SAMANTHA SCIBELLI

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Research interests: Low-mass Star Formation, Radio Astronomy, Astrochemistry, Astrobiology

EDUCATION

University of Arizona *August 2017 - Present*
Ph.D. in Astronomy & Astrophysics *Expected: May 2023*
M.S. in Astronomy & Astrophysics *August 17, 2019*
Advisor: Dr. Yancy Shirley

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY *August 2013 - January 2017*
Bachelor of Science, Physics, second Major Astronomy Magna Cum Laude
Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Scholar

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS AND AWARDS

2021: Graduate Student Group Award 2021 Winner; SO Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Task Force
2021-2022: Advancing Science in America ARCS Foundation 'Lawson Scholar'
2020: Green Bank Observatory Blumberg Astrobiology Travel Grant
2019: Ed and Jill Bessey Scholarship in Astrobiology, University of Arizona
2017-2022: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP) Recipient
2016: Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honor Society, Stony Brook University
2015: Researcher of the Month, Stony Brook University
2013: National Runner-Up and Regional Winner for the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing
2013: INTEL Science Talent Search (STS) Finalist
2012: National NASA WISH Scholar
2012: Winner of Northeastern US Astrobiology Short Story Contest
2011: Regional Hessberg Advanced Astronomy Campership Winner

TELESCOPE TIME OBTAINED, AS PI

SOFIA (joint with GBT), Cycle 9: *Far-IR Dust and Magnetic Field Alignment Study of the Collapse Candidate Starless Core L63*, 2.82 hrs (5.38 hrs on GBT)
GBT, 2020 B: *High Resolution C18O ARGUS Mapping toward Prestellar Cores in Taurus*, 20 hrs
ARO 12m, Spring 2020: *Complementary Zero-spacing Map for ALMA ACA Observation...*, 74 hrs
ARO SMT, Spring 2020: *Novel J = (3-2) Molecular Mapping of the Dense B10 Region of Taurus*, 120 hrs
ALMA ACA Supplemental Call, Cycle 7: *Spatial Distribution of COMs within a Starless Core*, 19.8 hrs
ARO 12m, Fall 2019: *Nitrogen Bearing Complex Organic Molecules: A Survey of Prestellar Cores*, 350 hrs
IRAM 30m, Summer 2019: *High Resolution 1mm Continuum Study of the B10 Star Forming Region*, 17 hrs
ARO 12m, Spring 2019: *Survey of Highly Complex Organic Molecules in Young Prestellar Cores*, 350 hrs
ARO SMT, Fall 2018: *Mapping Inflow/Outflow Tracers in Massive Star-Forming Clumps*, 48 hrs
ARO 12m, Spring 2018: *A Deeper Look at Acetaldehyde in Prestellar Cores*, 210 hrs
ARO 12m, Fall 2017: *A Comprehensive Search for Methanol in Prestellar Cores*, 80 hrs

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Arizona, Steward Observatory Tucson, AZ
Graduate Research Assistant *August 2017 - Present*
My current work focuses on constraining the physical, kinematic, and chemical structure of low-mass prestellar cores to better understand their evolution.

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Astrophysics Department Pasadena, CA
NASA Sally Ride Fellow *January 2017 - July 2017*
I studied the physical properties and gas kinematics of free-floating evaporating gas globules (FrEGGs) in the W5 star forming region. I learned how to reduce Arizona Radio Observatory data, an integral part of my masters and thesis work at the University of Arizona.

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics Cambridge, MA
NSF REU Intern *June 2016 - August 2016*
I learned how to reduce data using the *Herschel* HIPE software as well as MOPRA radio telescope data. My research focused on understanding the properties of infrared dark clouds in the Inner Milky Way, and led to my interest in star formation.

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Astrophysics Department Pasadena, CA
NASA UI Intern *August 2015 - December 2015*
I reduced Hubble data from archived observations of ionized gas jets ejected from the dying sun-like star V Hydrae. I analyzed and modeled the data, which led to two published research articles.

Stony Brook University, Physics and Astronomy Department Stony Brook, NY
Undergraduate Researcher *December 2014 - January 2017*
Constructed a project modeling the kinematics and gravitational lensing properties of spiral galaxies. I found that mass biases are more pronounced with lensing than with kinematics, and using both methods can help reduce the bias and provide stronger constraints on the dark matter distributions.

Exploration in STEM Researcher *June 2015 - August 2015*
I was funded through the summer to continue my gravitational lensing project.

Stony Brook University, Laser Teaching Center Stony Brook, NY
Undergraduate Researcher *February 2014 - May 2014*
I constructed a educational and instructional research project which demonstrated the effects of gravitational lensing using a wine glass.

Summer Research Intern *July 2013 - August 2013*
A fully funded summer program in the optics lab at Stony Brook allowed me to study the evolution of caustics patterns formed by evaporating water droplets, with the foresight in mind that this would prepare me for a research project on gravitational lensing.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Physics and Astronomy Department Troy, NY
Visiting Student Researcher *November 2010 - August 2014*
I analyzed over 10,000 spectra by eye in the Sloan Digital Sky Survey to find that %10 of the objects were mis-classified by the electronic template fitting algorithm. Because of this work I was awarded several scholarships as an INTEL Science Talent Search 2013 finalist.

PUBLICATIONS

8 journal articles (6 first or second author, 1 in prep.)

8. *High Resolution Dust Continuum Study of the B10 Region in the Taurus Molecular Cloud*, ***in prep***
7. *Detection of Complex Organic Molecules in in Young Starless Core L1521E*
Scibelli, S. et al., MNRAS, 504, 4
6. *A survey of CH2DOH towards starless and pre-stellar cores in the Taurus molecular cloud*
Ambrose, H., Shirley, Y., & **Scibelli, S.** MNRAS, 891, 1

5. *Prevalence of Complex Organic Molecules in Starless and Prestellar Cores within the Taurus Molecular Cloud*
   Scibelli, S. & Shirley, Y., ApJ, 891, 1

4. *Biases in inferring dark matter profiles from dynamical and lensing measurements*
   Scibelli, S., Perna, R., Keeton, C., 2019, MNRAS, 769

3. *High-Velocity Bullets from V Hydrae, an AGB Star in Transition: Ejection History and Spatio-Kinematic Modeling*
   Scibelli, S., Sahai, R., & Morris, M. R., 2019, ApJ, 870, 117

2. *High-speed Bullet Ejections during the AGB-to-Planetary Nebular Transition: HST Observations of the Carbon Star, V Hydrae*
   Sahai, R., **Scibelli, S.,** & Morris, M. R., 2016, ApJ, 827, 92

1. *Census of Blue Stars in SDSS DR8*
   Scibelli, S., Newberg, H. J., Carlin, J.L., & Yanny, B., 2014, ApJS, 215, 24

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Modeling and Analysis	SHAPE, RADEX
Software & Tools	Python, IRAF, Ds9, GILDAS, LaTex, HTML, Fortran, C++

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

Invited Talks:

Observational Constraints on the Chemical Complexity of Low-mass Starless and Prestellar Cores in the Taurus Molecular Cloud

· European Astronomical Society Symposium SS15: Molecules in starless and pre-stellar cores: tools to understand low- and high-mass star-formation, June 28 - July 2, 2021, Virtual Zoom Conference

Contributed Talks:

Detecting Complex Organic Molecules in Starless and Prestellar Cores in the Taurus Molecular Cloud

· Wider and Deeper at Green Bank: The New Argus-144 Instrument, September 22-24, 2020, Virtual Zoom Conference

· Origins Seminar, July 13th, 2020, Virtual Zoom Call

· Astrochemical Frontiers, June 15 - 19, 2020, Virtual Zoom Conference

· From Collapsing Cores to Forming Disks, March 10-13, 2020, NRAO headquarters, Charlottesville, VA [POSTPONED DUE TO COVID-19]

· The 35th Annual New Mexico Symposium, February 2020, NRAO, Socorro, NM

Prevalent Organic Molecules towards Prestellar Cores in the Taurus Star Forming Region

· The Physics and Chemistry of the Interstellar Medium, 2-6 September 2019, Palais de Papes, Avignon, France

· Astrochemistry: Past, Present, Future, Caltech, July 2018, Pasadena, CA

· NRAO TUNA Talk, December 2018, Charlottesville, VA

· The Olympian Symposium 2018: gas and stars from milli- to mega- parsecs, Mediterranean Village Hotel Spa, Paralia, Keterini, Greece, May 2018

Physical Properties of Free-Floating Evaporating Gas Globules (FrEGGs) in the W5 Star Forming Region

· The 33rd Annual New Mexico Symposium, NRAO, Socorro, NM, November 2017

A Detailed Analysis of the Physical Conditions in the Infrared Dark Clouds in the Region IGGC 16/23

· SAO Astronomy Summer Research Symposium, Center for Astrophysics, Cambridge, MA, August 2016

Using HST/STIS data to Model High-Velocity Bullets from a Dying Star

· FLASH Talk, NOAO, January, 2019, Tucson, AZ

· Special Astrophysics Seminar, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA, December 2015

The Natural Focusing of Light

· Physics and Nature Conference, Pace University, White Plains, NY, November 2013

Poster Presentations:

Detecting Complex Organic Molecules in Starless and Prestellar Cores in the Taurus Molecular Cloud

· Science and Engineering Excellence Banquet, University of Arizona, January 2020

Prevalent Organic Molecules towards Prestellar Cores in the Taurus Star Forming Region

· Star and Planet Formation (SPF2), Biosphere, Tucson, AZ, March 2018

A Detailed Analysis of the Physical Conditions in the Infrared Dark Clouds in the Region IGGC 16/23

· American Astronomical Society Meeting, Grapevine, TX, January 2017

Using HST/STIS data to Model High-Velocity Bullets from a Dying Star

· Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium, Stony Brook, May 2016

Probing Dark Matter by Modeling Gravitational Lensing of Spiral Galaxies

· CUWiP Women in Physics Conference, Wesleyan University, CT, January 2016

· Exploration in STEM Symposium, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, August 2015

· Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium, Stony Brook, April 2015

Optical Demonstration of Gravitational Lensing

· Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Symposium, Stony Brook, April 2014

A Study of Evolving Caustics Formed by Evaporating Water Droplets

· Frontiers in Optics, OSA Annual Meeting and Exhibit/Laser Science XXIX, Orlando, FL, October 2013

· Symposium for Summer Research, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, August 2013

Census of Blue Stars in the SDSS

· American Astronomical Society Meeting, Long Beach, CA, January 2013

· New York Astronomical Society meeting, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY, Spring 2012

· New York Astronomical Society meeting, Skidmore College, Saratoga, NY, Fall 2011

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant for ASTR 170B1: The Physical Universe (Fall 2020)
- Teaching Assistant for ASTR 202: Life in the Universe (Spring 2021)

MENTORING AND OUTREACH

- Speaker for Knowledge Village (April 2021) - presented a virtual talk about how I got interested in science and what I do now to multiple groups of middle school students.
- NOIRLab Teen Astronomy Cafe Volunteer (throughout 2019-present) - high school students participate in hands on demonstrations, work on interative computer activities and listen to presentations from the scientists at NOAO and other institutions.
- Astronomy Camp Counselor (June 2018,2019,2021) - employed as counselor to teach middle school and high school students about astronomy and get them interested in science and technology in general.
- TechPrep Mentor, Stony Brook Univeristy (Summer 2015) - employed as STEM summer camp counselor for middle school girls on Long Island.
- Volunteer as Mystery Women for Explore Your Opportunites (EYO) Conference (Apirl 2014/2015) - educated 7th grade girls about STEM through interactive learning techniques in Bronx, NY.

Other:

Co-organizer for Steward Observatory Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Initiative (2020-present)

Co-organizer for Steward Observatory's Diversity Journal Club (2018-present)

Served on the Steward Observatory Graduate Admissions Committee (2019/2020 season)

CUWiP Meeting Participant/Poster Presenter, Rutgers University and Wesleyan University (January 2015/2016) - Attended conference for undergraduate women in physics