# Sthabile Kolwa

# Curriculum Vitae



# **Employment**

2025- Senior Lecturer

University of South Africa (UNISA)

2021-2024 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

**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

**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

**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

Pinjarkar, S. et al. (2025), MNRAS, 537, 3481

Escott, E. et al. (2025), MNRAS, 536, 1166

Petley, J.W. et al. (2024), MNRAS, 529, 1995

Whittam, I. et al. (2024), 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

## Selected Talks

### **Invited Talks**

- 2024 AGN Populations Across Continents and Populations, Durham, UK (July)
- 2023 High Energy Astrophysics in South Africa (HEASA) Conference-2023 (virtual) (Sept)

  Magnetism and Accretion Conference (virtual) (Jan)

### Seminars & Colloquia

- 2025 Max Planck Astrophysics & German Centre for Astrophysics (DZA) Colloquium, Garching, Germany (Jan)
- 2024 UKZN (University of KwaZulu Natal) Astrophysics Seminar, South Africa (virtual) (Jul)
  - Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology (*KIPAC*) Colloquium, Stanford University, USA (Mar)
    - 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)
- 2019 OPINAS (Optical and Interpretive Astronomy) Seminar, Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics (MPE), Garching, Germany (Nov)
  ETH Astrophysics Seminar, Zurich, Switzerland (Nov)

### **Contributed Talks at Conferences & Meetings**

- 2024 HEASA-2024 Conference, Hoedespruit, Limpopo Province, South Africa (Oct) Modeling MeerKATs 2 Workshop, Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa (Mar) Durham-Edinburgh eXtragalactic (DEX-XX) Workshop, Durham, UK (Jan)
- 2023 BRICS Astronomy Working Group Seminar (virtual) (Oct)

  African Astronomical Society (AfAS) 2023 Meeting, Johannesburg, South Africa
  (Mar)
- 2019 *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, Cape Town, South Africa (Dec)

# Teaching & Student Supervision

- **Teaching** Engineering Physics for undergraduate (2nd year) students (UJ; 2021-2024)
  - o Radiative Processes in Astrophysics for Honour's (4th year) students (UJ; 2021-2024)
  - Extragalactic Astronomy for undergraduate (3rd year) students (UCT; 2020)

- **Students** Thando Mothogoane (Ph.D.; 2022-)
  - Tshepang Ramahuta (Honours; 2021)

**Theses Examined** • Thato Manamela (PhD; completed in 2024)

# 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

## **Professional Activities**

- o *IAU* Junior Member (2023-)
- Vice-chair for the IAU General Assembly 2024 Symposium 394: All-inclusive AGN (2022-2024)
- 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) (2022-2025)
- Chair of the AfAS Early-career Science Sub-committee (2022-)
- o LOC Member for the Reaching New Heights in Astronomy Meeting (2017)
- Organiser of the ESO Wine & Cheese Seminar series (2017-2018)
- Session volunteer at the ESO Observing Programmes Committee meetings for periods 109, 100 and 101 (2017-2018)

# Community Service

- Invited speaker for the Edinburgh School of Physics and Astronomy EDI Seminar Series (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, Portugal (2018)
- Astronomy outreach coordinator at Elsies 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 article published Mail & Guardian (South Africa) titled Power answer in black-holes?; link to the article (2015)

# Achievements & Accolades

- 2024 Awarded in the category of education by the Mail & Guardian for the 2024 200 Young South Africans List
- 2023 Awarded a National Research Foundation (NRF) grant under the BAAP (Black Academic Advancement Program)
- 2016 2019 Awarded ESO Ph.D. Studentship Funding
- 2011 2015 Awarded NRF-SKA (Square Kilometer Array) B.Sc. and M.Sc. Scholarships

## References

## Prof. Russ Taylor

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

## Dr. Carlos de Breuck

Staff Astronomer
The European Southern Observatory
Garching bei München, Germany

☑ cdebreuc@eso.org

## Prof. Soebur Razzaque

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

## Prof. Leah Morabito

Professor
Centre for Extragalactic Astronomy,
Durham University, Durham, UK

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