Rajika Kuruwita

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Research

Star formation, binary and multiple star systems, protoplanetary disks and planets in binary star

systems, MHD simulations, software development. Interests

EDUCATION Australian National University, Canberra, Australia February, 2015 - January, 2019

PhD

• Thesis Topic: "The formation, evolution, and survivability of discs around young binary stars"

• Primary Supervisor: Dr Christoph Federrath

• Secondary Supervisor: Associate Professor Michael Ireland

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia

February, 2010 - January, 2015

MRes. Physics and Astronomy

• Thesis Topic: "Fallback disks and the end of the common envelope phase"

• Primary Supervisor: Professor Orsola De Marco

• Secondary Supervisor: Assistant Professor Jan Staff

BSc. Astronomy and Astrophysics

Work and

University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Post-doctorate researcher (European Union INTERACTIONS fellow) Academic April, 2019 - Present

EXPERIENCE Research the formation of binary and multiple star systems via numerical simulations.

Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

February, 2019 - April, 2019 Research Assistant

Research binary star formation and publish work on episodic accretion and turbulence.

Outreach Assistant December, 2015 - April, 2019

Organise and run outreach observing and site tours for the public, school and scout groups, as well as private groups, as well as design activities for the observatory visitor centre.

Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia

Laboratory Demonstrator February, 2014 - January, 2015

Taught lab experiments for undergraduate students. This also involved marking lab books.

Observatory and Planetarium Supervisor February, 2010 - January, 2015

Coordinated groups, created tours and presentations, operated observatory and planetarium.

Vacation Scholarship Researcher December, 2012 - February, 2013

Simulated light curves to understand the influence of exoplanets on the asteroseismological pulsation

spectrum of stars.

Vacation Scholarship Researcher January, 2012 - February, 2012

Carried out research on nanowires using white light interferometry.

Telescope Time Awarded	 Australian National University 2.3m Telescope PI: Building a Census of Protoplanetary Disks in Binary Star Systems (4 nights) PI: Building a Census of Circumbinary Protoplanetary Disks (3 nights) PI: Building a Census of Circumbinary Protoplanetary Disks (6 nights) PI: Building a Census of Circumbinary Protoplanetary Disks (7 nights) 	
Talks	Distorted Astrophysical Discs May, 2020 (Postponed due to Covid-19)	
	Contributed Talk	Cambridge, UK
	Ramses User Meeting	September, 2019
	Contributed Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark
	Annual Danish Astronomy Meeting	May, 2019
	Contributed Talk	Nyborg, Denmark
	Niels Bohr Institute	January, 2019
	Invited Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark
	Sutherland Astronomical Society Incorporated	September, 2018
	Invited Talk	Sydney, Australia
	Greenlight for Girls National Science Week	August, 2018
	Invited Talk	Canberra, Australia
	University of Tübingen	May, 2018
	Astronomy Seminar	Tübingen, Germany
	Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics	May, 2018
	Astronomy Seminar	Heidelberg, Germany
	Max Planck Institute for Astronomy	May, 2018
	Planet and Star Formation Seminar	Heidelberg, Germany
	Hamburg Observatory	May, 2018
	Astronomy Seminar	Hamburg, Germany
	Annual Scientific Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Au	·
	Contributed Talk	Melbourne, Australia
	Planets in Perculiar Places	April, 2018
	Contributed Talk Interpretional Women's Day Science in the Dub	Sydney, Australia March, 2018
	International Women's Day Science in the Pub Invited Talk	March, 2018
	12th ANITA Theory Workshop	Canberra, Australia February, 2018
	Contributed Talk	Perth, Australia
	Franco-Australian Astrobiology and Exoplanet School and Workshop December, 2017	
	Contributed Talk Canberra, Australia	
	Annual Scientific Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Au	
	Contributed Talk	Canberra, Australia
	11th ANITA Theory Workshop	February, 2017
	Contributed Talk	Hobart, Australia
	Mt Stromlo Students Seminars	December, 2016
	Contributed Talk (Awarded Best Theme Talk)	Canberra, Australia
	6th Australian Exoplanet Workshop	November, 2016
	Contributed Talk	Melbourne, Australia
	Star Formation	August, 2016
	Computational Astrophysics splinter session (Invited) Exeter, UK Annual Scientific Meeting of	
	the Astronomical Society of Australia	July, 2016
	Contributed Talk	Sydney, Australia

February, 2016

Melbourne, Australia

10th ANITA Theory Workshop

 $Contributed\ Talk$

5th Australian Exoplanet WorkshopContributed Talk9th ANITA Theory WorkshopContributed Talk

November, 2015 Sydney, Australia February, 2015 Canberra, Australia

Awards and Honors

- 2020: European Union INTERACTIONS Fellowship
- 2017: Joan Duffield Research Supplementary Scholarship
- 2015: Australian Postgraduate Award
- 2013: Macquarie University Research Training Scholarship
- 2012: Vacation Scholarship (Macquarie University)
- 2011: Vacation Scholarship (Macquarie University)

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Computational Astrophysics

November, 2019

Gave two post-graduate level lectures on computational astrophysics reviewing hydrodynamics and modelling shockwaves. Graduate Student September, 2017 - present

Mentoring ANU graduate student Eloise Birchall in implementing radiative transfer and tracer particles into my simulations. This is to trace environments within protoplanetary disks to determine certain mineral formation sites.

Mt Stromlo Observatory Summer Research

December, 2017 - February, 2018

Co-supervised Isabella Gerard (currently a graduate student at Monash University) on a research project on turbulent magnetic fields and star formation. I am currently co-author on the paper she has submitted for publication from this project.

Mt Stromlo Observatory Winter School

June-July, 2017

Advised undergraduate students Lara Cullinane (currently a graduate student at ANU), Joshua Ho, Lillian Guo and Patrick Armstrong in planning observations and writing telescope proposals.

Computer Skills

- Computing Languages: Python, Fortran and html
- Applications: LATEX, yt, simulation code FLASH, analysis of hdf5 files from hydrodynamic simulations, reducing observational data in fits files, retrieving radial velocities.
- Operating Systems: Unix/Linux, Windows, and Mac.

OTHER

EXPERIENCE

- Founder of Astronomy on Tap Copenhagen.
- Treasurer of Kvinder i Fysik (the Danish women in physics society)
- Member of the Science Organising Committee for the 2016 Harley Wood Winter School.
- Chair of the Organising Committee for the 2016 Mt Stromlo Student Seminars
- Member of the Local Organising Committee for the 2017 Harley Wood Winter School and Annual Scientific Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Australia.

Referee Details

- Professor Orsola De Marco, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Macquarie University, Sydney NSW 2109, Australia. tel: +61 2 9850 4241, email: orsola.demarco@mq.edu.au
- Associate Professor Michael Ireland, Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Australian National University, Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Mount Stromlo Observatory, Cotter Road, Weston Creek, ACT 2611, Australia. tel: +61 2 6125 0288, email: michael.ireland@anu.edu.au
- Dr Christoph Federrath, Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Australian National University, Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Mount Stromlo Observatory, Cotter Road, Weston Creek, ACT 2611, tel: +61 2 6125 0217, email: christoph.federrath@anu.edu.au

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Kuruwita et al., The dependence of episodic accretion on eccentricity during the formation of binary stars, 2020, Astronomy & Astrophysics, Accepted

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Kuruwita & Federrath, The role of turbulence during the formation of circumbinary discs, 2019, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 486, 3647-3663

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Kuruwita et al., Multiplicity of disc-bearing stars in Upper Scorpius and Upper Centaurus-Lupus, 2018, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 480, 5099–5112

- Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.
- Collected the majority of observations.

Kuruwita et al., Binary star formation and the outflows from their discs, 2017, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 470, 1626-1641

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Kuruwita et al., Considerations on the role of fall-back discs in the final stages of the common envelope binary interaction, 2016, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 461, 486-496

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Gerrard et al., The role of magnetic field structure in the launching of protostellar jets, 2019, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 485, 5532-5542

• Co-supervised Gerrard in running simulations and analysing them

Green et al., Testing the binary trigger hypothesis in FUors, 2016, The Astrophysical Journal, 830, 29

• Obtained observational data with Keck and commented on paper drafts.

Childress et al., The ANU WiFeS SuperNovA Programme (AWSNAP), 2016, Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia, 33, 29

• Obtained observational data with Australian National University 2.3m telescope.

Little et al., Phase-stepping interferometry of GaAs nanowires: Determining nano-wire radius, 2013, Applied Physical Letters, 103, 161107

• Obtained experimental data with white light interferometry of nanowires.