



REFA AL-AMRI

Astronomy Graduate Student at
Texas A&M Univserity


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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Black holes, galaxy growth and evolution, black hole-host galaxy co-evolution, active galactic nuclei, dark matter.

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

fluent:

Python, \LaTeX , Matlab.

experience with:

IDL, R.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2022 - present	Graduate Research Assistant Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2022 - Spring 2024	Graduate Teaching Assistant Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022	Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Department of Mathematics and Statistics	Washington State University
Fall 2019	Peer Mentor Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture	Washington State University

EDUCATION

2022 - present	Ph.D. Astronomy Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
2022 - present	M.S. Astronomy Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
2019 - 2022	B.S. Physics and Astronomy Mathematics minor Department of Physics and Astronomy	Washington State University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE/ PROJECTS

Research	A JWST View of the Central Stellar and Gas Kinematics of M87 Measuring the stellar and gas kinematics in the giant elliptical galaxy, M87, using JWST NIR-Spec IFU data to obtain the most robust stellar dynamical black hole mass measurement to date.
Project	Modules for Experiments in Stellar Astrophysics (MESA) Exploration Using MESA To study how rotation rate and convection mixing lengths influence the the stellar evolution of different mass stars.
Research	Determining the Population of Blue Straggler Stars in Open Clusters Finding blue straggler stars that are twice as massive as the main-sequence turn-off star of clusters using the GAIA database.
Project	Exploring the Effects of Volume on Reverberation Time Explored the effect of volume on the reverberation time using different simulated rooms while keeping the absorption coefficient and sound source constant.

OBSERVING/GENERAL EXPERIENCE

December 2024	W. M. Keck Observatory - OSIRIS 2024B	2 1/2 night
July 2024	W. M. Keck Observatory - OSIRIS 2024A	1/2 night

February 2024	W. M. Keck Observatory - OSIRIS 2024A	1/2 night
December 2023	W. M. Keck Observatory - OSIRIS 2023B	2 1/2 nights
July 2023	W. M. Keck Observatory - OSIRIS 2023A	2 1/2 nights

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2022 - Spring 2023	Astronomy 101: Basic Astronomy Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2022 - Fall 2023	Astronomy 103: Introduction to Stars and Exoplanets Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2022 - Fall 2023	Astronomy 104: Introduction to Galaxies and Cosmology Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2022 - Spring 2023	Astronomy 314: Survey of Astronomy Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2022	Astronomy 401: Stars and Extrasolar Planets Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Spring 2024	Astronomy 420: Advanced Astrophysical Research Methods Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022	Math 315: Differential Equations Department of Mathematics and Statistics	Washington State University

HONORS AND AWARDS

2022	Department Fellowship Department of Physics and Astronomy	Texas A&M University
2021	Paul A. Anderson Award for Excellence Department of Physics and Astronomy	Washington State University
2019-2022	President's Honor Roll Department of Physics and Astronomy	Washington State University
2019-2021	Physics Textbook Award Department of Physics and Astronomy	Washington State University
2019	Boeing Peer Mentor Scholarship Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture	Washington State University

CONFERENCES, TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

2024	Texas A&M Extragalactic Seminar Talk	Texas A&M University
2024	Astronomy on Tap Talk	Public Outreach Event
2024	Astrosymposium Talk	Texas A&M University
2023	Astronomy Bash Symposium: New Horizons in Astronomy Poster	University of Texas at Austin

2023	Astrosymposium Virtual Talk	Texas A&M University
2022	Astrosymposium Talk	Texas A&M University
2019	Physics and Astronomy Undergraduate Thesis Poster Session Poster	Washington State University