Dr Maria-Theresia Walach

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Academic Posts & Education:

Since 03/2017: Senior Research Associate, Lancaster University, UK;

Line Manager: Dr. Adrian Grocott

Undertaking of original research on the NERC-funded projects "SD-WACCM: Predicting the Upper Atmospheric Response to Extremes of Space Weather Forcing" (2020-2023) and "Time Variability of the ionospheric electric field: solar wind driving and atmospheric feedback" (2017-2020):

- Processing and archiving of 22 years of raw data (> 30 TB) from the Super Dual Auroral Radar Network (SuperDARN)
- Co-author of 23 papers and 10 open-source software packages
- Winner of the British Science Assiciation Early Career Lectureship Prize 2022
- PGR teaching: Co-supervisor of two Masters students in Statistics (with Dr A. Gibberd);
 Co-supervisor of PhD student in Physics (with Dr A. Grocott)
- **Seminar coordinator** for the Space and Planetary Physics Group until 2018 (organisation of external speakers and management of **~£1k budget**)
- Convener of the Autumn MIST meeting (Nov. 2020, 2021, 2022), Co-organiser of the RAS
 Discussion meetings on "Global Monitoring of Geospace", "The Global Response of the
 Terrestrial Magnetosphere during Storms and Substorms" (Feb. 2019)
- LOC member for National Astronomy Meeting 2019 and STFC Advanced Summer School in Space Plasma Physics (Sept. 2019)
- Leader of widening-participation project with 10 A-Level students from rural Lancashire
- Participant in national outreach competition I'm a Scientist Get me out of here and active participant in Physics department outreach programme

2013–2017: PhD studying Solar wind-magnetosphere driving at Earth, University of Leicester, UK; Supervisors: Prof. S. E. Milan & Dr. T. K. Yeoman

- Analysis using spacecraft data, magnetometers, radars and numerical modelling
- 3 first author papers: Using physics-based model to test understanding of ionospheric flows with spacecraft and radar data [Walach et al., 2017a]; Comparative studies of magnetospheric responses [Walach and Milan 2015, Walach et al., 2017b]
- Active participation of group's outreach programme
- Undergraduate teaching: Laboratory supervision and marking of lab notebooks

2009–2013: 1st class Honors from the MPhys course in Physics, University of Leicester, UK.

Masters dissertation on auroral observations of substorms

Summer 2010: Research Assistant with Prof. J. Remedios & Dr. H. Sembhi in the Earth Observation Group, University of Leicester, UK.

• **Developing improved cloud flagging procedures** for Envisat data above water to estimate sea surface temperatures

Grants & Prizes:

2022: • Winner of the British Science Association's Early Career Lectureship Prize

2019: • NERC Standard Grant (£704k FEC): Researcher Co-Investigator

- Royal Astronomical Society Small Grant Scheme (£1.4k): Funding for discussion meeting
- Runner-up in the Seaborgium zone of I'm a Scientist Get me out of here
- **2016:** Shortlisted for the University of Leicester Research Images Competition
- Royal Astronomical Society Small Grant Scheme (~£1k): Conference Travel AGU Fall Meeting (San Francisco, US)
 - Best Student Talk: Rishbeth Prize at the National Astronomy Meeting
- Joint First Place: 3-Minute Wonder Competition, Institute of Physics, Midlands Division

Publication Highlights:

- 9 first author publications in Journal of Geophys. Res., Space Weather and A&G, e.g.:
- o M.-T. Walach, A. Grocott, F. Staples, ... (2022), Super Dual Auroral Radar Network Expansion and its Influence on the Derived Ionospheric Convection Pattern, J. Geophys. Res.: Space Physics, 127, e2021JA029559, doi:10.1029/2021JA029559; 1 citation
- M.-T. Walach, A. Grocott, and S. E. Milan (2021), Average Ionospheric Electric Field Morphologies during Geomagnetic Storm Phases, J. Geophys. Re: Space Physics, doi:10.1029/2021JA029337; 4 citations
- M.-T. Walach, and A. Grocott (2019), SuperDARN scatter during geomagnetic storms and geomagnetically active times, J. Geophys. Res.: Space Physics, doi: 10.1029/2019JA026816; 27 citations
- M.-T. Walach, S. E. Milan, K. R. Murphy,... (2017), Comparative study of large-scale auroral signatures of substorms, steady magnetospheric convection events, and sawtooth events, J. Geophys. Res.: Space Physics, 122, 6357–6373, doi: 10.1002/2017JA023991; 13 citations
- M.-T. Walach, and S. E. Milan (2015), Are Steady Magnetospheric Convection Events Prolonged Substorms?. J. Geophys. Res.: Space Physics, doi: 10.1002/2014JA020631; 29 citations
- 14 co-author publications in Space Sc. Rev., J. of Geophys. Res., Space Weather, A&G.
- Co-author of 10 software packages published on Zenodo/Github.

Invited Talks:

Conference talks: National Astronomy Meeting 15/07/2022, University of Warwick, UK.
Canadian Division of Atmospheric and Space Physics Workshop, 24/02/2022, Canada, virtual.
14th International Conference on Substorms, 03/10/2019, Tromsø, Norway.

Seminar talks: MIST Online Seminar Series, 07/06/2022, UK, virtual.

Magnetospheres Online Seminar Series, 21/03/2022, US, virtual.

Mars Week, 16/03/2022, UK Space Education Office, virtual.

University of Saskatchewan, 28/06/2022, Canada, virtual.

Dartmouth College 02/03/2021, US, virtual.

Ground Induced Currents & Machine Learning Group, 05/05/2020, US, *virtual*.

University of Southampton, 30/04/2019, Southampton, UK.

Mullard Space Science Laboratory (UCL), 19/03/2019, Surrey, UK.

University of Leicester, 16/01/2019, Leicester, UK.

Lancaster University, 18/03/2017, Lancaster, UK.

Swedish Institute of Space Physics Uppsala, 03/02/2016, Uppsala, Sweden.

Community Leadership:

- Panel member of Royal Astronomical Society Grants, Awards and Prize Review (2020/21).
- Chair of the MIST Awards Taskforce Team (since 2019).
- Elected member of the MIST (Magnetosphere, Ionosphere and Solar-Terrestrial) Community Council since August 2019 (www.mist.ac.uk).
- **Session convener** at the SuperDARN workshops in 2015 and 2018, the National Astronomy Meeting in 2019, 2021 and 2022, and the 14th International Conference on Substorms in 2019.
- Organiser of the 2021 and 2020 Annual Autumn MIST meeting
- Reviewer for Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Science (since 2022); Nature Astronomy (since 2020); Annales Geophysicae (since 2019); Journal of Geophysical Research Space Physics (since 2014).
- Member of SuperDARN Data Standards Working Group and Spacecraft Scheduling Working Group and Data Analysis Working Group.
- Member of the Solar wind Magnetosphere Ionospheric Link Explorer (SMILE) ESA/CAS mission consortium and member of Ground-based support mission team.
- External examiner for the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.

Public Engagement:

- Invited Talk at Mars Week 2022: How the Aurora Lights Up Space, 2022, UK Space Education Office, virtual.
- Presenting Journey across the Solar System, Light Up Lancaster, 2017.
- Outreach talk, explaining research to the public, Pub-hD talk, Leicester, UK: 2015.
- Setting up & talking to visitors at the Stargazing Live Event, Leicester, UK.
- 2015: ionospheric & magnetospheric phenomena; 2014: Space Weather; 2013: Supernovae, Gamma Ray Bursts & SWIFT.
- Outreach talk, explaining research to the public, Pub-hD talk, Leicester, UK: 2015.
- 3 Minute Presentation to a non-specialist audience explaining my research, **3 Minute Wonder Competition**, Institute of Physics: **2014 & 2015**.