

# Sameer

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## EDUCATION

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2018 – 2022	<b>Ph.D., Pennsylvania State University</b> , Astronomy & Astrophysics <i>Thesis Title: Unveiling the Circumgalactic medium using Cloud-by-cloud, Multiphase, Bayesian Ionization Modeling</i>
2016 – 2018	<b>M.S., Pennsylvania State University</b> , Astronomy & Astrophysics
2007 – 2011	<b>B.S., Indian Institute of Space Science &amp; Tech.</b> , Physical Sciences

## EMPLOYMENT

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2022 – 2025	<b>Postdoctoral Research Associate</b> University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, USA
2015 – 2016	<b>Scientist - SD (Promoted; Observational Astronomer)</b> Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
2011 – 2015	<b>Scientist - SC (Mass Spectroscopist)</b> Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India

## PUBLICATIONS (>500 REFEREED CITATIONS, H-INDEX=13)

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### First Author

- [5] **Sameer**, Lehner, N., Howk, J. C., Fox, A. J., O’Meara, J. M., & Oppenheimer, B. D. (2024). The COS CGM Compendium. V: the dichotomy in the properties of OVI associated with the low- and high-Metallicity HI-bearing gas. *arXiv e-prints*, Article arXiv:2403.02374, arXiv:2403.02374. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2403.02374>
- [4] **Sameer**, Charlton, J. C., Wakker, B. P., Kacprzak, G. G., Nielsen, N. M., Churchill, C. W., Richter, P., Muzahid, S., Ho, S. H., Nateghi, H., Rosenwasser, B., Narayanan, A., & Ganguly, R. (2024). Cloud-by-cloud multiphase investigation of the circumgalactic medium of low-redshift galaxies. *MNRAS*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stae962>
- [3] **Sameer**, Charlton, J. C., Kacprzak, G. G., Narayanan, A., Sankar, S., Richter, P., Wakker, B. P., Nielsen, N. M., & Churchill, C. W. (2022). Probing the physicochemical properties of the Leo Ring and the Leo I group. *MNRAS*, 510(4), 5796–5820. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stac052>
- [2] **Sameer**, Charlton, J. C., Norris, J. M., Gebhardt, M., Churchill, C. W., Kacprzak, G. G., Muzahid, S., Narayanan, A., Nielsen, N. M., Richter, P., & Wakker, B. P. (2021). Cloud-by-cloud, multiphase, Bayesian modelling: application to four weak, low-ionization absorbers. *MNRAS*, 501(2), 2112–2139. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/staa3754>
- [1] **Sameer**, Brandt, W. N., Anderson, S., Hall, P. B., Vivek, M., Filiz Ak, N., Grier, C. J., Ahmed, N. S., Luo, B., Myers, A. D., Rodríguez Hidalgo, P., Ruan, J., & Schneider, D. P. (2019). X-ray and multi-epoch optical/UV investigations of BAL to non-BAL quasar transformations. *MNRAS*, 482(1), 1121–1134. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/sty2718>

## Co-author with major contribution

- [5] Hafen, Z., **Sameer**, Hummels, C., Charlton, J., Mandelker, N., Wijers, N., Bullock, J., Faerman, Y., Lehner, N., & Stern, J. (2024). The Halo21 absorption modelling challenge: lessons from ‘observing’ synthetic circumgalactic absorption spectra. *MNRAS*, *528*(1), 39–60. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stad3889>
- [4] Nielsen, N. M., Kacprzak, G. G., **Sameer**, Murphy, M. T., Nateghi, H., Charlton, J. C., & Churchill, C. W. (2022). A complex multiphase DLA associated with a compact group at  $z = 2.431$  traces accretion, outflows, and tidal streams. *MNRAS*, *514*(4), 6074–6101. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stac1824>
- [3] Narayanan, A., **Sameer**, Muzahid, S., Johnson, S. D., Udhwani, P., Charlton, J. C., Mauerhofer, V., Schaye, J., & Yadav, M. (2021). A partial Lyman limit system tracing intragroup gas at  $z \approx 0.8$  towards HE 1003 + 0149. *MNRAS*, *505*(1), 738–754. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stab1315>
- [2] Kaur, N., **Sameer**, Baliyan, K. S., & Ganesh, S. (2017). Optical intra-day variability in 3C 66A: A decade of observations. *MNRAS*, *469*(2), 2305–2312. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stx965>
- [1] Mishra, R. K., Marhas, K. K., & **Sameer**. (2016). Abundance of  $^{60}\text{Fe}$  inferred from nanoSIMS study of QUE 97008 (L3.05) chondrules. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, *436*, 71–81. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.epsl.2015.12.007>

## Other co-authored publications

- [15] Nateghi et al. (including **Sameer**) (2024). “Signatures of gas flows - I. Connecting the kinematics of the H I circumgalactic medium to galaxy rotation”. *MNRAS*, *533*, 1321–1340. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stae1843>
- [14] Fernández-Figueroa et al. (including **Sameer**) (2024). “Unveiling the complex circumgalactic medium: a comparative study of merging and non-interacting galaxy groups”. *MNRAS*, *531*, 3658–3677. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stae1332>
- [13] Nateghi et al. (including **Sameer**) (2023). “Signatures of gas flows-II: Connecting the kinematics of the multiphase circumgalactic medium to galaxy rotation”. *arXiv e-prints*, **volume**, arXiv:2311.05165. <https://doi.org/doi>
- [12] Dorigo Jones et al. (including **Sameer**) (2022). “Improving blazar redshift constraints with the edge of the Ly  $\alpha$  forest: 1ES 1553+113 and implications for observations of the WHIM”. *MNRAS*, *509*, 4330–4343. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stab3331>
- [11] Marra et al. (including **Sameer**) (2021). “Using cosmological simulations and synthetic absorption spectra to assess the accuracy of observationally derived CGM metallicities”. *MNRAS*, *508*, 4938–4951. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stab2896>
- [10] Pradeep et al. (including **Sameer**) (2020). “Solar-metallicity gas in the extended halo of a galaxy at  $z \sim 0.12$ ”. *MNRAS*, *493*, 250–266. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/staa184>
- [9] Yi et al. (including **Sameer**) (2019). “Broad Absorption Line Disappearance/Emergence in Multiple Ions in a Weak Emission-line Quasar”. *ApJ*, *870*, L25. <https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8213/aafc1d>

- [8] Dey et al. (including **Sameer**) (2018). “Authenticating the Presence of a Relativistic Massive Black Hole Binary in OJ 287 Using Its General Relativity Centenary Flare: Improved Orbital Parameters”. *ApJ*, 866, 11. <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aadd95>
- [7] Goyal et al. (including **Sameer**) (2018). “Stochastic Modeling of Multiwavelength Variability of the Classical BL Lac Object OJ 287 on Timescales Ranging from Decades to Hours”. *ApJ*, 863, 175. <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aad2de>
- [6] Kaur et al. (including **Sameer**) (2018). “Optical Variability in IBL S5 0716+714 during the 2013-2015 Outbursts”. *AJ*, 156, 36. <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-3881/aac5e4>
- [5] Kaur, Chandra, et al. (including **Sameer**) (2017). “A Multiwavelength Study of Flaring Activity in the High-energy Peaked BL Lac Object 1ES 1959+650 During 2015-2016”. *ApJ*, 846, 158. <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/aa86b0>
- [4] Ahnen et al. (including **Sameer**) (2017). “Multiwavelength observations of a VHE gamma-ray flare from PKS 1510-089 in 2015”. *A&A*, 603, A29. <https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/201629960>
- [3] Zola et al. (including **Sameer**) (2016). “A Search for QPOs in the Blazar OJ287: Preliminary Results from the 2015/2016 Observing Campaign”. *Galaxies*, 4, 41. <https://doi.org/10.3390/galaxies4040041>
- [2] Baliyan, Kaur, et al. (including **Sameer**) (2016). “Multi-wavelength Study of Blazars Using Variability as a Tool”. *Journal of Astronomy and Space Sciences*, 33, 177–183. <https://doi.org/10.5140/JASS.2016.33.3.177>
- [1] Valtonen et al. (including **Sameer**) (2016). “Primary Black Hole Spin in OJ 287 as Determined by the General Relativity Centenary Flare”. *ApJ*, 819, L37. <https://doi.org/10.3847/2041-8205/819/2/L37>

## **Non Refereed Publications**

- [6] Sitarek, J., Becerra Gonzalez, J., Fallah Ramazani, V., Lindfors, E., ..., **Sameer**, Vazquez Acosta, M., Larsson, S., Magic Collabortion, Fermi-Lat Collaboration, Baliyan, K., Kaur, N., Jorstad, S. G., & Raiteri, C. (2017). MAGIC observations of variable very-high-energy gamma-ray emission from PKS1510-089 during May 2015 outburst. *35th International Cosmic Ray Conference (ICRC2017)*, 301, Article 657, 657
- [5] Baliyan, K. S., Chandra, S., Kaur, N., Ganesh, S., **Sameer**, Srivastava, M., Bisht, V., Jatin, & Kumar, R. (2016). Optical/NIR Observations of HBL 1ES 1959+625 from Mt Abu IR Observatory(MIRO), India. *The Astronomer’s Telegram*, 9070, 1
- [4] **Sameer**, Kaur, N., Ganesh, S., Kumar, V., & Baliyan, K. S. (2015). ATel 7495: Near Infrared flaring of the blazar FSRQ PKS 1510-089: MIRO Observations. *The Astronomer’s Telegram*, 7495, 1
- [3] **Sameer**, Ganesh, S., Kaur, N., Kumar, V., & Baliyan, K. S. (2015). ATel 7494: FSRQ B2 1156+29: NIR follow up observations from MIRO. *The Astronomer’s Telegram*, 7494, 1
- [2] Baliyan, K. S., Kaur, N., **Sameer**, Ganesh, S., & Chandra, S. (2015). Study of AGNs using Blazar Variability as a tool. *Astronomical Society of India Conference Series*, 12, 101–104

- [1] Sarbadhikari, A. B., Marhas, K. K., **Sameer**, & Goswami, J. N. (2013). Water Content in Melt Inclusions and Apatites in low Titanium lunar Mare Basalt 15555. *44th Annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference*, 2813

## AWARDS

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2023	<b>International Travel Grant</b> American Astronomical Society
2022	<b>Postdoctoral Lightning Talk Competition - Department Prize</b> College of Science, University of Notre Dame
2018, 2019, 2021	<b>Zaccheus Daniel Fellowship</b> Penn State
2016	<b>Homer F. Braddock/Nellie H. and Oscar L. Roberts Fellowship</b> Penn State
2011	<b>Academic Excellence Award</b> Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology
2007 – 2011	<b>Full-tuition scholarship</b> Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology

## GRANTS & AWARDED RESEARCH PROGRAMS

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2022	<b>GBT program 22B-350, Co-I</b> Project AMIGA: The Circumgalactic Medium of M31 – Mapping the inner halo
2022	<b>HST program 17051, Co-I (Cycle 30)</b> A ULLYSES Survey of the Magellanic Clouds: a Laboratory for the Physics of Interfaces between Hot and Cold Gas
2021	<b>HST program 16607, Co-PI (\$295,000) (Cycle 29)</b> Is There a Relationship Between the Metallicity of the Circumgalactic Medium and the Galaxy Orientation?

## INVITED TALKS

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2024	<b>1. Tracing Galaxy Environments using Metal Absorption Signatures across Cosmic History</b> (Feb 20) University of Washington, Seattle
2022	<b>2. Probing the physicochemical properties of the Leo Ring and the Leo I group</b> (Jan 27) Carnegie Tea Talk, Virtual, Carnegie Observatories
2021	<b>3. Investigating the origin of multiphase, multicomponent absorption in an Ultrastrong Mg II absorber using the CMBM approach</b> (Aug 19) Baltimore Winds Workshop, Johns Hopkins University
2020	<b>4. Unveiling the nature of the circumgalactic medium</b> (Oct 29)

Data Science Consortium, Virtual, University of Michigan

**5. Automated extraction of multiphase conditions of QALs using Bayesian Modeling with cloudy** (Jun 19)

Department Colloquium, Astronomy & Astrophysics, Virtual, New Mexico State University

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**CONTRIBUTED TALKS**

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| 2024 | 1. Discussion lead (Sept 11) - Bridging CGM observations, models, and simulations<br>(Sept 10) - Cold Gas in the CGM<br>A Holistic Understanding of the Multi-scale, Multiphase CGM, Aspen Center for Physics (Sept 1 – 15), CO |
|      | 2. Resolving the CGM in Theory & Observations (Aug 21 – 23), Harvard University   |
|      | 3. FOGGIE Retreat (May 06 – 09), Michigan State   |
| 2023 | 4. Oases in the Cosmic Desert: Understanding the Structure of the Circumgalactic Medium (Feb 21 – 23), Arizona State University   |
| 2022 | 5. Dissertation Talk (Jun 16), AAS 240, Pasadena  |
|      | 6. Thesis Defense Talk (Jun 10), Penn State   |
| 2021 | 7. STARs Lab Meeting (Nov 5), Virtual, Arizona State University   |
|      | 8. Milky Way Halo Research Group Meeting (Oct 15), Virtual, STScI   |
|      | 9. Lunch Talk (Sep 21), Virtual, Penn State   |
|      | 10. Galread Extragalactic Discussion Group (Apr 5), Virtual, Princeton  |
|      | 11. High Energy Astro Group Seminar (Mar 25), Virtual, MIT  |
|      | 12. Lunch Talk (Mar 23), Virtual, Penn State  |
|      | 13. Tutorial contributor & presenter (Jan 20)<br>Fundamentals of Gaseous Halos (Jan 11 – Mar 5), Virtual, UCSB  |

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**POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

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| 2021 | 1. Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy (June 9)<br>Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VII (Jun 7 – 10), Virtual, Penn State |
|      | 2. American Astronomical Society (Jan 11 – 15), Virtual  |
| 2019 | 3. American Astronomical Society (Jan 6 – 10), University of Washington  |
| 2018 | 4. Astrophysical Frontiers in the Next Decade and Beyond (Jun 26 – 29), Portland, Oregon   |

## OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

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2015 – 2016      1.2m Telescope, Mt. Abu, Rajasthan, India  
Monitoring of blazar variability using optical and infrared photometric imaging

## MENTORING EXPERIENCE

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2023 –            **Enosh Kallely**, Undergraduate student  
Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, Notre Dame  
Directing undergraduate non-thesis research & Advising research leading to publication

2022 – 2024      **Purvi Udhwani**, Graduate student  
Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Australian National University  
Advised research leading to publication

2024 –            **Kshitij Chauhan**, Graduate student  
Inter University Center for Astronomy & Astrophysics, Pune, India  
Advising research leading to publication

2021 – 2023      **Shengdi You**, Undergraduate student  
Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Penn State  
Directed undergraduate thesis research

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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Spring 2024 –    **Certificate Course in Teaching**  
Kaneb Center for Teaching Excellence, Notre Dame

Fall 2019        **Teaching Assistant**, Penn State  
Artistic Universe - Basic concepts of astronomy through gaming (ASTRO-7N)

Spring 2018,  
Spring 2017,  
Fall 2016        **Instructor**, Penn State  
Introduction to Astronomy for non science majors (ASTRO 11)

Fall 2016        **Teaching Assistant**, Penn State  
Observational Astronomy & Experimental Physics (ASTRO 320)

## SUPERCOMPUTING ALLOCATIONS

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2022 – 2024      **ACCESS Allocation, PI** (8900 node-hours)  
PHY220103: Development of Emulators for Accurate and Faster Ionization  
Modeling of Absorption Line Systems

2019 – 2022      **XSEDE Allocation, Co-PI** (1280 node-hours)  
PHY210047: Multiphase, Cloud-by-Cloud, Bayesian Analysis of the Relationship Between the Metallicity of the Circumgalactic Medium and Galaxy Orientation

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & OUTREACH

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2023 –	<b>Referee for MNRAS, ApJ, JCAP</b>
2021 –	<b>Outreach talks</b> Space Telescope Science Institute Public Outreach, Virtual
2021	<b>AAS Chambliss Judge</b> Judge for iPoster presentations, Virtual
2016 – 2019	<b>ASTROFEST</b> Organizing and setting up telescopes for public viewing at Penn State
2018 –	<b><a href="#">StackOverflow contributor</a></b> (reached > 80,000 people)
2011 – 2014	<b>Conducted mass spectroscopy demonstrations and presented meteorite exhibits</b> NanoSIMS Lab, Physical Research Laboratory

## PRESS COVERAGE

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**[Black & bright: PRL joins world to gauge black hole spin.](#)** Times of India, May 2016

## REFERENCES

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Prof. Nicolas Lehner, University of Notre Dame, nlehner@nd.edu  
Prof. Christopher Howk, University of Notre Dame, jhowk@nd.edu  
Prof. Jane Charlton, Pennsylvania State University, jcc12@psu.edu  
Prof. Christopher Churchill, New Mexico State University, cwc@nmsu.edu  
Prof. Glenn Kacprzak, Swinburne University of Technology, gkacprzak@swin.edu.au  
Prof. Anand Narayanan, Indian Institute of Space Science & Tech., anand@iist.ac.in