

# Sthabile Kolwa

## Curriculum Vitae

### Employment

- 2021-present** Lecturer  
*University of Johannesburg*
- 2020** Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
*The University of Cape Town /  
The Inter-University Institute for Data-Intensive Astronomy (IDIA)*
- 2014-2019** Postgraduate student  
*The Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (Ph.D.; 2016-2019)  
University of the Western Cape (M.Sc.; 2014-2015)*
- 2013** Astronomy Tutor  
*The University of Cape Town*

### Education

- 2016**  
**2019** **Dr. rer. nat. (Ph.D. equivalent) in Physics**, *The Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU)*, Munich, Germany  
Thesis: *The kinematic nature of baryons in the multi-phase circumgalactic media of high-redshift radio galaxies*
- 2014**  
**2015** **M.Sc. in Physics**, *University of the Western Cape (UWC)*, Cape Town, South Africa  
Thesis: *The effects of environment on radio-loud AGN activity in Stripe 82*
- 2010**  
**2013** **B.Sc. in Physics and Astronomy**, *The University of Cape Town (UCT)*, Cape Town, South Africa  
Thesis: *The Effects of Ionospheric Scintillation on the Dilution of GPS Positioning*

### First-Authored Papers

- Kolwa, S.** ; De Breuck, C. ; Vernet, J. ; Wylezalek, D. ; ... Andreani, P. (2023), MNRAS, 525, 4
- Kolwa, S.** ; Vernet, J. ; De Breuck, C. ; Villar-Martín, M. ; ... Man, A (2019), A&A, 625, 102
- Kolwa, S.** ; Jarvis, M. J. ; McAlpine, K. ; Heywood, I. (2019), MNRAS, 482, 5156

### Co-authored Papers

- Petley, J.W. et al. (2024), MNRAS, 529, 1995
- Whittam, I. et al. (2023), MNRAS, 527, 3231

Wang, W. et al. (2023), A&A, 680, A70  
Hale, C. L. et al. (2023), MNRAS, 520, 2668  
De Breuck, C. et al. (2022), A&A, 658, L2  
Wang, W. et al (2021), A&A, 654, 88  
Falkendal, T. et al. (2019), A&A, 621, 27  
Vernet et. al. (2017), A&A, 602, 6  
Jarvis, M. et al. (2016), PoS(MeerKAT2016)006

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## Selected Talks

### Invited Talks

- 2023 *High Energy Astrophysics in South Africa (HEASA) Conference* (virtual) (Sept)  
*Magnetism and Accretion Conference 2023* (virtual) (Jan)

### Seminars/Colloquia

- 2024 Nottingham *Astronomy Colloquium*, Nottingham University, UK (Jan)  
2023 *UWC Astronomy Seminar* (virtual) (Nov)  
*Durham Astronomy Colloquium*, Durham University, UK (Nov)  
*South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) Colloquium* (virtual) (Oct)  
*Galaxies Discussion*, Kavli Institute for Cosmology, Cambridge (KICC), UK (Oct)  
2022 *Max Planck Institute for Radio Astronomy (MPIfR) Colloquium*, Bonn, Germany (Nov)  
2021 *University College London (UCL) Astronomy Seminar* (virtual) (Oct)  
*Southampton Astronomy Seminar* (virtual) (July)  
*OPINAS (Optical and Interpretive Astronomy) Seminar*, Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE), Garching, Germany (Nov)

### Contributed talks at conferences / meetings

- 2024 *Durham-Edinburgh eXtragalactic (DEX-XX) workshop*, Durham, UK (Jan)  
*Edinburgh Coffee Talk*, The Royal Observatory Edinburgh, Scotland (Oct)  
*African Astronomical Society (AfAS) 2023 Meeting*, Johannesburg, South Africa (Mar)  
*BRICS Astronomy Working Group Seminar* (virtual) (Oct)  
2019 *ETH Astrophysics Seminar*, Zurich, Switzerland (Nov)  
*Modeling Meerkats Workshop*, Hazyview, Mpumalanga, South Africa (July)  
*Australia-ESO Conference*, Sydney, Australia (Feb)  
2018 *Walking the Line Meeting*, Goldwater Centre, Arizona State University, USA (Mar)  
2017 *What Matters Around Galaxies?* Conference, Durham University, UK (Jul)  
*Dawn of Galaxies Conference*, Obergurgl, Austria (Jan)  
2016 *SKA Conference* (Dec), Cape Town, South Africa

### Journal Club Talks

- 2023 *Heidelberg Galaxy Coffee*, Max Planck Institute for Astronomy in Heidelberg, Germany (virtual)

2022 *Brno High Energy Astrophysics Journal Club*, Brno, Czech Republic (Nov)

### Poster Contributions

- 2019 *Multi-messenger Astronomy with SKA precursors and pathfinders Workshop*, Aveiro, Portugal (May)
- 2014 *SKA Conference* (Dec 2014), Stellenbosch, South Africa

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## Teaching & Student Supervision

- Teaching**
- *Engineering Physics* for 2nd year undergraduate students
  - *Radiative Processes in Astrophysics* for Honour's (4th year) students
- Students**
- Thando Mothogoane (Ph.D.; 2022-)

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## Observing Experience

- 2017** ESO Period 100 observing on the Atacama Pathfinder Experiment Telescope (APEX), San Pedro de Atacama, Chile
- 2012** Optical observing on the Radcliffe 1.9-m Telescope at the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO), Sutherland, South Africa

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## Professional Activities

- Vice-chair for the *IAU General Assembly 2024 Symposium 394: All-inclusive AGN* (2023-)
- South African SALT Time Allocation Committee (SASTAC) member (2023-)
- Academic mentor in the *Supernova Foundation* (2022-)
- Executive Committee official in the African Astronomical Society (AfAS) (2022-)
- Chair of the AfAS Early-career Science Sub-committee (2022-)
- Organiser of the *ESO Wine & Cheese Seminar* series (2017-2018)
- Session volunteer at the *ESO Open Panel Committee* meetings for periods 109, 100 and 101 (2017-2018)

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## Outreach

- Invited speaker for the *Edinburgh School of Physics and Astronomy EDI Seminar* (2024)
- Astronomy outreach coordinator at the Durham University *Celebrate Science Day* (2023)
- Invited speaker at the *Warwick Ethnic Minorities in Physics Network (WEMPN) Seminar* (2023)
- Invited speaker for a public talk at the Winter *SARAO Open Day* (2023)
- Invited speaker at the EAS 2023 for a special session on gender-inclusivity in Astronomy (2023)
- Invited speaker for a public talk at an *Astronomical Society of South Africa (ASSA) monthly meeting* (2022)

- Contributing speaker at the EAS 2022 for a special session on building diversity in Astronomy (2022)
- Project organiser for the *Astronomy in Colour (AiC)* collective (2021-)
- Invited speaker for a public talk at an *SAAO Open Night* (2020)
- Fundraiser for the *Astro Molo Mhlaba* project (2019-)
- Provided mentorship and advice to students attending *AstroCamp* (2018)
- Astronomy outreach coordinator at Elsie Rivier High School, Cape Town, S.A. (2015-2016)
- Tutor of high-school students for the SHAWCO, UCT programme (2011-2016)

## Selected Media & Press

- Story featured in the *Nature* magazine supplement, *Where I Work*; link to the article (2023)
- Speaker at an International Astronomy Union (IAU) *Women in Astronomy Working Group* Seminar; link to the video (2022)
- Scientific comments featured in *WIRED* magazine; link to the article (2021)
- Session chair in the *AiC Speaker Series: Trailblazers*; link to the video channel (2020)
- Popular science writer on *Medium* (2020-)

## Achievements

- 2023 Awarded a National Research Foundation (NRF) grant under the BAAP (Black Academic Advancement Program)
- 2016 - 2019 Awarded ESO Ph.D. Studentship funding
- 2016 Selected for the International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) Astrophysics Ph.D. program
- 2011 - 2015 Recipient of NRF-SKA (Square Kilometer Array) B.Sc. and M.Sc. Scholarships

## References

### Prof Dr. Russ Taylor

Emeritus Professor  
Astronomy Department, UWC  
Cape Town, South Africa  
✉ russ@idia.ac.za

### Prof Dr. Soebur Razzaque

Extraordinary Professor  
Physics Department, UJ  
Johannesburg, South Africa  
✉ srazzaque@uj.ac.za

### Dr. Carlos de Breuck

Staff Astronomer  
The European Southern Observatory  
Garching bei München, Germany  
✉ cdebreuc@eso.org