

# Daniel A. Yahalomi

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## Education

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### Columbia University

New York, NY

M.A. in Astronomy and Astrophysics (2022)

2020 –

M.Phil. in Astronomy and Astrophysics (2023)

Ph.D. Candidate in Astronomy and Astrophysics (expected 2025)

– **Advisor:** David Kipping

– **Thesis:** From Wobbles to Worlds: Developing a Framework for Detecting the Unseen

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

B.S. in Physics with Concentration in Astronomy

2014-2018

Minors in Computer Science and Comparative Media Studies

– **Advisor:** Paul L. Schechter

– **Thesis:** Statistical Analyses of Gravitational Microlensing Probability Densities

## Research Appointments

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- **Dean's Fellowship**, Columbia GSAS: 2020 – .
- **Guest Researcher**, Flatiron Institute, Center for Computational Astronomy: 2020 – .
- **Astronomer**, Harvard CfA on TESS Science Team, with Dave Latham: 2018 – 2020.
- **Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program**, MIT with Paul Schechter: 2017 – 2018.
- **Summer Internship Program**, NASA JPL: 2016.
- **Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program**, MIT LIGO with Erotokritos Katsavounidis: 2015.

## Honors & Awards

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- **Pinkerton NYCSR Discretionary Fund Winner (\$5K)** – STAR Program: 2024.
- **Columbia Incite Breakdown/(Re)generate Finalist (\$40K)** – STAR Program: 2024.
- **NASA ExoExplorer**: 2023-2024.
- **LSST-DA DSFP Fellow**: 2023-2025.
- **AAS NOLP Fellow**: 2023-2025.
- **NSF GRFP Honorable Mention**: 2020.
- **Theo St. Francis (leadership) Award**, MIT Water Polo Team: 2017.
- **Academic All-American**, Association of Collegiate Water Polo Coaches: 2016, 2017.
- **High School Academic All-American**, USA Water Polo: 2012, 2013, 2014.

## Publications

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**Citations:** 979 total. *h-index*: 17. *i10-index*: 19. Updated October 2024.

### First Author Publications

7. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. “The Exoplanet Edge: Planets Don’t Induce Observable TTVs Faster than Half their Orbital Period.” *submitted to AAS Journals*, [link](#), (2024).
6. **Yahalomi, D. A.** and Kipping, D. “A Map of the Orbital Landscape for Perturbing Planet Solutions for Single-Planet Systems with TTVs.” *submitted to AAS Journals*, [link](#), (2024).

5. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. “The democratic detrender: Ensemble-Based Removal of Nuisance Signal in Stellar Time-Series Photometry.” *submitted to AAS Journals*, [link](#), (2024).
4. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. “Not So Fast Kepler-1513: A Perturbing Planetary Interloper in the Exomoon Corridor.” *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 527, 1, 620-639 (2024).
3. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. “Detecting Solar System Analogs through Joint Radial Velocity/Astrometric Surveys” *The Astronomical Journal*, 166, 6, id.258, (2023).
2. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. “The Mass of the White Dwarf Companion in the Self-Lensing Binary KOI-3278: Einstein vs. Newton.” *The Astrophysical Journal*, 880, 33 (2019).
1. **Yahalomi, D. A.**, Schechter, P. L, and Wambsganss, J. “A Quadruply Lensed SN Ia: Gaining a Time-Delay...Losing a Standard Candle.” *MIT Journal of Undergraduate Research*, Fall 2017 – arXiv:1711.07919.

### Independent Significant Contribution

*I contributed significant ideas, wrote/ran code, analyzed results, and/or wrote part of the manuscript.*

5. Kipping, D. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A. (third author)** “A Reply to: Large Exomoons unlikely around Kepler-1625 b and Kepler-1708 b” under consideration by *Nature Astronomy* as Matters Arising, arXiv:2401.10333 (2024).
4. Grunblatt, S. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Roman CCS White Paper: Adding Fields Hosting Globular Clusters To The Galactic Bulge Time Domain Survey.” White Paper, arXiv:2306.10647 (2023).
3. Kipping, D. and **Yahalomi D. A.** “A search for transit timing variations within the exomoon corridor using Kepler data.” *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 518, 3 (2023).
2. Christian, S. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A. (fourth author)** “A Possible Alignment Between the Orbits of Planetary Systems and their Visual Binary Companions.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 163, 5 (2022).
1. Palatnick S., Kipping D., and **Yahalomi D. A.** “Validation of HD 183579b Using Archival Radial Velocities: A Warm Neptune Orbiting a Bright Solar Analog.” *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, 909, 1 (2021).

### TESS Collaboration Papers

*My authorship results from my contributions to mission planning, ground-based observing, and/or internal data analysis in the TESS collaboration. In all such instances, I provided substantive feedback on the manuscript.*

18. Giacalone, S. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Validation of 13 Hot and Potentially Terrestrial TESS Planets.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 163, 2 (2022).
17. Ikwut-Ukwa, M. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Two Massive Jupiters in Eccentric Orbits from the TESS Full Frame Images.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 163, 1 (2022).
16. Scarsdale, N. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TESS-Keck Survey. V. Twin Sub-Neptunes Transiting the Nearby G Star HD 63935.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 162, 5 (2021).
15. Teske, J. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “The Magellan-TESS Survey. I. Survey Description and Midsurvey Results.” *The Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series*, 256, 2 (2021).
14. Hoyer, S. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TOI-220 b: a warm sub-Neptune discovered by TESS.” *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 505, 3 (2021).
13. Dong, J. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Warm Jupiters in TESS Full-Frame Images: A Catalog and Observed Eccentricity Distribution for Year 1.” *The Astrophysical Journal Supplement*, 255, 1 (2021).
12. Guerrero, N. M. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “The TESS Objects of Interest Catalog from the TESS Prime Mission.” *The Astrophysical Journal Supplement*, 254, 2 (2021).
11. Rodriguez, J. E. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TESS Delivers Five New Hot Giant Planets Orbiting Bright Stars from the Full Frame Images.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 161, 4 (2021).
10. Zhou, G. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Two Young Planetary Systems around Field Stars with Ages between 20 and 320 Myr from TESS.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 161, 1 (2021).
9. Brahm, R. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TOI-481 b and TOI-892 b: Two Long-period Hot Jupiters from the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite.” *The Astronomical Journal*, 160, 5 (2020).
8. Beatty, T. G. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “The TESS Phase Curve of KELT-1b Suggests a High Dayside Albedo.”

The Astronomical Journal, 160, 211 (2020).

7. Ikwut-Ukwa, M. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “The K2 & TESS Synergy I: Updated Ephemerides and Parameters for K2-114, K2-167, K2-237, & K2-261.” The Astronomical Journal, 160, 209 (2020).
6. Wong, I. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Systematic Phase Curve Study of Known Transiting Systems from Year 1 of the TESS Mission.” The Astronomical Journal, 160, 155 (2020).
5. Mireles, I. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TOI 694 b and TIC 220568520 b: Two Low-Mass Companions Near the Hydrogen Burning Mass Limit Orbiting Sun-like Stars.” The Astronomical Journal, 160, 133 (2020).
4. Wong, I., et al. **including Yahalomi, D. A.** “Exploring the atmospheric dynamics of the extreme ultra-hot Jupiter KELT-9b using TESS photometry.” The Astronomical Journal, 160, 88 (2020).
3. Dragomir, D. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Securing the Legacy of TESS through the Care and Maintenance of TESS Planet Ephemerides.” The Astronomical Journal, 159, 219 (2020).
2. Diaz, M. R. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “TOI-132 b: A short-period planet in the Neptune desert transiting a V=11.3 G-type star.” Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 493, 973 (2020).
1. Rodriguez, J., et al. **including Yahalomi, D. A.** “An Eccentric Massive Jupiter Orbiting a Sub-Giant on a 9.5 Day Period Discovered in the TESS Full Frame Images.” The Astronomical Journal, 157, 191 (2019).

## Advising

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### As Primary Advisor

Undergraduate Students:

- Determining the Mass and Radius of the White Dwarfs in Four Kepler Self-Lensing Binaries, 2023 – .
  - **Yassine Abaakil**, Columbia University Undergraduate.

High School Students (through Harvard SRMP):

- Identifying Transit Timing Variations in Planetary Hierarchical Triples, 2022 – 2023.
  - **Farai Sundai**, CRLS 10th Grade.
  - **Jiajing Liu**, CRLS 12th Grade, Currently a University of Minnesota Undergraduate.
  - **Lila Valaskovic**, CRLS 12th Grade, Currently a Colgate Undergraduate.
- Modeling the Radial Velocities of Four Kepler Self-Lensing Binaries, 2020 – 2021.
  - **Mohammed Sakib**, CRLS 11th Grade. Currently a Harvard Undergraduate.
  - **Tsion Tedla**, CRLS 12th Grade, Currently a Boston University Undergraduate.
  - **Victoria Chen**, CRLS 10th Grade, Currently a University of Toronto Undergraduate.

### As Co-Advisor

- “Democratically” Detrending TESS M-Dwarfs, Summer 2022.
  - **Andrew Zhang**, Columbia Undergraduate.
  - **Avishi Poddar**, Columbia Undergraduate.
  - **Madison Li**, Columbia Undergraduate.

## Outreach

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### Columbia Student Training in Astronomy Research (STAR) Program

Cambridge, MA

– **Founder & Director**

2024 –

– **Research Project Mentor:** Lunar Impact Tracking

2024 –

### Harvard Science Research Mentoring Program (SRMP)

Cambridge, MA

– **Co-Director**

2021 – 2023

– **Research Project Mentor:** TTV Modeling

2022 – 2023

– **Research Project Mentor:** Self-Lensing Binaries

2020 – 2021

– **Associate Director**

2020 – 2021

– **Head of Observing**

2018 – 2020

### Harvard Observing Project

Cambridge, MA

– **Observer:** coordinated and ran weekly observing for undergrads on 16" Clay Telescope.

Jan 2019 – March 2020

## Professional Activities

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- **Journal Referee**, The Astrophysical Journal (2023 – present), Universe (2023 – present).
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Columbia Astronomy Faculty Meeting: 2024-2025.
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Columbia Astronomy Faculty Search Committee: 2024.
- **Graduate Student Faculty Liaison**, Columbia Astronomy Department: 2022-2024.
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Columbia Astronomy Faculty Search Committee: 2022.
- **Member**, American Astronomical Society (2018 – present.)
- **Member**, TESS Follow-up Observing Program (2018 – present.)
- **Associate Member**, Sigma Xi (2020 – present.)
- **Science Alliance Member**, New York Academy of Sciences (2020 – present.)

## Observing Proposals

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### As PI

3. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. "Photometric Confirmation and Ephemeris Refinement of TESS Planet Candidates.", MDM McGraw-Hill 1.3m Telescope 2023b, 8 nights.
2. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. "Photometric Confirmation and Ephemeris Refinement of TESS Planet Candidates.", MDM McGraw-Hill 1.3m Telescope 2022a, 4 nights.
1. **Yahalomi, D. A.** et al. "Photometric Confirmation and Ephemeris Refinement of TESS Planet Candidates.", MDM McGraw-Hill 1.3m Telescope 2022b, 5 nights.

### As Co-I or Collaborator

5. Pooley, D. A. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** "Nano-arcsecond Tomography of the Central Regions of the Quasar in SDSS J0924+0219.", Chandra Cycle 26, Large Target of Opportunity Proposal.
4. Cassese, B. and **Yahalomi, D. A.** "Attempted Recovery of a Distant Trans-Neptunian Object." MDM Hiltner 2.4m Telescope 2022b, 5 nights.
3. Pooley, D. A. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** "Nano-arcsecond Tomography of the Central Regions of the Quasar in SDSS J0924+0219.", Chandra Cycle 24, Large Target of Opportunity Proposal.
2. Pooley, D. A. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** "Nano-arcsecond Tomography of the Central Regions of the Quasar in SDSS J0924+0219.", Chandra Cycle 23, Large Target of Opportunity Proposal.

1. Angus, R. et al. **including Yahalomi D. A.** “Measuring long rotation periods from TESS light curves.”, NASA TESS Guest Investigator program, Cycle 3, large program.

## Selected Talks

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- **Princeton Exoplanet Lunch Talk** (*Princeton, NJ*), May 2024.
- **Bard College Physics Colloquium** (*Annandale-On-Hudson, NY*), April 2024.
- **Columbia Astronomy Public Talk** (*New York, NY*), April 2024.
- **NASA ExoExplorers Talk** (*Zoom*), April 2024.
- **MIT TESS Science Talk** (*Cambridge, MA*), April 2024.
- **Harvard CfA Exoplanet Pizza Lunch** (*Cambridge, MA*), April 2024.
- **Extreme Solar Systems V** (*Christchurch, New Zealand*), February 2024.
- **Weizmann Institute of Science Seminar** (*virtual*), February 2024.
- **University of Colorado APS Seminar** (*Boulder, CO*), January 2024.
- **AAS 243rd Meeting** (*New Orleans, LA*), January 2024.
- **Columbia Pizza Lunch** (*New York, NY*), February 2023.
- **SwRI Boulder Colloquium** (*Boulder, CO*), January 2023.
- **Columbia Pizza Lunch** (*New York, NY*), October 2021.
- **Harvard CfA Stars and Planets Seminar** (*Cambridge, MA*), May 2021.
- **AAS 237th Meeting** (*virtual*), January 2021
- **Princeton Exoplanet Lunch Meeting** (*Princeton, NJ*), November 2019.
- **Harvard CfA Exoplanet Pizza Lunch** (*Cambridge, MA*), November 2019.
- **AAS 233rd Meeting** (*Seattle, WA*), January 2019.
- **MIT Cosmology Undergraduate Workshop** (*Cambridge, MA*), August 2017.
- **Columbia Nevis Laboratory** (*New York, NY*), June 2017.
- **Manhattan Microlensing Conference** (*New York, NY*), June 2017.

## Teaching

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### Columbia Astronomy Department

*New York, NY*

- **Teaching Assistant:** Astrostatistics ... Graduate & Undergraduate Course
- **Instructor:** Observing TA ... Undergraduate Course
- **Teaching Assistant:** Earth, Moon, and Planets ... Undergraduate Course
- **Teaching Assistant:** Stars and Atoms ... Undergraduate Course
- **Teaching Assistant:** Another Earth ... Undergraduate Course

*Spring 2023*

*2021 – 2022*

*Summer 2021*

*Spring 2021*

*Fall 2020*

### MIT Physics Department

*Cambridge, MA*

- **Teaching Assistant:** Intro to Mechanics Review (8.01R)

*Jan 2015*

## Athletics

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### 15th European Maccabi Games

*Budapest, Hungary*

USA Water Polo Team Member. Silver Medal Winner.

*Aug 2019*

### MIT Varsity Water Polo Team

*Cambridge, MA*

Captain (2017). DIII Eastern Champions (2014, 2016). DI Nationally Ranked 20th (2015).

*Aug 2014 – Nov 2017*