

Curriculum Vitae  
**Michael Y. Grudić**

CIERA  
Northwestern University,  
1800 Sherman Ave,  
Evanston, IL, 60201, USA

mike.grudic@northwestern.edu  
(626) 484-9037  
[www.tapir.caltech.edu/~mgrudich](http://www.tapir.caltech.edu/~mgrudich)

## Education

Ph.D. in Physics 2014-2019  
California Institute of Technology (Caltech)  
Dissertation: *The Role of Stellar Feedback in Star Cluster Formation*<sup>†</sup>  
Adviser: Dr. Philip F. Hopkins

B.Sc. (Honours) in Physics and Applied Mathematics 2009-2014  
Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN)  
Dissertation: *Gravitational Scattering in the Relativistic Kepler Problem*  
Adviser: Dr. John Lewis

## Positions

CIERA Postdoctoral Fellow, Northwestern University 2019-

## Research Interests

- Numerical algorithms for hydrodynamics simulations.
- The dynamics of magnetohydrodynamics, gravity, and stellar feedback in star-forming molecular clouds.
- The formation of star clusters and its connection to galactic environment.
- Developing realistic sub-grid models for star formation and ISM physics in galaxy simulations.
- Formation and evolution of dense stellar systems, including the production of exotic stars and gravitational wave sources.

## Honors

<sup>†</sup> Caltech Robert F. Christy Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Thesis in Theoretical Physics	2018-2019
Caltech James A. Cullen Memorial Fellowship for Excellence in Physics	2017-2018
NSERC Undergraduate Summer Research Award	2011-2013
MUN Medal for Excellence in Physics	2013-2014
MUN Medal for Excellence in Applied Mathematics	2013-2014
Daniel Freeman Memorial Scholarship	2013-2014
Lou Visentin Award	2013-2014
Mrs. E.D. Matthews Memorial Scholarship in Mathematics and Statistics	2012-2013
MUN Faculty of Science Dean's Book Prize (Physics)	2012-2013
Dr. S. W. Brekon Scholarship in Physics	2011-2013
Flight 491 Legacy Scholarship	2010-2013
MUN Faculty of Science Dean's List	2010-2013
Dr. Vincent P. Burke Scholarship	2011-2012
Centenary of Responsible Government Scholarship	2011-2012
MUN Gold Tournament Scholarship	2010-2011
MUN Faculty of Engineering Dean's List	2009-2010
PEGNL Past President's Engineering Scholarship	2009-2010
NOIA-Hibernia Commemorative Scholarship	2009-2010

## Scientific Presentations

IAU Symposium 351: “Star Clusters: from the Milky Way to the Early Universe”. Contributed talk.	2019
Princeton SFIR Seminar, Princeton, NJ, USA	2018
MIT Astrophysics Brown Bag Lunch, Cambridge, MA, USA	2018
“Galaxy Formation and Evolution in Southern California”, Pasadena, CA, USA. Contributed talk.	2018
MPA Cosmology Seminar, Garching, Germany	2018
“Formation of Globular Clusters at High and Low Redshift”, Sexten, Italy. Invited opening keynote.	2018
“Multi-scale physics of SF & feedback during galaxy formation”, Heidelberg, Germany. Invited talk.	2018
UT Austin Theory Seminar, Austin, TX, USA	2018
CIERA Theory Group Meeting, Evanston, IL, USA	2018
231st AAS Meeting, Washington, D.C., USA. Contributed talk and poster.	2018
CITA Seminar, Toronto, ON, Canada	2017
“Modeling Dense Stellar Systems”, Prague, Czechia. Contributed talk.	2017
Caltech Graduate Research Spotlight, Pasadena, CA, USA. Contributed poster.	2017
Galaxy Formation and Evolution in Southern California, Pasadena, CA, USA. Contributed talk.	2017
230th AAS Meeting, Austin, TX, USA. Contributed talk.	2017
Galaxy Formation and Evolution in Southern California, Pasadena, CA, USA. Contributed talk.	2016

## Teaching

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Caltech	2014-2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analog Electronics Lab</li> <li>• Sophomore Experimental Physics Lab</li> <li>• Computational Physics Lab</li> </ul>	
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, MUN	2012-2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Physics I: Mechanics</li> <li>• General Physics II: Waves, Oscillations and Electromagnetism</li> <li>• Mathematics Help Centre</li> <li>• Engineering Help Centre</li> </ul>	
Personal tutor in mathematics, physics, and chemistry at secondary and post-secondary levels	2008-2012

## Outreach and Service

Caltech Astronomy Outreach	2015-2019
Organizing and volunteering at public astronomy outreach events. Leading a team of telescope operators during public stargazing events, contributing to Q&A panels, and giving informal “Astronomy on Tap” talks.	
Summer App Space - Lab Instructor	Summer 2017
Served as an instructor in a summer program in which high school students were taught basic programming and data analysis skills. Mentored a team of students in an open-ended final project.	
MUN Physics and Physical Oceanography Society Treasurer	2012-2014
Organized regular social events and study resources for physics students at MUN. Managed the accounts of the Society.	

## First-Author Publications

- [1] Grudić, M. Y. and Hopkins, P. F. “A general-purpose time-step criterion for simulations with gravity.” *MNRAS*, **495**, 4, 4306–4313, May 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/staa1453.
- [2] Grudić, M. Y., Kruijssen, J. M. D., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Hopkins, P. F., Ma, X., Quataert, E., and Boylan-Kolchin, M. “A model for the formation of stellar associations and clusters from giant molecular clouds.” *arXiv e-prints*, arXiv:2008.04453, August 2020.
- [3] Grudić, M. Y., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., and Hopkins, P. F. “The universal acceleration scale from stellar feedback.” *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society: Letters*, **496**, 1, L127–L132, 06 2020. ISSN 1745-3925. doi:10.1093/mnrasl/slaa103.
- [4] Grudić, M. Y. and Hopkins, P. F. “The elephant in the room: the importance of the details of massive star formation in molecular clouds.” *MNRAS*, **488**, 2, 2970–2975, September 2019. doi:10.1093/mnras/stz1820.
- [5] Grudić, M. Y., Hopkins, P. F., Lee, E. J., Murray, N., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., and Johnson, L. C. “On the nature of variations in the measured star formation efficiency of molecular clouds.” *MNRAS*, **488**, 2, 1501–1518, September 2019. doi:10.1093/mnras/stz1758.
- [6] Grudić, M. Y., Hopkins, P. F., Quataert, E., and Murray, N. “The maximum stellar surface density due to the failure of stellar feedback.” *MNRAS*, **483**, 4, 5548–5553, March 2019. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty3386.
- [7] Grudić, M. Y., Guszejnov, D., Hopkins, P. F., Lamberts, A., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Murray, N., and Schmitz, D. “From the top down and back up again: star cluster structure from hierarchical star formation.” *MNRAS*, **481**, 1, 688–702, November 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty2303.
- [8] Grudić, M. Y., Hopkins, P. F., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Quataert, E., Murray, N., and Kereš, D. “When feedback fails: the scaling and saturation of star formation efficiency.” *MNRAS*, **475**, 3, 3511–3528, April 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty035.

## Publications with major contributions

These works were made possible by numerical algorithms and scientific contributions by MYG.

- [1] Guszejnov, D., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Hopkins, P. F., Offner, S. S. R., and Faucher-Giguère, C.-A. “Can magnetized turbulence set the mass scale of stars?” *MNRAS*, **496**, 4, 5072–5088, July 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/staa1883.
- [2] Guszejnov, D., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Offner, S. S. R., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Wetzel, A., Benincasa, S. M., and Loebman, S. “Evolution of giant molecular clouds across cosmic time.” *MNRAS*, **492**, 1, 488–502, February 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/stz3527.
- [3] Hopkins, P. F., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Wetzel, A., Kereš, D., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Ma, X., Murray, N., and Butcher, N. “Radiative stellar feedback in galaxy formation: Methods and physics.” *MNRAS*, **491**, 3, 3702–3729, January 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/stz3129.
- [4] Ma, X., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Quataert, E., Hopkins, P. F., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Wetzel, A., Kim, J.-h., Murray, N., and Kereš, D. “Self-consistent proto-globular cluster formation in cosmological simulations of high-redshift galaxies.” *MNRAS*, February 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/staa527.
- [5] Hopkins, P. F. and **Grudić, M. Y.** “Numerical problems in coupling photon momentum (radiation pressure) to gas.” *MNRAS*, **483**, 3, 4187–4196, March 2019. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty3089.

## Other Co-authored Publications

- [1] Yu, S., Bullock, J. S., Wetzel, A., Sanderson, R. E., Graus, A. S., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Nierenberg, A. M., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Hopkins, P. F., Kereš, D., and Faucher-Giguère, C.-A. “Stars made in outflows may populate the stellar halo of the Milky Way.” *MNRAS*, March 2020. doi:10.1093/mnras/staa522.
- [2] Guszejnov, D., Hopkins, P. F., and **Grudić, M. Y.** “Universal scaling relations in scale-free structure formation.” *MNRAS*, **477**, 4, 5139–5149, July 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty920.
- [3] Guszejnov, D., Hopkins, P. F., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Krumholz, M. R., and Federrath, C. “Isothermal Fragmentation: Is there a low-mass cut-off?” *MNRAS*, **480**, 1, 182–191, October 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty1847.
- [4] Hopkins, P. F., Wetzel, A., Kereš, D., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Quataert, E., Boylan-Kolchin, M., Murray, N., Hayward, C. C., Garrison-Kimmel, S., Hummels, C., Feldmann, R., Torrey, P., Ma, X., Anglés-Alcázar, D., Su, K.-Y., Orr, M., Schmitz, D., Escala, I., Sanderson, R., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Hafen, Z., Kim, J.-H., Fitts, A., Bullock, J. S., Wheeler, C., Chan, T. K., Elbert, O. D., and Narayanan, D. “FIRE-2 simulations: physics versus numerics in galaxy formation.” *MNRAS*, **480**, 1, 800–863, October 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/sty1690.
- [5] Kim, J.-h., Ma, X., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Hopkins, P. F., Hayward, C. C., Wetzel, A., Faucher-Giguère, C.-A., Kereš, D., Garrison-Kimmel, S., and Murray, N. “Formation of globular cluster candidates in merging proto-galaxies at high redshift: a view from the FIRE cosmological simulations.” *MNRAS*, **474**, 3, 4232–4244, March 2018. doi:10.1093/mnras/stx2994.
- [6] Foucart, F., Buchman, L., Duez, M. D., **Grudić, M. Y.**, Kidder, L. E., MacDonald, I., Mroue, A., Pfeiffer, H. P., Scheel, M. A., and Szilagyi, B. “First direct comparison of nondisrupting neutron star-black hole and binary black hole merger simulations.” *Phys. Rev. D*, **88**, 064017, September 2013. doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.88.064017.