

Michael G. Jones

Steward Observatory, Tucson, AZ

✉ jonesmg@arizona.edu 🏠 jonesmg.github.io ☎ 0000-0002-5434-4904

Education

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

PHD – ASTRONOMY

2011–2016

Supervisors: Martha P. Haynes & Riccardo Giovanelli

University of Cambridge – Fitzwilliam College

Cambridge, United Kingdom

MSCI & BA – NATURAL SCIENCES (ASTROPHYSICS)

2007–2011

Employment

University of Arizona

Tucson, AZ, USA

2020 – present

- Post-doctoral research associate with David Sand (Nov. 2020 – present)

Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía

Granada, Spain

2016 – 2020

- Juan de la Cierva formación post-doctoral fellow (May 2018 – Sep. 2020)
- Post-doctoral researcher with Lourdes Verdes-Montenegro (July 2016 – Apr. 2018)

Observing Time & Experience

- 2024 **GBT**, PI of 42 h GBT proposal targeting newly discovered “blue blobs.”
- 2023 **VLA+HST**, PI of 3.5 h VLA and 1 HST orbit program targeting newly discovered very low mass galaxy.
- 2023 **MeerKAT**, PI of DDT project to image the neutral gas in the dwarf galaxy Pavo.
- 2023 **VLA**, PI of 27 h VLA C-config project following up satellites with ongoing ram pressure stripping.
- 2023 **ALMA**, PI of an A-rated 70 h ALMA Cycle 10 project to map the molecular gas in known “blue blobs.”
- 2021–22 **VLA**, PI of 42 & 41 h projects to map HI gas in satellite systems and measure kinematics of UDGs.
- 2021–23 **HST**, PI of SNAP project to detect globular clusters in field ultra-diffuse galaxies.
- 2022–23 **GBT+HST**, PI of joint 25 h GBT and 6 orbit HST follow-up program for “blue blob” candidates.
- 2023 **VLA+HST**, PI of 10 h VLA & 2 orbit HST program targeting ultra-faints at the edge of the Local Group.
- 2020–23 **CFHT**, Co-I of MegaCam project to observe satellites in MW-like systems in H α .
- 2021–23 **GBT**, PI of 4 GBT projects (200 h) to search for HI in low-mass systems.
- 2021–23 **Kuiper 61”**, Over 10 nights of solo observing with the Mont4K imager.
- 2018 **GTC**, PI of 25 h of MEGARA IFU project to observe blue, field ultra-diffuse galaxies.
- 2018 **NOT**, 3 nights of observing with the ALFOSC instrument on the NOT in La Palma.
- 2014 **WIYN**, 2 nights of observing with the pODI instrument on the 3.5m WIYN telescope at Kitt Peak.
- Arecibo**, Over 300 h of time awarded as co-PI of the Arecibo Pisces–Perseus Supercluster Survey.
- 2012–19 Over 100 h observing experience with the ALFA and LBW instruments as part of the ALFALFA team for the main survey and associated projects.

Funding & Awards

2024	HST GO program , HST-GO-17607 grant of \$40k.	<i>STScI</i>
2023	HST GO program , HST-GO-17316 grant of \$39k.	<i>STScI</i>
2023	HST GO program , HST-GO-17267 grant of \$56k.	<i>STScI</i>
2021	HST SNAP program , HST-SNAP-16758 grant of \$55k.	<i>STScI</i>
2017	Juan de la Cierva fellowship , a competitive, national-level post-doctoral fellowship (€50k).	<i>MCIU (Spain)</i>
2015	Eleanor York Prize , for service to the community and academic achievement.	<i>Cornell</i>

Talks & Seminars

CONFERENCES

2024	Small Galaxies Cosmic Questions II , Pushing into the semi-resolved regime	<i>Contributed</i>
2024	KICP DGSCS , Building a statistical sample of extremely low mass galaxies	<i>Contributed</i>
2024	Rare Gems in Big Data , Galaxies & cosmology discussions summary	<i>Contributed</i>
2024	AAS243 , Gas and star formation in satellites of Milky Way analogs	<i>Contributed</i>
2023	LSST PCW , Pushing the boundaries of faint galaxies science	<i>Contributed</i>
2023	Sextens , Ultra-diffuse galaxies in low density environments	<i>Invited</i>
2023	AAS241 , Gas-rich, field ultra-diffuse galaxies host few globular clusters	<i>Contributed</i>
2022	DECam at 10 years , Gas-rich ultra-diffuse galaxies in the field	<i>Contributed</i>
2022	AAS240 , Young, blue, and isolated stellar systems in the Virgo cluster	<i>Press Briefing</i>
2019	MIAPP , Ω_{HI} at $z \approx 0$ from ALFALFA	<i>Contributed</i>
2019	SKA Science Meeting , Towards a FAIR understanding of compact group evolution	<i>Contributed</i>
2018	Lorentz Center , Estimating the abundance of gas-bearing UDGs	<i>Contributed</i>
2018	PHISCC , What drives evolution in compact groups?	<i>Contributed</i>
2017	PHISCC , HI scaling relations of the most isolated galaxies	<i>Contributed</i>
2016	3GC4 , ALFALFA HIMF: Accounting for uncertainty and bias	<i>Contributed</i>
2016	AAS227 , The effects of environment in ALFALFA & limitations of HI surveys	<i>Dissertation</i>
2015	PHISCC , Spectroscopic confusion: Its impact on HI surveys and stacking	<i>Contributed</i>

COLLOQUIA AND SEMINARS

2024	ASU , Low-mass galaxy quenching as a test of cosmological models	<i>Seminar</i>
2023	NOIRLab , Pavo: Discover of a star-forming galaxy just beyond the Local Group	<i>Seminar</i>
2022	NOIRLab , Young, blue, and isolated stellar systems in the Virgo cluster	<i>Seminar</i>
2022	STScI , Young, blue, and isolated stellar systems in the Virgo cluster	<i>Seminar</i>
2021	RIT , Are they even galaxies? Extreme mass-to-light ratio, gas-rich systems	<i>Colloquium</i>
2021	ASU , Ultra-diffuse galaxy formation through tidal interaction	<i>Seminar</i>
2021	Steward Observatory , The cool gas content of galaxies from isolation to dense groups	<i>Seminar</i>
2018	Kapteyn Institute , HI-bearing ultra-diffuse galaxies and the HI mass function	<i>Colloquium</i>
2017	University of Exeter , HI galaxy surveys	<i>Seminar</i>
2017	ICRAR , HI scaling relations of isolated galaxies	<i>Seminar</i>
2017	ICRAR , ALFALFA 100% HI mass function	<i>Seminar</i>
2015	ASTRON , The environmental dependence of the HI mass function in $\alpha.70$	<i>Seminar</i>

Service & Leadership

University of Arizona

HST external panelist, HST external expert reviewer, ALMA distributed reviewer (2 cycles), UKRI Expert Reviewer, session chair at Rare Gems in Big Data conference, AAS CSMA Micro-grant reviewer (3 years), refereeing for AAS journals, refereeing for MNRAS

Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía

Led IAA journal club, refereeing for MNRAS

Technical Skills

Languages

Python, IDL, C

Astronomy Tools

astropy, photutils, astroquery, TOPCAT, Aladin, DS9, CASA, Zooniverse, APT, ACS ETC, WFC3 ETC, JWST ETC, DOLPHOT, SoFiA, Stan

Version Control & Reproducibility

git, GitHub, Conda, Zenodo, Bitbucket, CGAT-core

Teaching & Outreach

Research Mentoring

Currently advising UA undergraduates Swapnaneel Dey, Nicolas Mazziotti, and Josué Barceló, who are preparing their first astronomy research papers. In addition, I have mentored Cornell students Jeremy Borden, Johnathan Gomez Barrientos, Johnathan Letai during undergraduate research projects and AP Research high school student Isabel Doty.

Community College Python Course

Prepared lectures and taught part of an astronomy-themed introductory Python course for Pima Community College students.

Teaching Assistant Experience

Two years as a teaching assistant for a large introductory astronomy classes at Cornell. Several guest lectures for 100 and 200-level classes at Cornell and University of Arizona.

Local TV News

Appeared in a KOLD local news interview discussing the discovery of “blue blobs.”

Astronomy on Tap

Public talk at Tucson’s Astronomy on Tap, “Space Drafts.”

Workshop Seminars

Demonstrated observing, lectured and tutored students as part of the Undergraduate ALFALFA Team workshop at Arecibo observatory. Co-wrote and led workshop seminars on Python and TOPCAT for undergraduates working on summer research projects at Cornell.

Journal Club

Created a journal club at the IAA for students and post-docs to discuss recent papers and background for upcoming seminars.

First Author Papers

Corvus A: A low-mass, isolated galaxy at 3.5 Mpc

Jones et al. 2024c

ApJL 971, 37

Dark no more: The low luminosity stellar counterpart of a dark cloud in the Virgo cluster

Jones et al. 2024b

ApJL 966, 15

Gas and star formation in satellites of Milky Way analogs

Jones et al. 2024a

ApJ 966, 93

Pavo: Discovery of a star-forming dwarf galaxy just outside the Local Group

Jones et al. 2023c

ApJL 957, 5

Disturbed, diffuse, or just missing? A global study of the HI content of Hickson Compact Groups

Jones et al. 2023b

A&A 670, 21

Gas-rich, field ultra-diffuse galaxies host few globular clusters

Jones et al. 2023a

ApJL 942, L5

Young, blue, and isolated stellar systems in the Virgo Cluster. II. A new class of stellar system

Jones et al. 2022b

ApJ 935, 51

AGC 226178 and NGVS 3543: Two deceptive dwarfs towards Virgo

Jones et al. 2022a

ApJL 926, 15

Evidence for ultra-diffuse galaxy formation through tidal heating of normal dwarfs

Jones et al. 2021

ApJ 919, 72

The HI mass function of group galaxies in the ALFALFA survey

Jones et al. 2020

MNRAS 494, 2090-2108

Evolution of compact groups from intermediate to final stages: A case study of the HI content of HCG 16

Jones et al. 2019

A&A 632, A78

The ALFALFA HI mass function: A dichotomy in the low-mass slope and a locally suppressed knee mass

Jones et al. 2018c

MNRAS 477, 2-17

The contribution of HI-bearing ultra-diffuse galaxies to the cosmic number density of galaxies

Jones et al. 2018b

A&A 614, A21

The AMIGA sample of isolated galaxies XIII. The HI content of an almost “nurture free” sample

A&A 609, A17

Jones et al. 2018a

The environmental dependence of the HI mass function in ALFALFA 70%

MNRAS 457, 4393-4405

Jones et al. 2016b

When is stacking confusing?: The impact of confusion in deep HI galaxy surveys

MNRAS 455, 1574-1583

Jones et al. 2016a

Spectroscopic confusion: Its impact on current and future extragalactic HI surveys

MNRAS 449, 1856-1868

Jones et al. 2015

The relationship between accretion disc age and stellar age and its consequences for protostellar discs

MNRAS 419, 925-935

Jones et al. 2012

Co-author Papers

All Puffed Up: Tidal Heating as an Ultra Diffuse Galaxy Formation Pathway

Accepted to ApJ

Fielder et al. 2024

The Faint Satellite System of NGC 253: Insights into Low-density Environments and No Satellite Plane

ApJ 966, 188

Mutlu-Pakdil et al. 2024

The AMIGA sample of isolated galaxies - effects of environment on angular momentum

MNRAS 528, 1630

Sorgho et al. 2024

Parameterized Asymmetric Neutral Hydrogen Disk Integrated Spectrum Characterization (PANDISC). I. Introduction to a Physically Motivated H I Model

ApJ 950, 163

Peng et al. 2023

A Generalist, Automated ALFALFA Baryonic Tully-Fisher Relation

ApJ 950, 87

Ball et al. 2023

The quenched satellite population around Milky Way analogues

MNRAS 524, 5314

Karunakaran et al. 2023

The Disturbed and Globular-cluster-rich Ultradiffuse Galaxy UGC 9050-Dw1

ApJL 954, 39

Fielder et al. 2023

NeutralUniverseMachine: An Empirical Model for the Evolution of HI and H2 Gas in the Universe

ApJ 955, 57

Guo et al. 2023

MIGHTEE-HI: The first MeerKAT HI mass function from an untargeted interferometric survey	<i>MNRAS 522, 5308</i>
Ponomareva et al. 2023	
Effects of Active Galactic Nucleus Feedback on Cold Gas Depletion and Quenching of Central Galaxies	<i>ApJ 941, 205</i>
Ma et al. 2022	
HI properties of satellite galaxies around local volume hosts	<i>MNRAS 516, 1741</i>
Karunakaran et al. 2022	
Infall Profiles for Supercluster-Scale Filaments	<i>ApJ 935, 130</i>
Crone Odekon et al. 2022	
Young, blue, and isolated stellar systems in the Virgo Cluster. I. 2-D Optical spectroscopy	<i>ApJ 935, 50</i>
Bellazzini et al. 2022	
Tucana B: An Isolated and Quenched Ultra-faint Dwarf Galaxy at D=1.4 Mpc	<i>ApJL 935, 17</i>
Sand et al. 2022	
Cold Gas Reservoirs of Low and High Mass Central Galaxies Differ in Response to AGN Feedback	<i>ApJL 933, 12</i>
Guo et al. 2022	
Decoding the star forming properties of gas-rich galaxy pairs	<i>MNRAS 513, 2581</i>
Bok et al. 2022	
Hubble Space Telescope Observations of NGC 253 Dwarf Satellites: Three Ultra-faint Dwarf Galaxies	<i>ApJ 926, 77</i>
Mutlu-Pakdil et al. 2022	
Satellites around Milky Way Analogs: Tension in the number and fraction of quiescent satellites seen in observations versus simulations	<i>ApJL 916, 19</i>
Karunakaran et al. 2021	
Star formation and quenching of central galaxies from stacked HI measurements	<i>ApJ 918, 53</i>
Guo et al. 2021	
The dependence of subhalo abundance matching on galaxy photometry and selection criteria	<i>MNRAS 506, 3205-3223</i>
Stiskalek et al. 2021	
MeerKAT-64 discovers wide-spread tidal debris in the nearby NGC 7232 galaxy group	<i>MNRAS 505, 3795-3809</i>
Namumba et al. 2021	
A diffuse tidal dwarf galaxy destined to fade out as a “dark galaxy”	<i>A&A 649, L14</i>
Román et al. 2021	

HI study of isolated and paired galaxies: the MIR SFR-M* sequence	<i>MNRAS</i> 499, 3193-3213
Bok et al. 2020	
WALLABY – An SKA Pathfinder HI Survey	<i>ApSS</i> 365, 118
Koribalski et al. 2020	
Morphology and surface photometry of a sample of isolated early-type galaxies from deep imaging	<i>A&A</i> 640, A38
Rampazzo et al. 2020	
Direct Measurement of the HI-halo Mass Relation through Stacking	<i>ApJ</i> 894, 92
Guo et al. 2020	
A Comprehensive Examination of the Optical Morphologies of 719 Isolated Galaxies in the AMIGA Sample	<i>MNRAS</i> 488, 2175-2189
Buta et al. 2019	
The environment of HI-bearing ultra diffuse galaxies in the ALFALFA survey	<i>MNRAS</i> 490, 566-577
Janowiecki et al. 2019	
The HI content of dark matter haloes at $z \approx 0$ from ALFALFA	<i>MNRAS</i> 486, 5124-5138
Obuljen et al. 2019	
The Arecibo Pisces-Perseus Supercluster Survey. I. Harvesting ALFALFA	<i>ApJ</i> 157, 81
O'Donoghue et al. 2019	
Unveiling the environment and faint features of the isolated galaxy CIG 96 with deep optical and HI observations	<i>A&A</i> 619, A163
Ramírez-Moreta et al. 2018	
The Arecibo Legacy Fast ALFA Survey: The ALFALFA Extragalactic HI Source Catalog	<i>ApJ</i> 861, 49
Haynes et al. 2018	
The Enigmatic (Almost) Dark Galaxy Coma P: The Atomic Interstellar Medium	<i>AJ</i> 155, 65
Ball et al. 2018	
The ALFALFA “Almost Darks” Campaign: Pilot VLA HI Observations of Five High Mass-To-Light Ratio Systems	<i>ApJ</i> 149, 72
Cannon et al. 2015	
HighMass-High HI Mass, HI-rich Galaxies at $z \sim 0$ Sample Definition, Optical and Hα Imaging, and Star Formation Properties	<i>ApJ</i> 793, 40
Huang et al. 2015	
The Clustering of ALFALFA Galaxies: Dependence on HI Mass, Relationship with Optical Samples, and Clues of Host Halo Properties	<i>ApJ</i> 776, 43
Papastergis et al. 2013	