kids Planetarium Lead, University of Virginia March 2012–May 2015
- Harrison Institute for American History Docent, University of Virginia September 2011–May 2015

TEACHING

• Teaching Fellow; Astronomy 17—Galactic and Extragalactic Astronomy. Harvard University. Fall 2017

COMPUTING

Programming Languages: Python

Tools: LaTeX, glue, ds9, git