

# Michael Radica | Curriculum Vitae

Ph.D Student - Université de Montréal

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🌐 radicamc.github.io

## General Information

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- Nationality: Canadian
- Languages: English (Native), French (Advanced)
- Affiliations: Canadian Astronomical Society (CASCAS), Centre de Recherche en Astrophysique du Québec (CRAQ), Institute for Exoplanet Research (iREx)
- Research Interests:
  - Exoplanet atmosphere characterization
  - Links between atmospheric chemistry and planet formation
  - Exotic atmospheric chemistry
  - Development of astronomical data analysis tools

## Education

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- **Ph.D., Physique** Sept 2019 - present  
Université de Montréal, Montréal QC, Canada  
Supervisor: Dr. David Lafrenière  
GPA: 4.3/4.3
- **M.Sc., Physics & Astronomy** Sept 2017 - Aug 2019  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada  
Supervisor: Dr. Douglas Welch  
GPA: 11.7/12
- **B.Sc. Summa Cum Laude, Honours Physics Co-op** Sept 2012 - Apr 2017  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada  
GPA: 11.3/12

## Employment & Research Experience

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- **Ph.D. Researcher** Sept 2019 - present  
Supervisor: Dr. David Lafrenière  
Université de Montréal, Montréal QC, Canada
  - Drawing links between atmospheric chemistry of exoplanets and their formation histories using next generation instrumentation.
- **M.Sc. Researcher** Sept 2017 - Aug 2019  
Supervisor: Dr. Douglas Welch  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
  - Developed a novel method to search for light echoes from core-collapse supernovae using the SITELLE instrument on the CFHT.
- **Planetarium Presenter** Sept 2017 - Aug 2019  
William J. McCallion Planetarium  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
  - Prepared and presented weekly shows on a variety of popular astronomy topics for the public.
- **Science Intern** Sept - Dec 2017  
Supervisor: Dr. Laurie Rousseau-Nepton

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope, Waimea, HI, USA

- Studied high resolution spectra from NGC 6822, using SITELLE, to quantify variations in dust extinction along different lines of sight.

- **Research Assistant** May - Aug 2017  
Supervisor: Dr. Douglas Welch  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
- **Research Assistant** May - Dec 2016  
Supervisor: Dr. Chris O'Dea  
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada
  - Analysis of emission from galaxy clusters to understand the connection between a cluster's X-Ray morphology and AGN feedback.
- **Honours Thesis Researcher** Sept 2015 - Apr 2016  
Supervisor: Dr. Laura Parker  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
  - Studied the evolution of dark matter haloes comparable in mass to galaxies, within the Bolshoi Cosmological Simulation.
- **Research Assistant** Jan - Aug 2015  
Supervisor: Dr. Judith Irwin  
Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada
  - Data reductions and analysis of radio emission images of galaxies, for the CHANG-ES Consortium.

## Awards and Honours

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- iREx Scholarship (\$1,000) 2019, 2020
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000) 2019 (*declined*)  
Awarded to top 2% of graduate students in Ontario.
- McMaster Symposium Day 1<sup>st</sup> Place Talk 2018
- NSERC - Canada Graduate Masters Scholarship (\$17,500) 2018  
Awarded to <1000 graduate students in Canada.
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000) 2017
- CUPC 1<sup>st</sup> Place Astrophysics Talk 2015, 2016
- McMaster University Dean's List 2013 - 2017  
Awarded to students in the top 5% of their class.
- McMaster President's Award (\$2,500) 2012  
Awarded to top 1% of first year students.

All values in Canadian Dollars

## Refereed Publications

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2. [A Search for Supernova Light Echoes in NGC 6946 with SITELLE](#)  
**Radica, M.C.**, Welch, D., Rousseau-Nepton, L.  
*Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 497, 3297 (2020).
1. [CHANG-ES XXI. Transport processes and the X-shaped magnetic field of NGC 4217: off-center superbubble structure](#)  
Stein, Y., Dettmar, R. -J., Beck, R., Irwin, J., Wiegert, T., Miskolczi, A., Wang, Q. D., English, J., Henriksen, R., **Radica, M.**, Li, J. -T.  
*Astronomy & Astrophysics*, 639, A111 (2020).

## White Papers and Conference Proceedings

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1. [Exoplanet instrumentation in the 2020s: Canada's pathway towards searching for life on potentially Earth-like exoplanets](#)  
Benneke, Bjorn; Cowan, Nick; Rowe, Jason; Marois, Christian; Metchev, Stanimir; Moores, John; Lee, Eve; Boley, Aaron; Doyon, Rene; Cumming, Andrew; Matthews, Jaymie; Lafreniere, David; Strong, Kimberly; Gladman, Brett; Menou, Kristen; Valencia, Diana; Mawet, Dimitri; Cook, Neil James; Ngo, Henry; Albert, Loic; Godin, Paul; Chauhan, Akash; Darveau-Bernier, Antoine; Lee, Junchan; Pelletier, Stefan; Coulombe, Louis-Phillippe; Miles-Paez, Paulo; Marquette, Melissa; Bell, Taylor; **Radica, Michael**; Gerard, Benjamin L.; Ouelette, Nathalie; Dang, Lisa; Naud, Marie-Eve; Moore, Kevin; Lim, Olivia; Wu, Yanqin; Gupta, Prashansa; Bastien, Pierre; Malo, Lison; Gagne, Jonathan; Beauvais, Simon-Gabriel; Cloutier, Ryan; Cadieux, Charles; Talens, Geert Jan; Herman, Miranda; Mann, Christopher; Piaulet, Caroline; Weiss, Lauren; Chan, Jonathan; Speedie, Jessica; Hedgepeth, Josh; Ali-Dib, Mohamad; Ellery, Alex; Lee, Christopher; Thorngren, Daniel; Navarro, Thomas; Nguyen, Giang; Keating, Dylan; Hallatt, Tim  
White Paper for the Canadian Long Range Plan 2020

## Successful Observing Proposals

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2. [Life on Venus? Mapping potentially biotic phosphine on our nearest neighbour](#)  
Caroline Piaulet, Stefan Pelletier, Björn Benneke, **Michael Radica**, Étienne Artigau, Jason Rowe, René Doyon, Neil Cook, Thomas Navarro, David Lafrenière, Anne Boucher  
1 hour, CFHT Semester 2020B, PID: 20BD001
1. [A SITELLE Survey for Highly Broadened H-alpha P-Cygni Profiles in NGC 6946 from Core-Collapse Supernova Light Echoes](#)  
**Michael Radica**, Douglas Welch, Laurie Rousseau-Nepton  
12 hours, CFHT Semester 2018B, PID: 18BC017

## Contributed Talks and Posters

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- *Towards a Robust Extraction Algorithm for NIRISS SOSS Spectra*  
Michael Radica, Antoine Darveau-Bernier, David Lafrenière, Loic Albert & Geert-Jan Talens  
Poster presentation, **Exoplanets 3** Jul 2020  
Heidelberg, Germany
- *NEAT Exploration of Exoplanet Atmospheres*  
Michael Radica, David Lafrenière & Antoine Darveau-Bernier  
Poster presentation, **Canadian Astronomical Society Annual General Meeting** May 2020  
York University, York, ON, Canada
- *A Search for Supernova Light Echoes in NGC 6946 with SITELLE*  
Michael Radica, Doug Welch, & Laurie Rousseau-Nepton  
Poster presentation, **Canadian Astronomical Society Annual General Meeting** Jun 2019  
McGill University, Montréal, QC, Canada
- *The Search for Supernova Light Echoes in NGC 6946*  
Michael Radica & Doug Welch  
Oral presentation, **McMaster University Symposium Day** Oct 2018  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
- *A High Resolution Study of NGC 6822 with SITELLE*  
Michael Radica & Laurie Rousseau-Nepton  
Oral presentation, **Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope Colloquium Series** Dec 2017

Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope, Waimea, HI, USA

- *The Evolution of Dark Matter Substructure in Simulated Galaxy Clusters*  
Michael Radica & Laura Parker  
Oral presentation, **Canadian Undergraduate Physics Conference** Nov 2016  
Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, Canada
- *Probing Correlations between AGN Activity and X-Ray Emission*  
Michael Radica, Ajay Gill, Sarka Wykes & Chris O'Dea  
Oral Presentation, **Summer AstroTea Series** Aug 2016  
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada
- *Segregation of Dark Matter Substructure in the Bolshoi Simulation*  
Michael Radica & Laura Parker  
Poster presentation, **McMaster Honours Thesis Poster Presentation** Jan 2015  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada
- *Studying Radio Haloes of Galaxies with CHANG-ES*  
Michael Radica & Judith Irwin  
Oral presentation, **Canadian Undergraduate Physics Conference** Nov 2014  
Trent University, Peterborough, ON, Canada
- *Quark Stars and Compact Stellar Remnants*  
Michael Radica  
Oral presentation, **McMaster Undergraduate Colloquium Series** Feb 2013  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada

## Committee Membership

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- UdeM Representative, CASCA Graduate Student Committee (2020 - present)
- Graduate Student Liaison, UdeM Equity and Diversity Committee (2020 - present)

## Technical Skills

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- **Operating Systems:** Linux, OS X
- **Programming:** Python, C++
- **Astronomical Data Processing:** CIAO, CASA, IRAF, ds9, ORCS
- **Pubic Speaking:** I enjoy preparing and giving talks to all audiences, and have presented research at numerous conferences.

## Teaching and Mentorship

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- **Co-op Program Alumni Mentor** 2020 - present  
McMaster University  
Mentor to an undergraduate student in the Physics & Astronomy co-op program.
- **Teaching Assistant** 2020 - present  
Université de Montréal  
Marking and presentation of tutorials (*en français*) for courses including:
  - Astrobiologie (Winter 2020)
  - Introduction à la Physique Numérique (Fall 2020)
- **Mentor** Sept 2018 - Aug 2019  
McMaster University  
Mentor to incoming M.Sc student.

- **Teaching Assistant** 2017 - 2019  
 McMaster University  
 Marking and presentation of tutorials for courses including:
  - Introduction to Physics for Engineers (Winter 2017)
  - Planetary Astronomy (Winter 2018, 2019)
  - Introduction to Astronomy (Fall 2018)
  - The Big Questions in Astronomy (Fall 2018)
  - Stellar Structure (Winter 2019)
- **Mentor** May - Aug 2016  
 University of Manitoba  
 Research mentor to two first year undergraduate students.
- **Certified Tutor** 2014 - 2019
  - McMaster Physics Help Initiative (2014 - 2016)
  - McMaster Physics Help Center (Winter 2018)
  - Private Tutor (Fall/Winter 2019)

## Science Outreach

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- Montréal Student Space Association iREx Liaison (2020 - present)
- William J. McCallion Planetarium Presenter (2017 - 2019)
- McMaster Sidewalk Astronomy (2017 - 2019)
- McMaster Fall Preview Lab Tour Guide (Oct 2013)