Dr. Rajika Kuruwita

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RESEARCH INTERESTS Star formation, binary and multiple star systems, protoplanetary disks and planets in binary star systems, MHD simulations, software development.

EDUCATION

Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

February, 2015 - January, 2019

PhD

Theoretical Studies

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

• Primary Supervisor: Associate Professor Christoph Federrath

• Secondary Supervisor: 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

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies, Heidelberg, Germany

Independent Postdoc Fellow

October, 2019 - Present

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

University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Post-doctorate researcher (European Union INTERACTIONS fellow) April, 2019 - August, 2022

Investigate protostellar multiplicity and binarity on disk evolution.

Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

Research Assistant February, 2019 - April, 2019

Research the formation of binary stars systems via simulations.

Outreach Assistant December, 2015 - April, 2019

Organise and run outreach observing and site tours for the public, school, scout, and 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.

TIME AWARDED

Australian National University 2.3m Telescope

• PI: Building a Census of Protoplanetary Disks in Binary Star Systems (20 nights over 3 years)

LUMI Supercomputer

• CO-I: Embedded Disks: 24000000 core hours over 12 months

• CO-I: Embedded Disks (2021250113): 40000000 core hours over 12 months

SELECTED TALKS Anton Pannekoek Institute for Astronomy

April, 2022

Exeter, UK

Amsterdam, The Netherlands Invited Talk **Distorted Astrophysical Discs** May, 2021 Contributed Talk Cambridge, UK

Niels Bohr Institute January, 2019 Invited Talk Copenhagen, Denmark

September, 2018 **Sutherland Astronomical Society Incorporated Invited Talk** Sydney, Australia

Franco-Australian Astrobiology and Exoplanet School and Workshop December, 2017 Contributed Talk Canberra, Australia

Mt Stromlo Students Seminars December, 2016

Contributed Talk (Awarded Best Theme Talk) Canberra, Australia **Star Formation** August, 2016

Computational Astrophysics splinter session (Invited)

AWARDS AND Honors

- 2021: Kvinder i Fysik (Danish Women in Physics) Prize 2021 Nominee
- 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

Computational astrophysics lecturing

November, 2019 - 2020

Gave post-graduate level lectures on computational astrophysics reviewing hydrodynamics and modelling shock waves.

Laboratory demonstrator

February, 2014 - January, 2015

Taught lab experiments for undergraduate students in physics and astronomy. I also marked lab books.

SUPERVISION

Niels Bohr Institute masters students

August, 2021 - Present

I co-supervised three masters students that worked on producing synthetic observations from my simulations and built a pipeline using machine learning to fit synthetic observations to real observations of young protostars.

Niels Bohr Institute bachelors projects

February-April, 2021, 2022

Supervised 5 bachelor student groups on projects including modelling exoplanet interiors, and n-body simulations of the solar system and stellar systems.

Mt Stromlo Observatory summer research

December, 2017 - February, 2018

Co-supervised honours student Isabella Gerard on a research project on turbulent magnetic fields and star formation. I am co-author on the paper published from this project.

Mt Stromlo Observatory winter school

June-July, 2017

Advised undergraduate students Lara Cullinane, Patrick Armstrong, Joshua Ho and Lillian Guo in planning observations and writing telescope proposals.

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

SERVICES

- OTHER ACADEMIC Reviewer for Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society
 - Founded of Astronomy on Tap Copenhagen in 2020.
 - Treasurer of Kvinder i Fysik (the Danish women in physics society) from 2019 to present.
 - Contributed two popular science articles to the Sunday Space in the Canberra Times.
 - Member of the Local Organising Committee for the 2017 Harley Wood Winter School and Annual Scientific Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Australia.
 - 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.

- REFEREE DETAILS Associate Professor Troels Haugbølle, Center for Star and Planet Formation, University of Copenhagen, Geology Museum, Øster Voldgade 5-7, 1350 København K, tel: +45 35 32 11 41, email: haugboel@nbi.ku.dk
 - Associate Professor 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
 - Professor Jes Kristian Jørgensen, Center for Star and Planet Formation, University of Copenhagen, Geology Museum, Øster Voldgade 5-7, 1350 København K, tel: +45 35 32 41 86, email: jeskj@nbi.ku.dk

REFEREED **PUBLICATIONS**

Kuruwita & Haubølle, The contribution of core-fragmentation on protostellar multiplicity, 2022, Astronomy & Astrophysics, In Review

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Kuruwita et al., The dependence of episodic accretion on eccentricity during the formation of binary stars, 2020, Astronomy & Astrophysics, 641, A59

• Lead author, and conductor of research and analysis.

Kuruwita & Federrath, The role of turbulence during the formation of circumbinary disks, 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.

Jørgensen, J. & **Kuruwita, R.** et al, *Binarity of a protostar affects the evolution of the disk and planets*, 2021, Nature, Volume 606, Issue 7913, p.272-275

• Lead the theoretical component of paper. Conducted analysis of simulations used for comparison with observations.

Gerrard, I., Federrath, C., & **Kuruwita, R.**, 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 contributed to paper writing.

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.