Logan Pearce

ELT Postdoctoral Research Fellow | Univ of Michigan http://www.loganpearce.com/
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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
PhD in Astronomy
August 2024 | Tucson, AZ

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
BS in Astronomy (Honors)
BS in Physics
May 2019 | Austin, TX
Cum. GPA: 3.93 / 4.0

MA in Education
August 2014 | Austin, TX
Conc. in Secondary Engineering Ed.
Cum. GPA: 3.95 / 4.0

NAVAL NUCLEAR POWER TRAINING COMMAND
Reactor Plant Operations & Theory
March 2005 - March 2006 |
Charleston, SC & Ballston Spa, NY

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
BS in Chemistry
May 2003 | W. Lafayette, IN
Cum. GPA: 3.11 / 4.0

LINKS

Website:// loganpearce.com
Github:// github.com/logan-pearce/
LinkedIn:// loganpearce
Bluesky:// @loganpearce.com

WORK EXPERIENCE

UNIV. OF MICHIGAN | ELT Fellow Postdoctoral Researcher
August 2024 | Ann Arbor, MI

UNIV. OF ARIZONA STEWARD OBSERVATORY | Graduate Research Assistant
August 2019 - August 2024 | Tucson, AZ

- PhD candidate in astronomy with specialty in high-contrast imaging.
- Completed requirements for a master's degree in astronomy in Nov 2021.
- NSF GRFP fellow.
- NSF GRFP INTERN program supplemental funding recipient
- Assisted ~20 students with NSF GRFP application preparation as a consultant with the UA GRFP Application Development Program.
- Taught exoplanet-based research projects to student veteran cohorts as part of the Warrior Scholar Project in summer 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- Taught workshops and consulted on application materials for ~25 student veterans applying to graduate school via the Diana Davis Spencer Scholars program.
- Founded the Student Veteran Research Network in August 2021.

UNIV. OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN | Research Assistant + Lab Technician + Writing Center Consultant
August 2015 – August 2019 | Austin, TX

- Assisted >250 students on any piece of writing at any stage as a University Writing Center Consultant for 3 semesters.
- Assisted in all aspects of fabrication and testing of the VIRUS spectroscopic instrument for the Hobby Eberly Telescope Dark Energy Experiment for 2 semesters.

KEALING MIDDLE SCHOOL | Teacher, Physics and Engineering
Aug 2009 – May 2015 | Austin, TX

- Created and implemented accelerated physics curriculum for 6th grade.
- Developed and implemented two engineering elective courses on flight and space exploration.
- Lead a team of ~20 teachers as 6th grade team leader, 2013-2015.
- Obtained master's degree in engineering education in August 2014.

US NAVY | Officer, Nuclear Power Specialist
Mar 2006 – May 2008 | USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74), Bremerton, WA

- Managed all aspects of reactor plant operations as reactor Propulsion Plant Watch Officer in both at-sea wartime and maintenance conditions.
- Managed a team of 30 mechanics maintaining potentially-contaminated reactor plant systems as Mechanical Maintenance Division Officer.

May 2003 – Mar 2005 | USS Samuel B. Roberts (FFG-58), Mayport, FL

- Managed a team of 10 electronics technicians as Combat Electronics Division Officer.
- Managed all aspects of bridge and combat center operations as Bridge and Combat Center Watch Officer.

PUBLICATIONS (REFEREED, SELECTED)

FIRST AUTHOR

- **Pearce, L. A.**, Limbach, M., Males, J. R. (2025) Direct Detection of Known Exoplanets in Reflected Light: Predicting Sky Position with Literature Orbit Solutions, PASP, 137, 094401, doi: 10.1088/1538-3873/ae015e
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Males, J. R., Haffert, S. Y., Close, L. M., Long, J. D., et al. (2025) Five New Sirius-Like Systems with MagAO-X, AJ, 170, 58P, doi: 10.3847/1538-3881/addb50
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Limbach, M. A., et al. (2025) We can directly image super-Earth-sized planets near the habitable zone of Sirius B with JWST/MIRI, JWST Program. Cycle 4, ID. #7612
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Males, J. R., Haffert, S. Y., Close, L. M., Long, J. D., et al. (2023) HIP 67506 C: MagAO-X confirmation of a new low-mass stellar companion to HIP 67506 A *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 521*, 4775, doi: 10.1093/mnras/stad859
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Males, J. R., Weinberger, A. J., Long, J. D., Morzinski, K. M., et al. (2022) Companion mass limits for 17 binary systems obtained with binary differential imaging and MagAO/Clio *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 515*, 4487
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Kraus, A. L., Dupuy, T. J., Mann, A. W., Huber, D. (2021) Boyajian's Star B: The Co-moving Companion to KIC 8462852 A *The Astrophysical Journal 909*, 216
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Kraus, A. L., Dupuy, T. J., Mann, A. W., Newton, E. R., et al. (2020) Orbital Parameter Determination for Wide Stellar Binary Systems in the Age of Gaia *The Astrophysical Journal 894*, 115
- **Pearce, L. A.**, Kraus, A. L., Dupuy, T. J., Ireland, M. J., Rizzuto, A. C., et al. (2019) Orbital Motion of the Wide Planetary-mass Companion GSC 6214-210 b: No Evidence for Dynamical Scattering *The Astronomical Journal 157*, 71

CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR

- Venner, A., Limbach, M., Mâlin, M., Blouin, S., Boccaletti A., & **Pearce, L.** (2025) Serendipitous observation of a white dwarf companion to a JWST/MIRI coronagraphic calibrator *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 536, 1
- Barber M. G., Mann, A. W., et al. (**Pearce, L. A.**, 7 of 35) (2024) A giant planet transiting a 3-Myr protostar with a misaligned disk *Nature* 635, 8039
- Hagelberg, J., Nielsen, L. D., Attia, O., Bourrier, V., **Pearce, L.** et al. (2023) TOI-858 B b: A hot Jupiter on a polar orbit in a loose binary *Astronomy & Astrophysics*, *679*, A70
- Long, J. D., Males, J. R., Haffert, S. Y., Pearce, L., et al. (2023) Improved Companion Mass Limits for Sirius A with Thermal Infrared Coronagraphy Using a Vector-apodizing Phase Plate and Time-domain Starlight-subtraction Techniques *The Astronmical Journal*, *165*, 5
- Dupuy, T. J., Liu, M. C., Evans, E. L., Best, W. M. J., **Pearce, L. A.**, et al. (2023) On the masses, age, and architecture of the VHS J1256-1257AB b system *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 519*, 1688
- Venner, A., **Pearce, L. A.**, Vanderburg, A. (2022) An edge-on orbit for the eccentric long-period planet HR 5183 b *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 516*, 3431
- Christian, S., Vanderburg, A., Becker, J., Yahalomi, D. A., **Pearce, L.**, et al. (2022) A Possible Alignment Between the Orbits of Planetary Systems and their Visual Binary Companions *The Astronomical Journal 163*, 207
- Venner, A., Vanderburg, A., **Pearce, L. A.** (2021) True Masses of the Long-period Companions to HD 92987 and HD 221420 from Hipparcos-Gaia Astrometry *The Astronomical Journal 162*, 12
- Czech, D., Isaacson, H., **Pearce, L.**, Cox, T., Sheikh, S. Z., et al. (2021) The Breakthrough Listen Search for Intelligent Life: MeerKAT Target Selection *Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific 133*, 064502
- Newton, E. R., Mann, A. W., Tofflemire, B. M., **Pearce, L. A.**, Rizzuto, A. C., et al. (2019) TESS Hunt for Young and Maturing Exoplanets (THYME): A Planet in the 45 Myr Tucana-Horologium Association *The Astrophysical Journal 880*, L17

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

INVITED TALKS

- Invited review talk, Frank Bash Symposium, UT Austin, Sep 2025
- Invited speaker, IFA Exoplanets Lunch Seminar Univ of Hawai'i, Sep 2023
- Invited speaker, Exoplanets Seminar Univ of Cali. Berkeley, Jun 2023
- Invited speaker, Lab for Adaptive Optics Seminar Univ of Cali. Santa Cruz, Jun 2023
- Invited speaker, APS Lunch Seminar Univ of Colorado, Oct 2022
- Invited speaker, Gemini Observatory North, Hilo HI, Feb 2019

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

- Magellan Science Meeting, Carnegie Inst., Apr 2025
- Other Worlds Laboratory, Santa Cruz CA, Jul 2023
- Bay Area Exoplanets Meeting, Mountain View CA, Apr 2023
- Alien Earths All Hands Meeting, Tucson AZ, Feb 2023
- Steward Observatory Internal Symposium, Nov 2022

OUTREACH TALKS

- Veteran Status as a DEI Identity, UM Astro Equi-Tea, Feb 2025
- Student Veterans of America National Convention, Orlando FL, 2022
- Astronomy on Tap Tucson, Dec 2021. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-04uo6zsGE
- Astronomy on Tap ATX, May 2019. Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAZRro0Qd7Y&t=291s
- Univ of Texas Astronomy Board of Visitors Winter Meeting, Feb 2019

POSTERS

- GMT Science Meeting, Washington DC, 2023
- Astrobiology Graduate Student Conference, San Diego, 2023
- Spirit of Lyot 2022, Leiden Netherlands, 2022
- AAS Division of Dynamical Astronomy, virtual, 2021
- Exoplanets III, virtual, 2020
- 233rd American Astronomical Society Meeting, Seattle, WA, 2019

WORKSHOPS

- Various, Diana Davis Spencer Scholars, Warrior Scholar Project, 2022-2023
- Research Project Leader, Warrior Scholar Project, 24 July - 29 July 2022
- PhD and Grad School Basics, SVRN (virtual), June 2022
- Resume/CV Workshop, UA VETS Center, Jan 2022
- Graduate School Application, UA VETS Center, Fall 2021
- Research Project Leader, Warrior Scholar Project, 25 July - 30 July 2021
- Research Project Leader, Warrior Scholar Project, 21 June - 26 June 2020

OBSERVING TIME AWARDED

As PI

- JWST GO 7612: 30 hours
- MagAO-X: 48 hours
- Gemini/NIFS: 2 hours

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

POSTDOCTORAL

2025	DEI Certificate	UMich Office of DEI
2024 -	ELT Postdoctoral Fellowship	UMich Astronomy

GRADUATE

2024	Graduate Service Award	Steward Observatory
2023	NSF GRFP INTERN Supplemental Funding	to NASA Ames, April-Sept 2023
2021	Travel Grant	UArizona Graduate and Professional Student Council
2019	Graduate Research Fellowship	National Science Foundation

UNDERGRADUATE

2019	Dean's Honored Graduate	Univ of Texas College of Natural Sciences
2019	George Mitchell Award	Univ of Texas Co-op
2019	Ralph Cutler Green Endowed Scholarship	Univ of Texas Astronomy/ McDonald Observatory Board of Visitors
2018	Astronaut Scholar	Astronaut Scholarship Foundation
2018	Barry Goldwater Scholar	Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation
2018	Jean Perkins Foundation Scholarship	Jean Perkins Foundation Grant for Undergraduate Combat Veterans
2017	Karl G. Henize Endowed Scholarship	Univ. of Texas at Austin Astronomy Department Award
2017	Chambliss Prize Honorable Mention	230th American Astronomical Society Meeting
2017	J. W. Cox Endowed Scholarship	J. W. Cox Endowment for the Advanced Studies in Astronomy
2017	Award for Excellence in Astronomy and Astrophysics Research	College of Natural Science Undergraduate Research Forum, University of Texas at Austin
2017	Jean Perkins Foundation Scholarship	Jean Perkins Foundation Grant for Undergraduate Combat Veterans
2016	Best Presentation	Fall Undergraduate Research Symposium, Univ. Texas
2016	Honorable Mention	Gulf Coast UG Research Symposium, Rice Univ.
2016	Jean Perkins Foundation Scholarship	Jean Perkins Foundation Grant for Undergraduate Combat Veterans
2015	W. Dawson Sterling Endowed Fellowship	Univ of Texas Board of Regents Award

OTHER

2009	Teacher of Promise	Kealing MS, Austin TX
2008	US Navy Commendation Medal	USS John C. Stennis (CVN-74)

BROADER IMPACTS

2025-2026	Member	UMich Astro EquiTEA
2025	DEI Certificate	UMich Office of DEI
2025	Science Organizing Committee	Magellan Science Conference
2024	Panelist & Moderator	Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics
2022-2023	Mentor & Consultant	Diana Davis Spencer Scholars/ Warrior Scholar Project
2021-	Founder	Student Veterans Research Network
2020-2022	Research Project Leader	Warrior Scholar Project
2020-2021	Liaison	Steward Observatory DEI Mentoring Task Force
2019-2024	Host/ Lead organizer	SpaceDrafts (Astronomy on Tap Tucson)
2016-2019	Graphics and Merchandise	Astronomy on Tap ATX
2016-2019	UG Representative	University of Texas Astronomy Department
2016-2017	Co-author	White paper for UT Astro Dept external review
2017	Co-founder	Undergraduate Astronomy Journal Club
2018	Peer mentor	Student Veteran Association

REFERENCES

Dr. Jared Males	Steward Observatory, Univ of Arizona (jrmales@email.arizona.edu)
Dr. Natasha Batalha	NASA Ames (natasha.e.batalha@nasa.gov)
Dr. Alycia Weinberger	Carnegie EPL (aweinberger@carnegiescience.edu)
Dr. Adam Kraus	University of Texas at Austin (alk@astro.as.utexas.edu)