
DILLON BROUT PHD

Einstein Fellow @ Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics
60 Garden St ◇ Cambridge, MA 02138 ◇ (215) 300-8763 ◇ dillon.brout@cfa.harvard.edu

POSITIONS

NASA Einstein Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard Smithsonian CfA	<i>June 2020 - Current</i>
”, University of Pennsylvania	<i>June 2019 - June 2020</i>

EDUCATION

PhD, Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2019</i>
MS, Physics and Astronomy, University of Pennsylvania	<i>2015</i>
BS, Physics, Johns Hopkins University	<i>2013</i>

AWARDS

NASA Einstein Fellowship	<i>2019</i>
Fermilab Universities Research Fellowship	<i>2016</i>
PennApps Hackathon 3rd Place Winner	<i>2016</i>
Provost Undergraduate Research Award	<i>2012</i>
Double Degree Abrams Scholar (Jazz Saxophone @ Peabody Institute)	<i>2009-2013</i>

PROPOSALS ACCEPTED

PI: NOAO Blanco/DECam telescope time - 29 Night Long Term Program (3 year) called Dark Energy Bedrock All Sky Supernovae (DEBASS) *2020-2024*

co-I: NOAO Blanco/DECam telescope time - 11.5 night imaging survey called Blanco Images of the Southern Sky (BLISS) *2016-2017*

DISCOVERIES

Its Dust: *Solving the Mysteries of Intrinsic Scatter and Host-galaxy Dependence of Standardized Type Ia Supernova Brightnesses.* I claim to have solved one of the mysteries of SN Ia cosmology that has persisted over the last 15 years, and you guessed it, its dust. This has spurred an interesting discussion in the field and numerous papers have come out addressing and confirming my claim (e.g. Johansson et al. 2021)!

Binary Neutron Star Merger: Co-Discoverer of the very first ever BNS that was alerted by LIGO and Fermi and co-discovered optically by DECam. [*Soares Santos, ..., Brout et al. 2017*]

TEACHING

Introduction to Data Science and Machine Learning Bootcamp *2019*
- Developed and taught intensive 1.5 week course of data mining and machine learning across for graduate students across all fields for a new UPenn MindCORE initiative on data science. [click here]

Teaching Assistant *2014-2019*
- Taught classes: Cosmology (for physics majors). TA: Data Science and Machine Learning for Large Datasets, The Big Bang and Beyond, Intro Physics Lab 101.

Introduction to python for physics research

2018-2020

- Taught undergrads and incoming grad students each summer basic python and statistical fundamentals for physics research.

Machine Learning March Madness

2017-Current

- Guest lecturer each year at the Duke University Physics of Sports class where I speak on machine learning prediction of the NCAA College Basketball March Madness bracket.

ADVISING

- **Alyssa Garcia** is Marcelle Soares Santos' grad student at the University of Michigan. She has been the driving force behind the data processing for my DEBASS program and will ultimately lead our data release and has expressed interest in leading one of our upcoming cosmological analyses.

- **Sasha Brownsberger** is Christopher Stubbs' grad student at Harvard and we are writing a paper together on H0 determination sensitivity to photometric calibration systems and the data's self calibrating ability to limit the size of systematic uncertainties.

- **Brodie Popovic** is Dan Scolnic's grad student at Duke University and we are in the process of writing a series of papers on my dust model that he is improving upon. Brodie was just awarded an LBL grad fellowship.

- **Noor Amer** is an undergrad at a university in Turkey and she is an Iraqi refugee. She has been helping me with the planning/observing for my DEBASS program as well as producing a plot for my upcoming paper. She was just accepted to a year long astrophysics study abroad program in Sweden!

- **Cole Meldorf** is an undergrad at the University of Chicago. Together with Dr. Antonella Palmese we have written an in depth analysis on dust in the host galaxies for the DES5YR sample which puts my dust model to the test.

OUTREACH

- I give twice yearly talks at the Franklin Institute lecture series and "Science After Dark" astronomy program.

- Every year give presentations and do interactive activities on the physics of car racing for underprivileged youth through the Laboratory for Research on the Structure of Matter Penn Summer Science Initiative (contacts: Andrew McGhie and Mark Licurse).

- Co-founder of UPenn Astronomy outreach group.

- Working closely with an aspiring female astronomer living in Turkey, Noor Amer, who is an Iraqi refugee. Her goal is to go to graduate school for astrophysics and I am dedicated to helping her achieve this.

- Referee of 10+ papers for journals.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL TALKS

Jan 2021	Contributed Talk - AAS LSST Special Session <i>Remote</i>
Nov 2020	Contributed Talk - Royal Astronomical Society <i>Remote</i>
Sep 2020	Symposium - NHFP NASA <i>Remote</i>
May 2020	Colloquium - Stockholm University <i>Remote</i>
May 2020	DES Meeting Plenary - <i>Remote</i>
Mar 2020	<u>Invited Speaker</u> - World Summit <i>Guadeloupe Islands</i> : “The Hubble Constant Tension Problem: An Overview”
Feb 2020	Colloquium - Brandeis Univ. <i>Waltham, MA</i>
Oct 2019	<u>Press Event</u> - GOOGLE <i>New York, NY</i>
Oct 2019	Workshop - KICP UChicago <i>Chicago, IL</i>
July 2019	<u>Invited Speaker</u> - <i>Santa Barbara, CA</i> : “The Dark Energy Survey Contribution to H_0 ”
Apr 2019	Colloquium - CMU/Pitt Physics Seminar <i>Pittsburgh, PA</i>
Mar 2019	Workshop - Universites Paris <i>Paris, France</i>
Mar 2019	Colloquium - Service de Physique Thorique @ ULB <i>Brussels, Belgium</i>
Feb 2019	Seminar - American Museum of Natural History <i>New York, NY</i>
Feb 2019	Colloquium - Johns Hopkins/STSCi <i>Baltimore, MD</i>
Dec 2018	<u>Invited Speaker</u> - <i>Sao Paulo, Brazil</i> : “SN Cosmology Results from the DES and implications for LSST” at South American Workshop on Cosmology in the LSST Era
May 2018	<u>Invited Speaker</u> (2 Talks) - <i>Tucson, AZ</i> : DECam Community Science Workshop Talk #1: “DES-SN Program, Cosmology Results, and Public Data Release.” Talk #2: “DES-GW Program and The Future of GW Cosmology.”
May 2018	DES Meeting Plenary - <i>College Station, TX</i> : “Preliminary Cosmology Results from the DES-SN3YR”
Apr 2018	APS - <i>Columbus, OH</i> : “Preliminary Cosmology Results from DES-SN3YR”
Feb 2018	<u>Invited Speaker</u> - <i>Fermilab</i> : “Preliminary Cosmology Results from DES-SN3YR” at FNAL Joint Experimental-Theoretical Physics Seminar (“Wine and Cheese”)
Jan 2018	AAS #231 - <i>Washington, DC</i> : “Cosmology Results from DES-SN First 3 Years”
Nov 2017	DES Meeting Plenary - <i>Brisbane, AU</i> : “3YR Cosmology Update”
Dec 2016	DES Meeting Plenary - <i>Cambridge, UK</i> : “The SN Photometric Pipeline”

LEAD AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS

1. **Brout, D.**, Hinton, S., & Scolnic, D., “*Binning is Sinning; Supernova Edition*”, 2021
2. Popovic, B., **Brout, D.**, et al., “*Improved Treatment of Host-Galaxy Correlations in Cosmological Analyses With Type Ia Supernovae*”, 2021
- **Advised Brodie on all aspects of the analysis.**
3. **Brout, D.** & Scolnic, D., “*It’s Dust: Solving the Mysteries of Intrinsic Scatter and Host-galaxy Dependence of Standardized Type Ia Supernova Brightnesses*”, 2020
4. Hinton, S. & **Brout, D.**, “*Pippin: A pipeline for supernova cosmology*”, 2020
- **Developed cosmology analysis portion and current maintainer of the codebase.**
5. Dhawan, S., **Brout, D.**, et al. “*Cosmological Model Insensitivity of Local H_0 from the Cepheid Distance Ladder*”, 2020
- **Led half of paper regarding first ever concurrent assessment of SNIa covariant systematics for cepheid calibrators and Hubble flow simultaneously.**
6. **Brout, D.**, et al., “*First Cosmology Results using Type Ia Supernovae from the Dark Energy Survey: Analysis, Systematic Uncertainties, and Validation*”, arXiv:1811.02377 , (2018)
7. **Brout, D.**, et al., “*First Cosmology Results using Type Ia Supernovae from the Dark Energy Survey: Photometric Pipeline and Light Curve Data Release*”, arXiv:1811.02378, (2018)
8. DES Collaboration et al., “*First Cosmology Results using Type Ia Supernovae from the Dark Energy Survey: Constraints on Cosmological Parameters*”, arXiv:1811.02374, (2018), FERMILAB-PUB-18-590-AE
- **Alphabetical author list and no corresponding author. I was the single largest contributor to the paper. Produced all results, tables, plots and majority of text.**
9. Guidorzi, G., Margutti, R., **Brout, D.**, et al., “*Improved Constraints on H_0 from a Combined Analysis of Gravitational-wave and Electromagnetic Emission from GW170817*”, ApJ, **851** (2017) no.2, L36
- **Produced cosmological constraints and analyzed systematic errors. Facilitated discovery of counterpart.**

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION PUBLICATIONS

10. Taylor, G., ..., **Brout, D.** et al., “*A Revised SALT2 Surface for Fitting Type Ia Supernova Light Curves*”, arXiv:1811.02375, (2018)
- **Provided and advised on cosmology analsis pipeline portion of the analysis.**
11. DES Collaboration et al., “*Cosmological Constraints from Multiple Probes in the The Dark Energy Survey*”, arXiv:1811.02375, (2018)
- **Provided SN distances and likelihood. Alphabetical paper.**
12. Kessler, R., **Brout, D.**, et al., “*First Cosmology Results using Type Ia Supernovae from the Dark Energy Survey: Simulations to Correct Supernova Distance Biases*”, arXiv:1811.02379, (2018)

- Ran photometry on 10,000 fakes to compute corrections applied to the DES simulated fluxes. Made Figures 2 & 3.

13. Scolnic, D., Kessler, R., **Brout, D.**, *et al.*, “How Many Kilonovae Can Be Found in Past, Present, and Future Survey Data Sets?”, *ApJ*, **852** (2017) no.1, L3

- Implemented the kilonova model and ran extensive simulations.

14. Soares-Santos, M., Holz, D., ..., **Brout, D.**, *et al.*, “The electromagnetic counterpart of the binary neutron star merger *LIGO/VIRGO GW170817*. I. Discovery of the optical counterpart using the dark energy camera”, *ApJ*, **848** (2017) no.2, L16

- Wrote the DES-GW follow-up strategy pipeline. Designed the database, webpage, and alert system for real-time monitoring of LIGO events. Integrated the strategy/analysis with the data reduction pipeline.

15. Doctor, Z., Kessler, R., ..., **Brout, D.**, *et al.*, “A Search for Optical Emission from Binary-Black-Hole Merger *GW170814* with the Dark Energy Camera”, in prep (2018), DES-2018-0335, PUB-18-601-PPD.

- Made Figure 1 and optimized image search strategy.

16. Macaulay, E., Nichol, R. C., Bacon, D., **Brout, D.**, *et al.*, “First Cosmology Results using Type Ia Supernovae from the Dark Energy Survey: Measurement of the Hubble Constant”, arXiv:1811.02376.

- Did full derivation of SN distances and systematic uncertainties for H_0 measurement.

17. Bernardinelli, P., Bernstein, G., ... , **Brout, D.**, *et al.*, “Trans-Neptunian objects found in the first four years of the Dark Energy Survey”, arXiv:1909.01478.

- Built forced photometric pipeline.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

53 others, please see <https://inspirehep.net/authors/1246494>.