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coordinates

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about

I am a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Computational Astrophysics in New York City, working on finding novel ways to discover and characterize exoplanets. I am broadly interested in exocartography, astrobiology, systematics modeling, & general analytic techniques for astronomy. Outside of the office I love to hike, cycle, swim, craft lattes, faulty parallelism, and Oxford commas.

stats

Total Pubs	33
Refereed	29
First Author	10
Citations	1172
h-index	15

popular code

starry
Analytic light curves
planetplanet
P-P occultations
everest
K2 de-trending

education

2012–2017	PhD Astronomy and Astrobiology + On the evolution, detection, and characterization of small planets in the habitable zones of M dwarfs + Advised by Eric Agol, Rory Barnes, and Victoria Meadows	University of Washington, Seattle WA
2012–2013	MSc Astronomy and Astrobiology	University of Washington, Seattle WA
2006–2010	BA Astrophysics + Minor in English Literature	Swarthmore College, Swarthmore PA

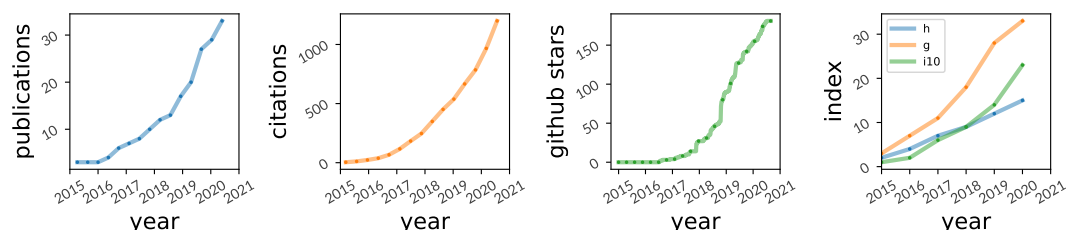
positions

2018–	Flatiron Fellow + Develop and maintain the starry exocartography code + Develop methods to detect & characterize exoplanets with TESS and JWST	Center for Computational Astrophysics, New York, NY
2017–2018	Postdoctoral Researcher + Developed photometric de-trending methods to aid in the search for small planets transiting small stars; developed and maintained the everest pipeline	University of Washington
2012–2017	Research Associate + Developed techniques to detect and characterize habitable zone planets + Investigated the atmospheric evolution of planets orbiting M dwarfs	University of Washington
2008–2009	Student Researcher + Research under Professor Eric Jensen on planet formation and T Tauri disks	Swarthmore College

honors

2018–2021	Flatiron Fellowship	Center for Computational Astrophysics, New York, NY
2018	Hubble Postdoctoral Fellowship	(Declined)
2018	51 Pegasi b Fellowship	(Declined)
2012–2015	ARCS Fellowship	University of Washington
2010	Bobby Berman Memorial Prize	Swarthmore College
2010	The Phi Beta Kappa Society	Swarthmore College

metrics



references

eric agol

agol@uw.edu

david w. hogg

dhogg@flatironinstitute.org

dan foreman-mackey

foreman.mackey@gmail.com

rory barnes

rory@astro.washington.edu

teaching & outreach

2019-

Mentor, AstroCom

AMNH / CUNY

+ Mentor undergraduate students from underrepresented groups in the sciences at the City University of New York

2019-

Lecturer, LSST Data Science Fellowship

Carnegie Mellon / Flatiron Institute

+ Lectured on various topics related to statistical inference at week-long schools for early-career astronomers

2012–2017

Mobile Planetarium

University of Washington

+ Presented planetarium shows at schools and public venues throughout Washington state using UW's inflatable mobile planetarium

2012–2013

Teaching Assistant

University of Washington

+ Taught two bi-weekly tutorial sessions for two college astronomy courses

2010–2012

High School Teacher

St. Luke's School, New Canaan CT

+ Created and taught a rigorous, college-level elective course in astrophysics aimed at seniors interested in pursuing college classes in the field
+ Taught three sections of 11th grade physics with a focus on astronomy, helping students develop critical thinking and creative problem solving skills

2009–2010

Science Associate & Tutor

Swarthmore College

+ Directed weekly large-group study sessions for an introductory course in astronomy; tutored students in courses in mechanics and E&M

students

nicholas saunders

UW, 2016-2018

brynnar hidalgo

CUNY, 2019

asmaa elsayed

CUNY, 2019-

other

2013–2017

IT Manager

Virtual Planet Laboratory, University of Washington

+ Managed VPL's virtual conferencing system and network

2010–2012

Head Coach

St. Luke's School, New Canaan CT

+ Head coach of the JV Boys Soccer and Fencing Teams
+ Assistant coach of the MS Tennis Team

2009–2010

Captain

Swarthmore College Fencing Team

+ Captain and founding member of the Sabre Team

publications

citations →
(refereed in **bold**)

- 1 Cunningham, E., Garavito-Camargo, N., Deason, A., Johnston, K., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2020, [Quantifying the Stellar Halo's Response to the LMC's Infall With Spherical Harmonics](#), *ApJ*, **898**, 4
- 9 Fleming, D., Barnes, R., **Luger, R.**, & VanderPlas, J., 2020, [On the XUV Luminosity Evolution of TRAPPIST-1](#), *ApJ*, **891**, 155
- 5 Agol, E., **Luger, R.**, & Foreman-Mackey, D., 2020, [Analytic Planetary Transit Light Curves and Derivatives for Stars With Polynomial Limb Darkening](#), *AJ*, **159**, 123
- 5 Montet, B., Feinstein, A., **Luger, R.**, Bedell, M., et al., 2020, [The Young Planet DS Tuc Ab Has a Low Obliquity](#), *AJ*, **159**, 112
- 10 Barnes, R., **Luger, R.**, Deitrick, R., Driscoll, P., et al., 2020, [VPLanet: The Virtual Planet Simulator](#), *PASP*, **132**, 24502
- 14 David, T., Petigura, E., **Luger, R.**, Foreman-Mackey, D., et al., 2019, [Four Newborn Planets Transiting the Young Solar Analog V1298 Tau](#), *ApJ*, **885**

- 12 Bedell, M., Hogg, D., Foreman-Mackey, D., Montet, B., & **Luger, R.**, 2019, [WOBBLE: A Data-Driven Analysis Technique for Time-Series Stellar Spectra](#), *AJ*, **158**, 164
- 26 Feinstein, A., Montet, B., Foreman-Mackey, D., Bedell, M., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2019, [Eleanor: An Open-Source Tool for Extracting Light Curves From the TESS Full-Frame Images](#), *PASP*, **131**, 94502
- 10 Kruse, E., Agol, E., **Luger, R.**, & Foreman-Mackey, D., 2019, [Detection of Hundreds of New Planet Candidates and Eclipsing Binaries in K2 Campaigns 0-8](#), *The Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series*, **244**, 11
- 12 Fleming, D., Barnes, R., Davenport, J., & **Luger, R.**, 2019, [Rotation Period Evolution in Low-Mass Binary Stars: The Impact of Tidal Torques and Magnetic Braking](#), *ApJ*, **881**, 88
- 36 Eastman, J., Rodriguez, J., Agol, E., Stassun, K., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2019, [EXOFASTv2: A Public, Generalized, Publication-Quality Exoplanet Modeling Code](#), arXiv e-prints
- 1 Kislyakova, K., Fossati, L., Shulyak, D., Günther, E., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2019, [Detecting Volcanically Produced Tori Along Orbits of Exoplanets Using UV Spectroscopy](#), arXiv e-prints
- 17 Kreidberg, L., **Luger, R.**, & Bedell, M., 2019, [No Evidence for Lunar Transit in New Analysis of Hubble Space Telescope Observations of the Kepler-1625 System](#), *ApJ*, **877**
- Saunders, N., **Luger, R.**, & Barnes, R., 2019, [The Pointing Limits of Transiting Exoplanet Light Curve Characterization With Pixel Level Decorrelation](#), *AJ*, **157**, 197
- 5 **Luger, R.**, Bedell, M., Vanderspek, R., & Burke, C., 2019, [TESS Photometric Mapping of a Terrestrial Planet in the Habitable Zone: Detection of Clouds, Oceans, and Continents](#), arXiv e-prints
- 32 **Luger, R.**, Agol, E., Foreman-Mackey, D., Fleming, D., et al., 2019, [Starry: Analytic Occultation Light Curves](#), *AJ*, **157**, 64
- Barnes, R., **Luger, R.**, Smotherman, H., Deitrick, R., & Fleming, D., 2019, [After the Habitable Zone](#), *Memorie della Societa Astronomica Italiana*, **90**, 641
- 14 Lustig-Yaeger, J., Meadows, V., Tovar Mendoza, G., Schwieterman, E., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2018, [Detecting Ocean Glint on Exoplanets Using Multiphase Mapping](#), *AJ*, **156**, 301
- 42 Lincowski, A., Meadows, V., Crisp, D., Robinson, T., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2018, [Evolved Climates and Observational Discriminants for the TRAPPIST-1 Planetary System](#), *ApJ*, **867**, 76
- 69 **Luger, R.**, Kruse, E., Foreman-Mackey, D., Agol, E., & Saunders, N., 2018, [An Update to the EVEREST K2 Pipeline: Short Cadence, Saturated Stars, and Kepler-Like Photometry Down to Kp = 15](#), *AJ*, **156**, 99
- 14 Fleming, D., Barnes, R., Graham, D., **Luger, R.**, & Quinn, T., 2018, [On the Lack of Circumbinary Planets Orbiting Isolated Binary Stars](#), *ApJ*, **858**, 86
- 8 Tian, F., Güdel, M., Johnstone, C., Lammer, H., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2018, [Water Loss From Young Planets](#), *Space Science Reviews*, **214**, 65
- 87 Meadows, V., Arney, G., Schwieterman, E., Lustig-Yaeger, J., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2018, [The Habitability of Proxima Centauri B: Environmental States and Observational Discriminants](#), *Astrobiology*, **18**, 133
- 17 **Luger, R.**, Lustig-Yaeger, J., & Agol, E., 2017, [Planet-Planet Occultations in TRAPPIST-1 and Other Exoplanet Systems](#), *ApJ*, **851**, 94
- 6 **Luger, R.**, Foreman-Mackey, D., & Hogg, D., 2017, [Linear Models for Systematics and Nuisances](#), *Research Notes of the American Astronomical Society*, **1**, 7
- 155 **Luger, R.**, Sestovic, M., Kruse, E., Grimm, S., et al., 2017, [A Seven-Planet Resonant Chain in TRAPPIST-1](#), *Nature Astronomy*, **1**, 129
- 23 **Luger, R.**, Lustig-Yaeger, J., Fleming, D., Tilley, M., et al., 2017, [The Pale Green Dot: A Method to](#)

Characterize Proxima Centauri B Using Exo-Aurorae, *ApJ*, **837**, 63

- 140 **Luger, R.**, Agol, E., Kruse, E., Barnes, R., et al., 2016, EVEREST: Pixel Level Decorrelation of K2 Light Curves, *AJ*, **152**, 100
- 47 Barnes, R., Deitrick, R., **Luger, R.**, Driscoll, P., et al., 2016, The Habitability of Proxima Centauri B I: Evolutionary Scenarios, arXiv e-prints
- 60 Schwieterman, E., Meadows, V., Domagal-Goldman, S., Deming, D., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2016, Identifying Planetary Biosignature Impostors: Spectral Features of CO and O₄ Resulting From Abiotic O₂/O₃ Production, *ApJ*, **819**
- 213 **Luger, R.**, & Barnes, R., 2015, Extreme Water Loss and Abiotic O₂ Buildup on Planets Throughout the Habitable Zones of M Dwarfs, *Astrobiology*, **15**, 119
- 71 **Luger, R.**, Barnes, R., Lopez, E., Fortney, J., et al., 2015, Habitable Evaporated Cores: Transforming Mini-Neptunes Into Super-Earths in the Habitable Zones of M Dwarfs, *Astrobiology*, **15**, 57
- 11 Deitrick, R., Barnes, R., McArthur, B., Quinn, T., et al. (including **Luger, R.**), 2015, The Three-Dimensional Architecture of the ν Andromedae Planetary System, *ApJ*, **798**, 46

selected talks

- Luger, R.**, [Toward Maps of Exoplanet Surfaces](#), Yale University Exoplanet Journal Club, New Haven, CT, October 08, 2019
- Luger, R.**, [Toward Maps of Exoplanet Surfaces](#), Villanova University Astronomy Department Colloquium, Villanova, PA, September 20, 2019
- Luger, R.**, [Regularization and Ridge Regression](#), LSSTC Data Science Fellowship Program, New York, NY, September 12, 2019
- Luger, R.**, [An Introduction to Gaussian Process Regression](#), LSSTC Data Science Fellowship Program, Pittsburgh, PA, June 08, 2019
- Luger, R.**, [Gradient-based Inference Techniques for Exoplanet Light Curves](#), Kepler Science Conference V, Glendale, CA, March 05, 2019
- Luger, R.**, Agol, E., Foreman-Mackey, D., Fleming, D., & others, [STARRY: Analytic Occultation and Rotation Light Curves](#), TESS Data Workshop, Baltimore, MD, February 11, 2019
- Luger, R.**, Lustig-Yaeger, J., & Agol, E., [Probing the TRAPPIST-1 System with K2, JWST, and Beyond](#), American Astronomical Society Meeting 231, **410.02**, National Harbor, MD, January 2018
- Luger, R.**, Lustig-Yaeger, J., & Agol, E., [Probing the TRAPPIST-1 System with Planet-Planet Occultations](#), Stars & Planets Seminar, Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA, October 30, 2017
- Luger, R.**, Lustig-Yaeger, J., & Agol, E., [Probing the TRAPPIST-1 System with Planet-Planet Occultations](#), Dept. Colloquium, Penn State University, State College, PA, September 11, 2017
- Luger, R.**, Kruse, E., Foreman-Mackey, D., Agol, E., & others, [EVEREST Tutorial and Workshop](#), Kepler Science Conference IV, Mountain View, CA, June 21, 2017
- Luger, R.**, Sestovic, M., Kruse, E., Grimm, S., & others, [TRAPPIST-1: A Seven-Planet Resonant Chain Unveiled by K2](#), Kepler Science Conference IV, Mountain View, CA, June 21, 2017
- Luger, R.**, Barnes, R., Deitrick, R., & others, [Evolution of the Water Content of Proxima Centauri b](#), Astrobiology Science Conference, **3534**, Mesa, AZ, April 28, 2017
- Luger, R.**, Kruse, E., Foreman-Mackey, D., Agol, E., & others, [Habitable Zone Planets with K2](#), Astrobiology Science Conference, **3338**, Mesa, AZ, April 26, 2017
- Luger, R.**, & Barnes, R., [Extreme Water Loss and Abiotic O₂ Buildup on Planets Throughout the](#)

Habitable Zones of M Dwarfs, AAS Meeting 225, **407.04**, Seattle, WA, January 2015

Luger, R., Barnes, R., Lopez, E., Fortney, J., & others, [Habitable Evaporated Cores: Converting Mini-Neptunes into Super-Earths in the Habitable Zone of M Dwarfs](#), AAS Meeting 223, **325.05**, National Harbor, MD, January 2014