

NICOLAS KURTOVIC

Postdoctoral Researcher
Max Planck Institute for Astronomy

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRENT POSITION

Max Planck Institute for Astronomy
Postdoctoral researcher at the PSF Department. Sept 2025 - Feb 2026
Advisor: Myriam Benisty

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics
Postdoctoral researcher at the IR-Group. Sept 2023 - Aug 2025
Advisor: Ewine van Dishoeck

Max Planck Institute for Astronomy
Ph.D. in Astronomy. Advisor: Paola Pinilla Sept 2019 - Aug 2023
Thesis: "Origin and characterization of disks substructures, and their relation to stellar hosts"

Universidad de Chile
M.Sc. in Astronomy. Advisor: Laura Pérez 2017 - 2019
B.Sc. in Astronomy 2012 - 2016

SERVICE AND AWARDS

Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC) for ESO-Gruber Summer School.	2025
Poster prize, most voted poster at International Conference.	2024
ESO: New Heights in Planet Formation, Garching.	
Public outreach talks at MPE (English).	2024
Journal Referee (<i>MNRAS</i> , <i>A&A</i> , <i>ApJ</i>).	2021-Present
Co-organizer of the EDEN Science Workshop, Dec. 2021. Online workshop.	2021
Dual anonymous peer-review for ALMA 8, 8b, 9, 10, 11, 12, and ESO P110.	2021-Present
Designated reviewer in 16 proposals	
Coordinator of EDEN project at MPIA.	2020-2022
Organized a total of 100 nights at the 1.23m telescope in CAHA. Published in Dietrich et al., (incl. Kurtovic, 2023)	
Student Representative of the IMPRS-HD Generation 2023.	2019-2020
Estímulo para proyectos de estudiantes de postgrado (funding for outreach)	2017
Outstanding Student - Universidad de Chile	2015

OBSERVATIONAL EXPERIENCE

ALMA, 1 Large Program accepted as PI (Cycle 12, 2025.1.00324.L).
4 Regular proposals accepted as PI, 25 Co-I proposals accepted 2019-2025

1.23m Telescope, CAHA, EDEN Project 46 nights 2019-2022

HARPS, 3.6m Telescope, La Silla Obs. 8 nights 2017-2018

MIKE, Clay Magellan Telescope, Las Campanas Obs. 2 nights 2017

GOTO 45cm Telescope, OAN Chile. Operator 2017-2019;2025

ADVISING

Advisor, 7th ESO Summer Research Programme (6 weeks) 2025
Supervised summer students at ESO, Manuela Leguizamón and Alfonso Pisapia, in the projects “Recovering the orbit of interacting binaries” and “Study on the rotation of water around a proto-black hole”.

Co-Advisor, Bachelor’s thesis Spring 2025
Supervision of Bachelor’s students at Leiden University, Olivier Coopmann & Philip Stoot. “The Impact of Stellar Multiplicity on the Dust Content of Disks around Young Stellar Objects”.

Co-Advisor, Master’s thesis 2023-2024
Co-supervised the Master’s thesis of Sreejita Das. “A Global Model of TW Hya’s outer dust-disk with ALMA”.
Published in Das, Kurtovic, Flock (2024).

Co-Advisor, Red de Estudiantes Colombianos Astronomia. (10 weeks) 2022
Supervised summer intern Julian Gaviria (undergraduate student).

Co-Advisor, Universidad de Chile. (4 weeks) 2019
Supervised summer intern Jaime Castillo (undergraduate student).

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, Heidelberg University, 2 semesters (6hrs/week) 2021
“Statistical Methods”

Instructor, Universidad de Chile. 2018 - 2019
Trained high-school teachers in “Experimental Sciences for the Classroom” one month in 2018, one month in 2019, and one weekend in 2019. Duties consisted in supporting experiments and guiding discussions. (4hrs/week)

Teaching Assistant, Universidad de Chile, 10 semesters (6hrs/week) 2015 - 2019
Including “Multivariable calculus” (x1), “Advanced Calculus” (x1), “General Astronomy” (x2), “Planetary Science” (x2), and “Stellar Astrophysics” (x5),

Math Tutor, Adult Education. (2hrs/week) 2017
Taught math to adults who wanted to complete their high school education.

Volunteer Teacher, (10hrs/week) 2014 - 2015, 2018
Taught Maths, Chemistry, and Physics in after-school programs for students from under-privileged communities.