## DR STHABILE KOLWA

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GitHub: https://github.com/skolwa

**EMPLOYMENT** 

Feb 2021 to present Lecturer and Staff Astronomer,

The University of Johannesburg

Feb 2020 - Dec 2020 Postdoctoral Research Fellow,

Inter-University Institute for Data Intensive Astronomy (IDiA)

Aug 2016 - Dec 2019 Doctoral Student,

The European Southern Observatory (ESO)

Jan - Nov 2013 Astronomy Tutor,

The University of Cape Town (UCT)

**EDUCATION** 

2016 - 2019 Dr. rer. nat. (Doctor rerum naturalium) / Ph.D. in Physics, cum laude

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) & ESO

Thesis title: The kinematic nature of baryons in the multi-phase circumgalactic media of high-redshift radio

galaxies

Advisor: Dr. Carlos de Breuck, co-advisor: Dr. Joël Vernet

2014-2015 M.Sc. in Physics, cum laude

University of the Western Cape (UWC)

Thesis title: The Effects of Environment on radio-loud AGN Activity in Stripe 82

Advisor: Prof. Dr. Matt J. Jarvis, co-advisor: Dr. Kim McAlpine

2010-2013 B.Sc. Honours in Astronomy and Physics

**UCT** 

Honours Project: The Effects of Ionospheric Scintillation on the Dilution of Precision in GPS Positioning

Advisor: Dr PJ Cilliers

**PUBLICATIONS** 

**First-authored: S. Kolwa**, et al (2019) A&A, 625, 102

MUSE unravels the ionization and origin of metal enriched absorbers in the gas halo of a z = 2.92 radio

galaxy

**S. Kolwa**, et al (2019) MNRAS, 482, 5156-5166

The relation between galaxy density and radio jet power for 1.4 GHz VLA selected AGN in Stripe 82

**Co-authored:** W. Wang, et al (2021), eprint:2107.09066

T. Falkendal, et al (2019), A&A, 621, 27 J. Vernet, et al (2017), A&A, 602, 6

M.J. Jarvis, et al (2016), PoS(MeerKAT2016)006 (MIGHTEE)

**Submitted:** S. Kolwa, et al, Neutral carbon missing from  $z \ge 3$  radio-loud AGN host galaxies (under review by A&A)

# GRANTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ESO Ph.D. Studentship over 3.5 years (Aug 2016- Dec 2019)
- Admission into the International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) Astrophysics Ph.D. program (2016)
- SKA (Square Kilometer Array) Undergraduate and M.Sc. Scholarships (2011-2015)

### **COLLABORATIONS**

- MeerKAT and uGMRT polarisation working group (led by Prof R. Taylor of IDiA/UCT)
- MeerKAT International GigaHertz Tiered Extragalactic Exploration (MIGHTEE) working group (led by M.J. Jarvis of Oxford University/UWC)
- High-redshift radio galaxies group (led by Carlos de Breuck of ESO)
- Baryon cycles of the CGM in galaxies (led by Celine Péroux of ESO)

#### **TALKS**

- European Astronomical Society Meeting (June 2021)
   Virtual conference Session 2: High-z galaxies with ALMA
   Special Session 6: Diversity & Inclusion Day
- University of Southampton Astronomy (June 2021)
   Virtual seminar
- South African Astronomical Observatory (May 2021) Virtual colloquium
- South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (December 2020) Virtual conference
- Astrophysics Seminar (Nov 2019) ETH, Zurich, Switzerland
- OPINAS (Optical and Interpretive Astronomy) Seminar (Nov 2019)
   Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE), Garching, Germany
- Modeling Meerkats Workshop (July 2019) Hazyview, Mpumalanga
- Multi-messenger Astronomy with SKA precursors and pathfinders Workshop (May 2019) Aveiro, Portugal
- Australia-ESO Conference (Feb 2019) Sydney, Australia
- ESO Gas Matters Seminar (Feb 2019) ESO Garching, Germany
- Walking the Line Meeting (Mar 2018)
   Goldwater Centre, Arizona State University, USA
- ESO AGN Club Seminar (Feb 2018) ESO Garching, Germany
- What Matters Around Galaxies Conference (Jul 2017) Durham University, United Kingdom

- Dawn of Galaxies Conference (Jan 2017)
   Obergurgl, Austria
- SKA Conference (Dec 2016) Cape Town, South Africa
- SKA Conference (Dec 2015) Stellenbosch, South Africa
- SKA Pathfinders and Radio Continuum Surveys (SPARCS) (July 2015) Hazyview, South Africa
- SKA Conference (Dec 2014) Stellenbosch, South Africa

## TELESCOPE OBSERVING

- Acquired several runs for remote observers awarded time in ESO Period using the Atacama Pathfinder Experiment Telescope (APEX) in San Pedro de Atacama, Chile (2017)
- Obtained long-slit spectroscopic observations using the Radcliffe 1.9-m Telescope on two separate week-long observing runs at the South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO) in Sutherland, South Africa (2012)

#### **MEDIA & PRESS**

- Appeared as self in a short documentary by the South African Institute for Physics (SAIP) (2021)
   Web-link to video
- Opinions featured in a popular science article posted on the *WIRED* magazine website (2021) Web-link to article
- Gave a public outreach talk on radio galaxies for the SAAO Open Night series (2020) Web-link to the video
- Interviewed while a Ph.D. student for *ESOCast* Episode 149: *Fast Track Your Career with the ESO Studentship Programmes* (2017)
  Web-link to the episode
- Authored a popular science article for the Mail & Guardian (South Africa) entitled Power answer in black-holes?" (2015)
   Web-link to the article

## **ADVOCACY**

- Judge of a high-school debate between Cape Science Academy and Elsies River High School (2021)
- Organiser/spokesperson for the organisation *Astronomy in Colour* (2020+)
- Fundraiser for the Astro Molo Mhlaba project (2019+)
- Overseer of the voting process at the *ESO Open Panel Committee* meetings for proposal periods 109, 100 and 101 (2017-18)
- Organiser for monthly seminar series at the ESO known as the Wine & Cheese Seminar (2017-18)
- Tutor and mentor to high-school students interested in pursuing STEM careers (2011-16)

## **REFERENCES**

Prof Dr. Russ Taylor Advisor & Project Lead Professor at UCT/UWC russ@idia.ac.za

Prof. Dr. Matt Jarvis Master's Advisor Professor at Oxford University/UWC

matt.jarvis@physics.ox.ac.uk

Prof Dr. Jarita Holbrook Mentor during Ph.D. Professor at UWC jholbrook@uwc.ac.za Dr. Carlos de Breuck Ph.D. Advisor

Senior Scientist at ESO cdebreuc@eso.org

Dr. Theresa Falkendal Research Collaborator

Head of Research & Development at Nilsson Energy AB

theresa@nilssonenergy.com

Dr. Michelle Cluver Mentor during Master's Swinburne University mcluver@swin.edu.au