

AST1501 - Introduction to Research

Jo Bovy

How to make a personal website

Why to make a personal website

Why to make a personal website

- Astronomical research is a very public endeavour, so people will want to know who you are and how to contact you
- Control the narrative! Have a website with
 - Basic contact info
 - Picture (so people can know what you look like)
 - A brief description of who you are professionally (and, if you want, personally)

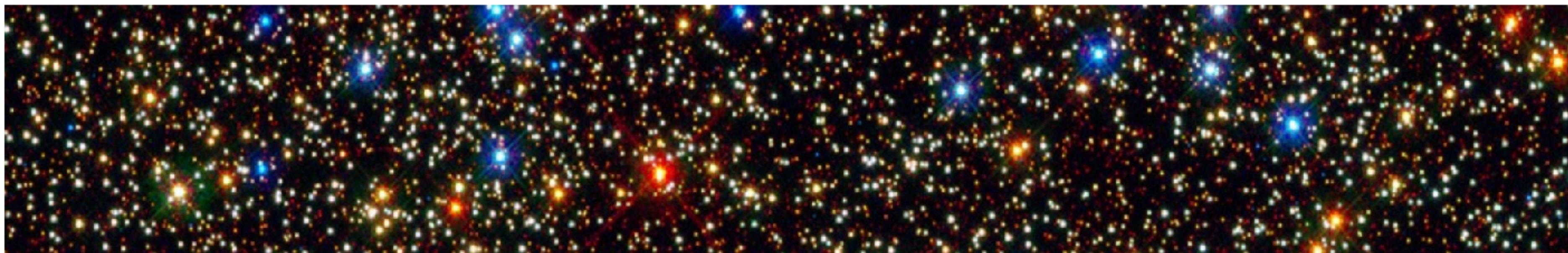
Website components

- Basic info from last slide (easy to find):
 - Who you are, picture, contact info
- Other possible components:
 - Link to PDF CV (remove personal info)
 - Research overview + discussion of latest results
 - > careful, difficult to keep up-to-date
 - Publications
 - Code contributions
 - Other things that you'd like to share
 - Hobbies/personal stuff

Website design

Website design

- Lots of possibilities!
- Main considerations:
 - Easy to navigate (and get the basic info)
 - Modern design that makes content engaging and pleasant to read
 - Easy to keep up-to-date
- Two basic formats:
 - One page that has everything → best choice for a simple, compact website
 - Spread content over multiple pages → useful if you are going to have a lot of different types of content
- Useful to think carefully about your design, because you might be using it for *many* years



Welcome!



I am an Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Galactic Astrophysics in the Astronomy and Astrophysics Department at the University of Toronto. My research is currently mostly focused on understanding the dynamical structure, formation, and evolution of the Milky Way, but I am interested in a variety of problems in astrophysics, especially those that involve large-scale data analysis. These days much of my research revolves around the [Gaia](#) data.

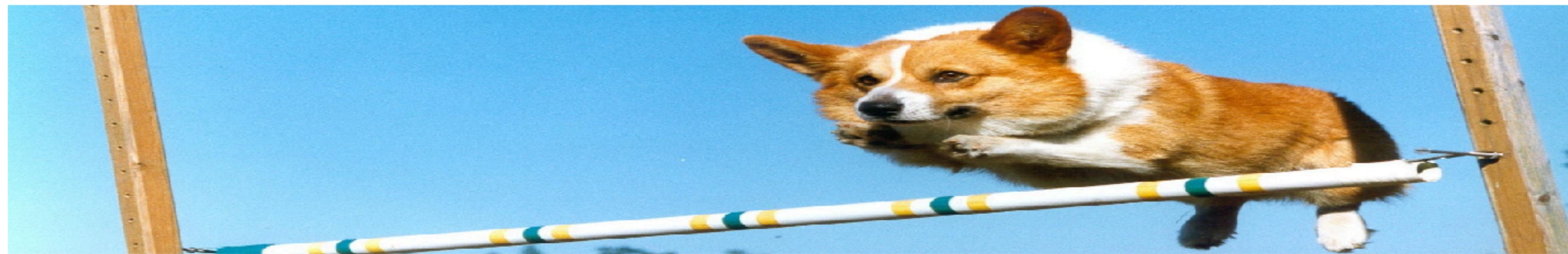
I am the main developer of [galpy](#), a well-tested, well-documented python library for galactic dynamics. For more information on other code with general usefulness, see the [code](#) section of this website or [my GitHub profile](#). I strongly believe that scientific software should be freely available and open source; all of the code used for many of my papers is available online (search for the [code] links on my [publications page](#))

contact info

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address:

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Welcome!



I'm a PhD student in physics at NYU, doing research at the Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics ([CCPP](#)) with my advisor, [David Hogg](#), and others. My research is currently mostly focused on the [Milky Way](#), but I have been working on topics related to the [transparency](#) of the Universe and non-gravitational interactions in the [dark sector](#) as well.

contact info

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address:

Center for Cosmology and Particle
Physics

Department of Physics

New York University

4 Washington Place

New York, NY 10003

Let's look at some examples!

Templates

Two options

- HTML page(s) that you directly edit
- Use templating engine where you write content in different files and the engine turns it into a website
 - E.g., Wordpress, but also Hugo, Jekyll
- Using standard templates rather than rolling your own allows you to “stand on the shoulders of giants”
 - E.g., templates typically will automatically make your website look good on mobile devices

Basic modern (static) websites

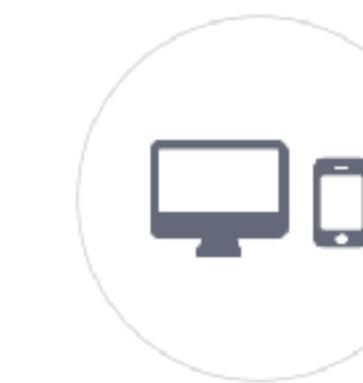
- Combination of
 - HTML: Content, layout
 - CSS: consistent styling across your website
 - Javascript: scripts to make your website animated, interactive
- Having a basic knowledge of at least HTML and CSS will be useful in creating and maintaining your website
- Learn from other websites: “View Source”, or use the Javascript console

HTML5UP

<https://html5up.net/>

HTML5 UP

... makes **spiffy HTML5 site templates** that are:



Fully
Responsive



Built on intelligent
HTML5 + CSS3



Super
Customizable

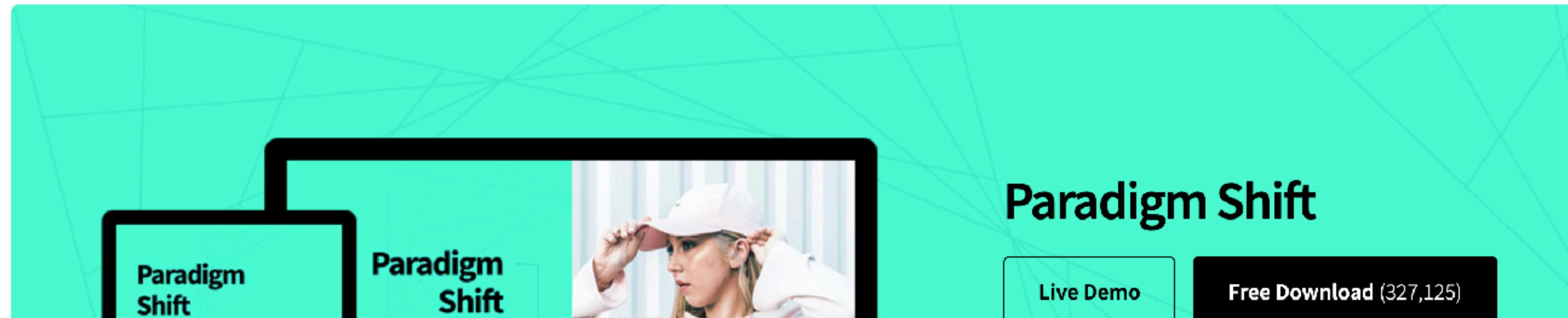


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Paradigm Shift

[Live Demo](#) [Free Download \(327,125\)](#)

Read Only Desktop Tablet Tablet (Portrait) Mobile

Like Post Back Download (238,872)


Willis Corto

*I got reprogrammed by a rogue AI
and now I'm totally cray*

About

Read Only

Just an incredibly simple responsive site
template freebie by [HTML5 UP](#).

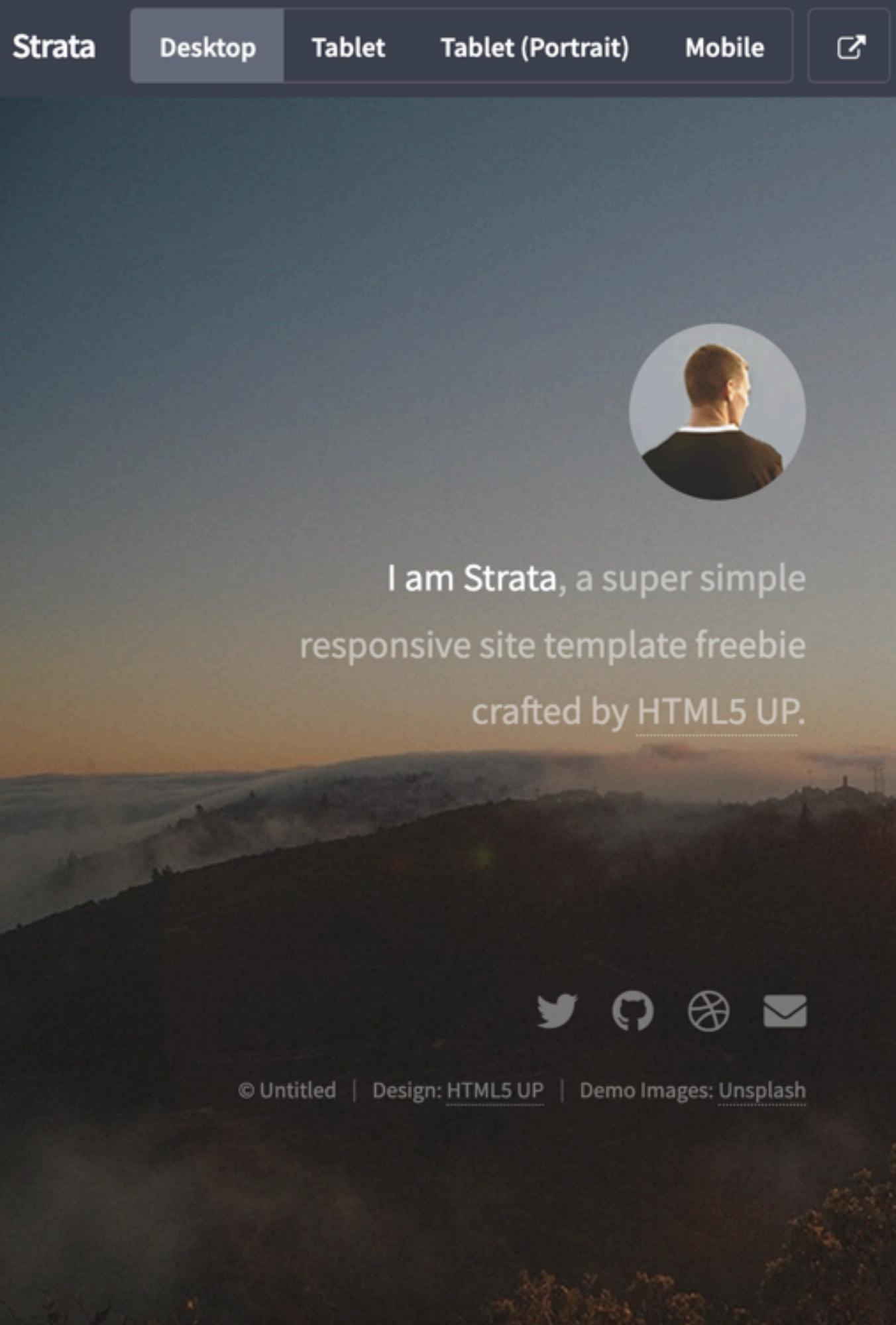
Faucibus sed lobortis aliquam lorem blandit. Lorem eu nunc metus col. Commodo id in arcu ante lorem

Things I Can Do

A Few Accomplishments

Contact





The screenshot shows a responsive website template named "Strata". The header includes navigation links for "Strata", "Desktop", "Tablet", "Tablet (Portrait)", "Mobile", and a share icon. On the right, there are social sharing buttons for "Like" and "Post", a "Back" button, and a prominent red "Download (344,235)" button. The main content area features a large circular profile picture of a man's head and shoulders. Below it, text reads: "I am Strata, a super simple responsive site template freebie crafted by HTML5 UP.". To the right, there is placeholder text: "Ipsum lorem dolor aliquam ante commodo magna sed accumsan arcu neque." and a detailed paragraph of "Lorem ipsum" text. A "Learn More" button is located below this section. At the bottom, there are social media icons for Twitter, GitHub, LinkedIn, and Email, along with copyright and design credits: "© Untitled | Design: HTML5 UP | Demo Images: Unsplash".

Strata

Desktop Tablet Tablet (Portrait) Mobile

Like Post Back Download (344,235)

I am Strata, a super simple responsive site template freebie crafted by HTML5 UP.

Ipsum lorem dolor aliquam ante commodo magna sed accumsan arcu neque.

Accumsan orci faucibus id eu lorem semper. Eu ac iaculis ac nunc nisi lorem vulputate lorem neque cubilia ac in adipiscing in curae lobortis tortor primis integer massa adipiscing id nisi accumsan pellentesque commodo blandit enim arcu non at amet id arcu magna. Accumsan orci faucibus id eu lorem semper nunc nisi lorem vulputate lorem neque cubilia.

Learn More

Recent Work



HTML5UP

<https://html5up.net/>

The screenshot shows a website template named "SPECTRAL". The background is a close-up photograph of a person's face, partially obscured by their hands, which are resting on their cheeks. The person has dark hair and is wearing a light-colored, ribbed garment. Overlaid on this image is the word "SPECTRAL" in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally. Below it is a thin horizontal line. Underneath the line, the text "ANOTHER FINE RESPONSIVE SITE TEMPLATE FREEBIE CRAFTED BY HTML5 UP." is displayed in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the main content area is a red rectangular button with the word "ACTIVATE" in white capital letters. In the bottom right corner of the main content area, there is a small, faint downward-pointing arrow. At the very bottom of the page, just above the footer, is a thin horizontal line with a small downward-pointing arrow at its center. The top navigation bar includes several tabs: "Spectral" (disabled), "Desktop" (selected), "Tablet", "Tablet (Portrait)", "Mobile", and a "View" icon. To the right of these are "Google Translate", "Post", "Back", and a large red "Download (457,893)" button. On the far right of the header is a "MENU" button with three horizontal lines.

But many more options

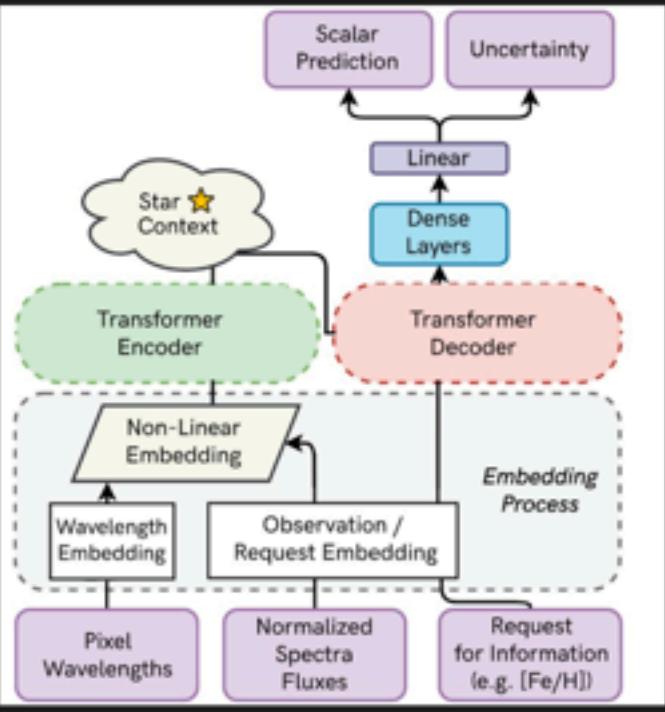
- Good way to find templates: look in the footer of websites you like!

But many more options



Nolan Koblischke
nolan.koblischke@astro.utoronto.ca

Email / LinkedIn / X / Bluesky / Github
2nd year PhD Student in Astrophysics - University of Toronto - Supervisor: Jo Bovy
Developing AI foundation models for Astro
Previously: UBC Bachelor's in Physics, Minor in Computer Science
My LLM tools: ChatGaia, ChatADS, and AstroCoder.

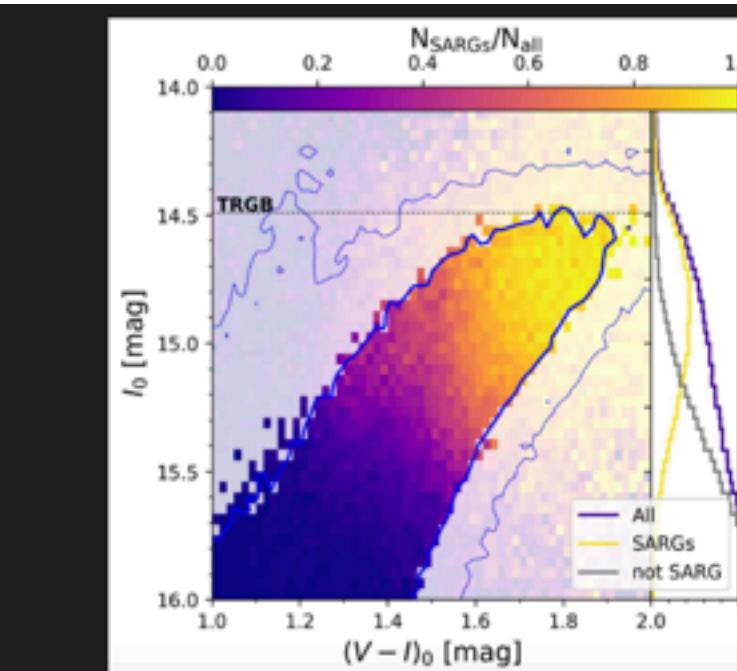


SpectraFM: Tuning into Stellar Foundation Models
Nolan Koblischke, Jo Bovy
NeurIPS 2024 Workshop: Foundation Models for Science (Accepted)
[OpenReview](#)
A Transformer-based model capable of processing stellar spectra across any wavelength range.



Calibrating and standardizing the Tip of the Red Giant Branch in the Small Magellanic Cloud using small-amplitude red giants
Nolan Koblischke, Richard I. Anderson

But many more options



Small-amplitude Red Giants Elucidate the Nature of the Tip of the Red Giant Branch as a Standard Candle

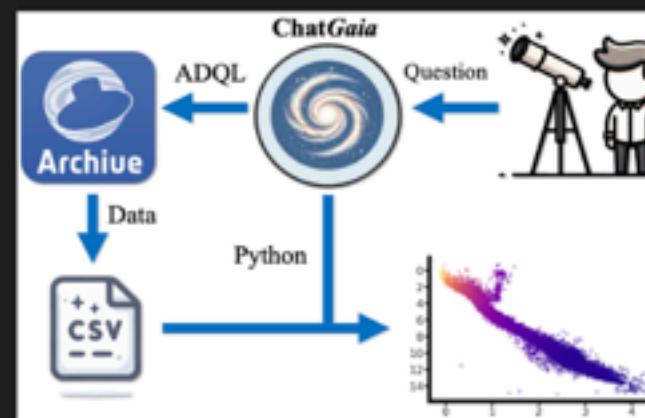
Richard I. Anderson, **Nolan Koblischke**, Laurent Eyer

Astrophysical Journal Letters, 2024

arXiv:2303.04790

Discovered that red giant pulsation adds a new dimension of the TRGB method, leading to an enhanced method for measuring the Universe's expansion rate.

Featured in: EPFL News, Space.com, Universe Today, Phys.org, Tech Explorist, MyScience



ChatGaia: Natural Language Interface to the Gaia Space Telescope

Nolan Koblischke

ChatGaia

A ChatGPT-powered tool enabling natural language interaction with Gaia's database of 2 billion astronomical sources. Reached 68,000+ viewers and used thousands of times.

Talks

- Gravity Bench: A Benchmark for an AI Astronomer - ESO Natural Language Processing in Astronomy
- Gravity Bench: A Benchmark for an AI Astronomer - NLP for Space Science Workshop, ESA/ESAC, Madrid
- SpectraFM: Tuning into Stellar Foundation Models - AstroAI Workshop, Harvard-Smithsonian CfA
- ChatGaia: Talk to the Gaia Archive in Natural Language - Debating the Potential of Machine Learning in Astronomical Surveys, Flatiron

Website Template

But many more options

The screenshot shows a GitHub repository page for the user 'jonbarron' with the repository name 'website'. The page includes a navigation bar with links for Code, Issues (4), Pull requests (6), Actions, Projects, Wiki, Security, and Insights. Below the navigation bar, there's a search bar and buttons for Watch (16), Fork (2.2k), and Star (2.7k). The main content area displays the 'master' branch with 1 branch and 0 tags. A list of commits is shown, each with a author, message, and timestamp. To the right, there's an 'About' section with repository statistics like 'No description, website, or topics provided.', 'Readme', 'Activity', '2.7k stars', '16 watching', '2.2k forks', and a 'Report repository' link. The 'Contributors' section shows 96 contributors with small profile pictures, and a link to '+ 82 contributors'. At the bottom, a 'Languages' section shows a horizontal bar with HTML at 88.5% and CSS at 5.9%. A note at the bottom states: 'This is the source code to Jon Barron's public academic website: <https://jonbarron.info/>. Feel free to clone this code for your own personal use.'

Code Issues 4 Pull requests 6 Actions Projects Wiki Security Insights

Watch 16 Fork 2.2k Star 2.7k

master 1 Branch 0 Tags Go to file Add file Code

jonbarron light 38ec631 · 5 days ago 926 Commits

data bio 6 months ago

images light 5 days ago

mipnerf award! 4 years ago

mipnerf360 formatting 2 years ago

zipnerf dataset link 7 months ago

README.md so many links. 2 years ago

index.html light 5 days ago

stylesheet.css updating the bottom 2 months ago

Contributors 96 + 82 contributors

Languages

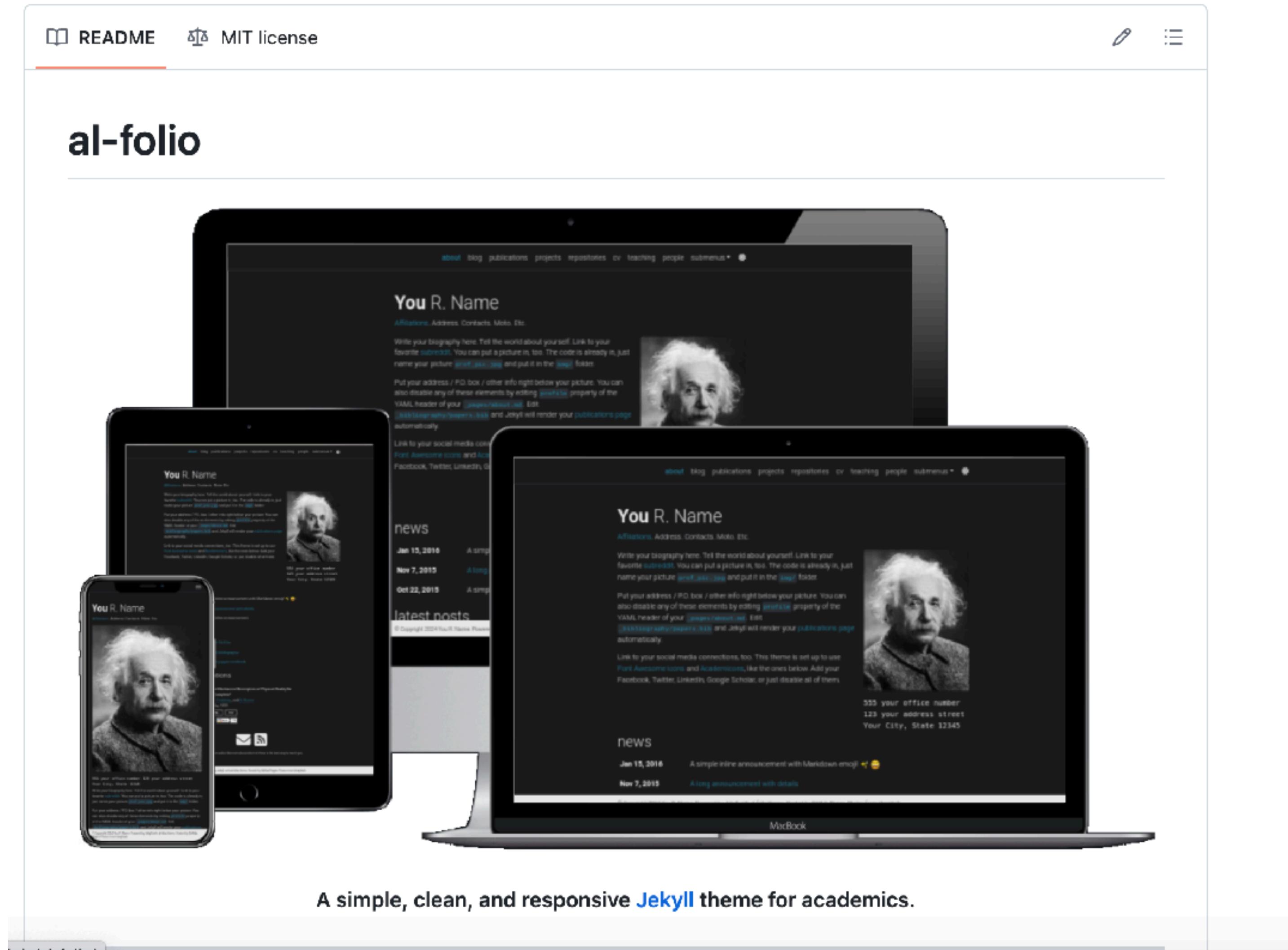
This is the source code to Jon Barron's public academic website: <https://jonbarron.info/>. Feel free to clone this code for your own personal use.

Site generators

- Somewhat easier to maintain when you write text in simple text files that get combined into a website
- Academic website templates can also include automated ways to turn a bibtex file of your publications into a list of publications
- Requires a bit more work to setup and maintain, because you have to rebuild your website whenever you change it (and software may not work on the server you are using)

Site generators: examples

<https://github.com/alshedivat/al-folio>

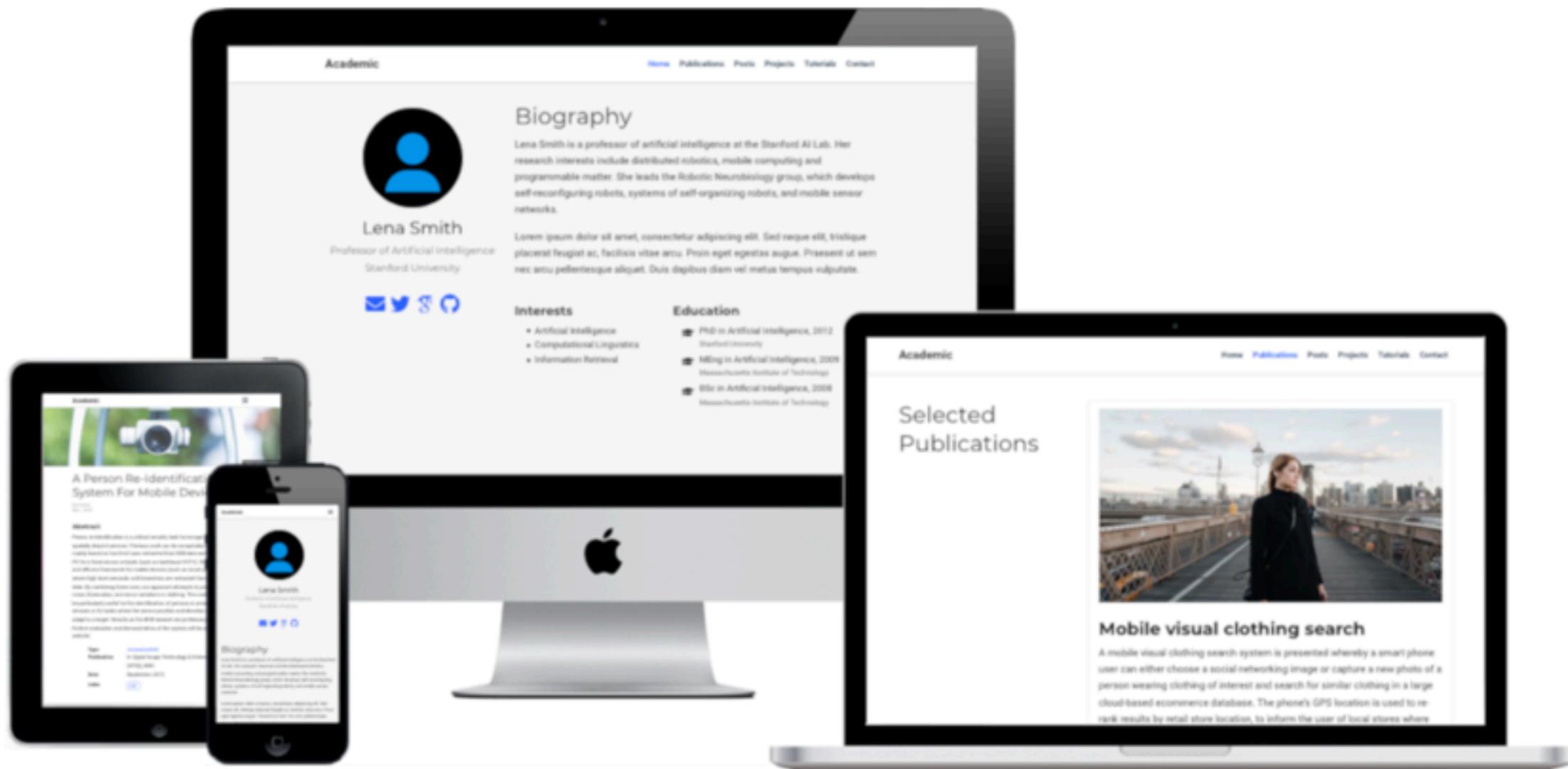


Site generators: examples

<https://github.com/HugoBlox/theme-academic-cv>

README MIT license

Hugo Academic CV Theme



The Hugo Academic Resumé Template empowers you to easily create your job-winning online resumé, showcase your academic publications, and create online courses or knowledge bases to grow your audience.

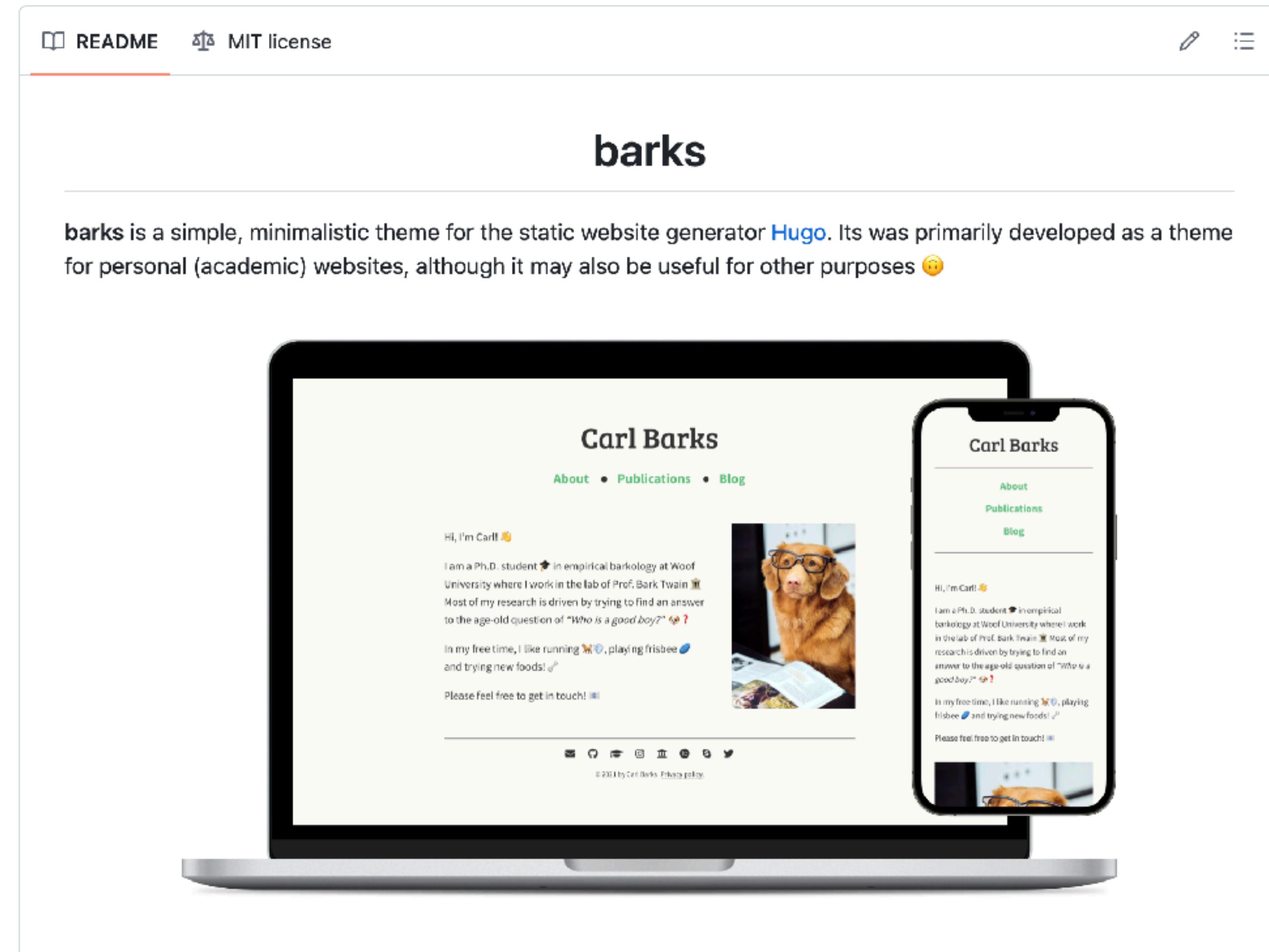
[GET STARTED](#) [CHAT](#) [146 ONLINE](#)

X Follow on Twitter

Powered by over 250,000+ websites and students. Built with the latest technologies.

Site generators: examples

<https://github.com/timothygebhard/barks>



Hosting

Hosting

- You will need to host your website on a server
- Options:
 - Department server: under ~/web
—> appears on astro.utoronto.ca/~username
 - GitHub: can host one website under username.github.io
https://pages.github.com/ gives overview
 - Or host under any other hosting service (usually needs \$\$\$)
- You can also use a custom domain name (e.g., jobovy.org) —> domain name and host are different (e.g., you can have jobovy.org hosted at astro.utoronto.ca/~username or jobovy.github.io)