Rajika Kuruwita

CONTACT Centre for Star and Planet Formation

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

EDUCATION

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

Tel: +61 02 9850 7111

February, 2015 - January, 2019

PhD

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

• Primary Supervisor: Associate Christoph Federrath

Australian National University, Canberra, Australia

• 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

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Post-doctorate researcher (European Union INTERACTIONS fellow) April, 2019 - Present Research the formation of binary and multiple star systems via numerical simulations.

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.

Telescope Time	Telescope Time Australian National University 2.3m Telescope		
Awarded	• 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 night	as)	
	• PI: Building a Census of Circumbinary Protoplanetary Disks (7 nights)		
Talks	Astronomy on Tap	August, 2021	
	Invited Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark	
	StarPlan Science days	$\mathrm{June,\ 2021}$	
	Contributed Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark	
	Distorted Astrophysical Discs	May, 2021	
	Contributed Talk	Cambridge, UK	
	Transient Tuesday	March, 2021	
	Invited Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark	
	ESO Hypatia Collouium	February, 2021	
	Contributed Talk	Online	
	Ramses User Meeting	September, 2019	
	Contributed Talk	Copenhagen, Denmark	
	Annual Danish Astronomy Meeting	$\mathbf{May},\ 2019$	
	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	${\bf August,2018}$	
	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 Australi	a June, 2018	
	Contributed Talk	Melbourne, Australia	
	Planets in Perculiar Places	$\mathbf{April},2018$	
	Contributed Talk	Sydney, Australia	
	International Women's Day Science in the Pub	March, 2018	
	Invited Talk	Canberra, Australia	
	12th ANITA Theory Workshop	February, 2018	
	Contributed Talk	Perth, Australia	
	Franco-Australian Astrobiology and Exoplanet School and Worksl	-	
	Contributed Talk	Canberra, Australia	
	Annual Scientific Meeting of the Astronomical Society of Australi	a July, 2017	
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Canberra, Australia

February, 2017

Hobart, Australia

December, 2016

Canberra, Australia

Contributed Talk

Contributed Talk

11th ANITA Theory Workshop

Mt Stromlo Students Seminars

Contributed Talk (Awarded Best Theme Talk)

6th Australian Exoplanet Workshop

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

November, 2016

Contributed Talk

Sydney, Australia

10th ANITA Theory Workshop

February, 2016

Contributed Talk
5th Australian Exoplanet Workshop

Melbourne, Australia

Contributed Talk

November, 2015 Sydney, Australia

9th ANITA Theory Workshop

February, 2015

Contributed Talk

Canberra, Australia

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 AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

Niels Bohr Institute Masters Students

August, 2021 - Present

I am co-supervising two Masters student. One student is working on producing synthetic observations from my simulations and the other is building a pipeline using machine learning to fit synthetics observations to real observations of young protostars.

Niels Bohr Institute Bachelors projects

February-April, 2021

I supervised three groups of students for their bachelors' projects where we modelled the interiors of exoplanets using polytropes.

Computational Astrophysics

November, 2019, 2020

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

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 co-author on the paper published from this project.

Mt Stromlo Observatory Winter School

June-July, 2017

Advised undergraduate students Lara Cullinane and Patrick Armstrong (currently a graduate students at ANU), 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 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.

OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICES

- 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
- 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
- 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 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 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

 \bullet Obtained experimental data with white light interferometry of nanowires.