

Kristen Dage

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Research Interests

globular clusters, X-ray binaries, accretion physics, extragalactic astronomy & high energy phenomena

Appointments

- 2020 - present **Postdoctoral Fellow**
McGill Space Institute
Montréal, Québec, Canada
- 2020 **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan, USA

Education

- 2015 - 2020 **Michigan State University**, East Lansing, MI
Ph.D. Astronomy and Astrophysics July 2020
Advisor: S.E. Zepf
Thesis: Long Term Optical and X-Ray Monitoring of Black Hole Candidates in Extragalactic Globular Clusters
- 2015 - 2017 **Michigan State University**, East Lansing, MI
M.S. Astronomy and Astrophysics
- 2012 - 2014 **University of Michigan-Dearborn**, Dearborn MI
B.S. Physics

Observing Proposals

- 2021 **NICER Cycle 3**: Monitoring SMC X-1's reprocessed emission during an epoch of superorbital period excursion, 120ks, **PI: K. Dage**
- 2020 **Gemini South 2021A**: Searching for evidence of outflows in globular cluster X-ray binary M87-GCULX1, 7.2 hours, **PI: K. Dage**
- 2020 **Chandra Cycle 22**: The LMXB population of NGC 3998: Testing for an extreme IMF, **PI: S. Zepf**
- 2020 **HST Cycle 28**: Far-ultraviolet insights into multiple populations in extragalactic globular clusters, **PI: S. Zepf**
- 2020 **NuSTAR Cycle 6**: Complete spectral characterisation of a newly discovered ULX, 40ks and \$20,000 USD, **PI: K. Dage**
- 2019 **Swift** Target of Opportunity proposals, 14ks
- 2019 **Chandra Cycle 21**: A high spatial resolution X-ray survey of the halo of M87, **PI: M. Peacock**
- 2018 **Chandra Cycle 20**: The nature of the two globular cluster ULXs in the galaxy NGC 4472, **PI: S. Zepf**

Awards

2020	Sherwood K. Haynes Graduate Physics Award for Outstanding Graduate Student , Dept. Physics & Astronomy, Michigan State University
2020	MSI Postdoctoral Fellowship Prize , \$144,000 CAD
2019	MSU College of Natural Science Dissertation Completion Fellowship , \$7500 USD
2019	AAS International Travel Grant , \$2000 USD
2014	Outstanding Physics Student , Dept. Natural Sciences, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Teaching Experience

2018	Certificate in Inclusive Inquiry STEM Education from the Institute for Scientist & Engineer Educators Professional Development Program (ISEE PDP), Santa Cruz, CA
2018	Astronomy Instructor - GUPPY (Gifted University for Parents and Precocious Youth) Designed curriculum and instructed a class for 5th-6th graders through MSU's Gifted and Talented Education program. East Lansing, MI
2015 - 2018	Teaching Assistant ISP 205L (Astronomy) Introductory astronomy lab for non-majors, taught a total of eight sections with ~90 students per section Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2011 - 2014	German, Math, Physical Sciences Tutor Academic Support Center Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills, MI
2011	Teaching Assistant PSC 1560 (Physical Science) Physical science lecture+lab course for non-majors, ~ 30 students Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills, MI

Undergraduate Research Supervision

2021	Yifan Sun, McGill University
2021	Jeff Huang, McGill University
2020 - 2021	Emma Barbisan, McGill University
2020 - 2021	Jade Ducharme, McGill University
2020 - 2021	Sneha Nair, McGill University
2020 - 2021	Wasundara Athukoralalage, Michigan State University & Wielenga Scholars Program
2019	Noah Vowell, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2018	Omid Noroozi, Michigan State University

Analysis and Software

- X-ray spectroscopy, imaging and timing analysis (*Chandra*, *XMM-Newton*, *RXTE/ASM*, *Swift/BAT*, *MAXI*)
- Optical spectroscopy (*SOAR/GHTS*, *Gemini/GMOS*, *VLT/FORS2*)
- Ultraviolet imaging and photometry (*Swift/UVOT*, *GALEX*)
- Infrared imaging (*Spitzer/IRAC*)
- Gamma-ray binned likelihood analysis (*Fermi/LAT*)
- Conducting optical observations at *SOAR* observatory, with over 300 hours experience
- Programming: Python (astropy, numpy, scipy, scikit-learn, matplotlib, Keras), Mathematica
- Major astronomical packages: AstroPy, CIAO, HEASoft (XSpec, FTools), IRAF, Fermitools

Academic Service

2021	NICER Time Allocation Committee Panel Member
2020	McGill Physics Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Postdoc Liaison , McGill University, Montréal, QC, Canada
2020	X-Ray Binary Journal Club Organizer , a group for female graduate and undergraduate students to discuss research techniques and high level science questions, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2020	Session Chair , Compact Objects in Michigan 8
2020	Professional Development Seminars Organizer for junior graduate students and senior undergraduate students from Michigan State University and University of Michigan-Dearborn
2017-2018	Mentor for REU students and incoming graduate students through MSU's WAMPS (Women and Minorities in Physical Sciences), East Lansing, MI
2019-2020	co-founder MSU Stellar Mentoring Program for MSU astronomy undergraduates, graduate students and postdocs
2018-2019	Gemini Fast-Turnaround Time Allocation Committee
2016-2020	MSU Astronomy Journal Discussion Organizer , East Lansing, MI

Invited Talks

2021 Jan	Institute of Astrophysics-FORTH, Heraklion, Crete
2020 Dec	Science Briefing, NASA's Universe of Learning, Baltimore, MD
2020 Jun	High Energy Astrophysics Division Virtual Seminar
2020 Feb	McGill Space Institute, Montréal, QC, Canada
2018 Aug	International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research, Perth, Australia
2017 Feb	Gemini South Observatory, La Serena, Chile

Conference and Seminar Talks

2020 Nov	CfA High Energy Phenomena Seminar, Cambridge, MA
2020 Oct	Chandra Frontiers in Time-Domain Science, Cambridge, MA
2020 Oct	McGill Space Institute Lunch Talk, Montréal, QC, Canada
2020 Jun	High Energy Astrophysics Division Virtual Seminar
2020 Jan	AAS 235, Honolulu, HI
2019 Nov	CfA High Energy Phenomena Seminar, Cambridge, MA
2019 Mar	Compact Objects in Michigan 7, Detroit, MI
2019 Mar	17th HEAD Meeting, Monterey, CA
2019 Jan	Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2018 Apr	Compact Objects in Michigan 6, Ann Arbor, MI
2017 Mar	Compact Objects in Michigan 5, East Lansing, MI
2014 Apr	Compact Objects in Michigan 2, East Lansing, MI

Public Talks

2021	Abrams Planetarium Night Sky Chat
2020	MSU Science Festival Saturday Morning Science Talk
2020	Weekly series of at-home experiment-alongs with the Abrams Planetarium, with activities designed in mind for families stuck at home during the pandemic
2020	Science Night at Bennett Woods Elementary School Portable planetarium talks, Okemos, MI
2020	Quiet Adventures Symposium Portable planetarium talks, East Lansing, MI

2019	Astronomy on Tap, "Searching for Gamma Ray Counterparts to Low Mass X-Ray Binaries", Lansing, MI
2018	Astronomy on Tap, "History of Astronomy", Lansing, MI
2017	Capital Area Astronomy Association, East Lansing, MI
2017	Astronomy on Tap, "Observing in Chile", Lansing, MI

Outreach and Volunteer Activities

2020-present	McGill Space Institute Astronomy Trivia Nights co-organizer
2020	Astronomy Workshop Presenter, STEM Santa Fe, 2020 STEM Pathways for Girls conference
2020	MSU Science Festival Exoplanet Demo
2020	Activities leader for Spartan Young Astronomer's Club, East Lansing, MI
2019	Event Supervisor, Science Olympiad State levels Astronomy and Solar System divisions, East Lansing, MI
2019	MSU Science Festival Expo Days Primary Astronomy Organizer, East Lansing, MI
2019	IAU Women and Girls in Astronomy Month Event at Abrams Planetarium, East Lansing, MI
2019	Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics volunteer, East Lansing, MI
2018	Volunteer at MSU Observatory's Nature Night, East Lansing, MI
2018	MSU Science Festival Expo Days (Primary Astronomy Organizer), East Lansing, MI
2016	Volunteer at MSU Science Festival Expo Days, East Lansing, MI
2015	Volunteer, Science Exploration Days, Dearborn, MI
2014	Volunteer, Science Olympiad Regional Solar System division, Dearborn, MI

Publications

Refereed

11. S. Swihart et al (including **K. Dage**), "Discovery of a New Redback Millisecond Pulsar Candidate: 4FGL J0940.3-7610", 2021, The Astrophysical Journal
10. J. M. Miller (including **K. Dage**), "A New Candidate Transitional Millisecond Pulsar in the Sub-luminous Disk State: 4FGL J0407.7-5702", 2020, The Astrophysical Journal
9. S. Swihart et al (including **K. Dage**), "A New Likely Redback Millisecond Pulsar Binary with a Massive Neutron Star: 4FGL J2333.1-5527", 2020, The Astrophysical Journal
8. **K.C. Dage**, S.E. Zepf, E. Thygesen, A. Bahramian, A. Kundu, M.B. Peacock, T. J. Maccarone, J. Strader, "X-Ray Spectroscopy of Newly Identified ULXs Associated With M87's Globular Cluster Population", 2020, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society
7. **K.C. Dage**, S.E. Zepf, A. Bahramian, J. Strader, Thomas J. Maccarone, M.B. Peacock, A. Kundu, M. Steele, C. Britt, "Slow Decline and Rise of the Broad [OIII] Emission Line in Globular Cluster Black Hole Candidate RZ2109", 2019, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society
6. E. Aydi, et al (including **K. Dage**), "Flaring, Dust Formation, And Shocks In The Very Slow Nova ASASSN-17pf (LMCN 2017-11a)", 2019, The Astrophysical Journal
5. **K.C. Dage**, S.E. Zepf, M.B. Peacock, A. Bahramian, O. Noroozi, A. Kundu, T.J. Maccarone, "X-Ray Spectral Variability of Ultraluminous X-Ray Sources in Extragalactic Globular Clusters", 2019, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.
4. Strader, J., et al (including **K. Dage**), "Optical spectroscopy and demographics of redback millisecond pulsar binaries", 2018, The Astrophysical Journal
3. M. A. Tucker, et al (including **K. Dage**), "ASASSN-18ey: The Rise of a New Black-Hole X-ray Binary" 2018, The Astrophysical Journal

2. **K.C. Dage**, W.I. Clarkson, P.A. Charles, S. Laycock, I-C. Shih “*A Search for Spin-Superorbital Period Correlation in SMC X-1*”, 2018, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.
1. **K. C. Dage**, S. E. Zepf, A. Bahramian, A. Kundu, T. J. Maccarone, M. B. Peacock, “X-Ray Variability from the Ultraluminous Black Hole Candidate X-ray Binary in the Globular Cluster RZ 2109”, 2018, The Astrophysical Journal

Unrefereed

7. Tucker, D., et al (including **Dage, K.**), “LIGO/Virgo S190814bv: SOAR spectroscopy of DECam candidates AT2019npw and AT2019num”, 2019, GCN 25484
6. Aydi, E. et al (including **Dage, K.**), “SOAR classification of ASASSN-19qv as a classical nova in the SMC”, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 12907
5. Strader, J.; Chomiuk, L.; **Dage, K.**; Prieto, J. L.; Stanek, K. Z., “ Spectroscopic classification of ASASSN-19kz as a young Type II supernova in NGC 2207”, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 12706
4. Sokolovsky, K.V. et al (including **Dage, K.**), “ASAS-SN Discovery of a Bright Candidate Microlensing Event ASASSN-19cq”, 2019, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 12495
3. Sarbadhicary, S. K., et al (including **Dage, K.**), “SOAR optical spectroscopy of the Wolf-Rayet star WR96 during the dimming event”, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 12511
2. **Dage, K.**, et al, “Spectroscopic Classification of SN 2018agk with SOAR/Goodman”, 2018, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 11433
1. Bahramian, A., Strader, J., **Dage K.**, “SOAR/Goodman optical spectroscopy of MAXI J1820+070”, 2018, The Astronomer’s Telegram, No. 11424