THOMAS MCCLINTOCK

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On the web

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a Postdoctoral Research Associate at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, New York. I work with Drs. Anže Slosar and Erin Sheldon on projects within the Dark Energy Survey and LSST Dark Energy Science Collaborations. My primary research interest is in galaxy cluster cosmology, including mass calibration and the mitigation of limiting systematics. I am also working to construct emulators for cosmology analyses, which are tools to make numerical predictions of observational signals derived from large suites of gravitational N-body simulations.

I completed my PhD in Physics at the University of Arizona working with Professor Eduardo Rozo, and my MSc in High Performance Computing at the University of Edinburgh with Professor David Henty. I received my BA in Physics and Astronomy at Amherst College in Massachusetts while completing a senior thesis with Professor Fulvio Melia.

PUBLICATIONS

- McClintock T., et al., 2018, Dark Energy Survey Year 1 Results: Weak Lensing Mass Calibration of redMaPPer Galaxy Clusters, MNRAS, accepted
- McClintock T., et al., 2018, The Aemulus Project II: Emulating the halo mass function, ApJ, accepted.
- McClintock T., et al., 2018, The Aemulus Project IV: Emulating the halo bias, ApJ, in prep.
- McClintock T., Hannah E., Lim K., 2018, Bayesian analysis of frisbee flights, Eur. J. Phys., in prep.
- Melchior P., Gruen D., McClintock T. et al., 2017, Weak-lensing mass calibration of redMaP-Per Clusters in Dark Energy Survey Science Verification Data, MNRAS, 469, 4899
- Simet M., McClintock T. et al., 2017, Weak lensing measurements of the mass-richness relation of SDSS redMaPPer clusters, MNRAS, 466, 3103
- Chang C., et al., 2017, The Splashback Feature around DES Galaxy Clusters: Galaxy Density and Weak Lensing Profiles, arxiv:1710.06808, submitted
- Friedrich O., et al., 2017, Density split statistics: joint model of counts and lensing in cells, arxiv:1710.05162, submitted
- Gruen D., et al., 2017, Density split statistics: Cosmological constraints from counts and lensing in cells in DES Y1 and SDSS, arxiv:1710.05045, submitted
- Melia F., McClintock T., 2015, Supermassive black holes in the early universe, RSPSA, 471, 449
- Melia F., McClintock T., 2015, A test of cosmological models using high-z measurements of H(z), AJ, 150, 6

COMMITTEES & RESPONSIBILITIES

DES Cluster Weak Lensing Working Group Coordinator - organized telecons, inventoried projects within the working group, mediated disagreements between project participants

DES Early Career Scientist Representative - elected to represent graduate students and post-docs to senior management of the collaboration, organized ECS events and group panels to help members learn about careers in academia and industry

College of Science Student Representative - elected to represent the College to the graduate student government

UA Physics Grad Council - elected to represent physics graduate students to department administrators, organized grad student talk series and pizza lunches with colloquium speakers

OUTREACH & LEADERSHIP

- Cosmology journal club organizer. Assemble the weekly reading list and assign readings.
- Secretary and Treasurer for the Women in Physics club. Served as judge for science fairs in local middle and high schools, attended outreach events in local schools and after-school clubs, and worked at the Physics booth at the Tucson Festival of Books.
- Astrobites guest author for a paper on the cosmic lithium problem in Big Bang nucleosynthesis (article link).
- Speaker and co-organizer for the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Nobel Prize in Medicine given to Barbara McClintock.

INVITED TALKS, COLLOQUIA & SEMINARS

South American Workshop on Cosmology in the LSST Era - Galaxy cluster cosmology in DES & LSST

Brandeis University Dark Universe Colloquia Series - Simulations for precision cosmology Amherst College Physics Colloquium - Cosmology with the Dark Energy Survey Fermilab Colloquium - Galaxy clusters in the Dark Energy Survey

AWARDS & HONORS

Galileo Circle Scholar - 2017 & 2018 College of Science Graduate Student Award for Teaching - 2017 Outstanding Graduate Student Colloquium Presentation in Spring 2015

EDUCATION

University of Arizona, Department of Physics

Doctor of Philosophy, Physics

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre

Masters of Science, High Performance Computing

Amherst College, Amherst College

Bachelor of Arts cum laude, Physics and Astronomy

Tucson, Arizona, USA

Sept. 2012 - Aug. 2018

Edinburgh, Scotland, UK

Sept. 2011 - July 2012

Amherst, MA

Sept. 2007 - May 2011

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Arizona Department of Physics Graduate Student Tucson, AZ Sept. 2012 - Present

- Member of The Aemulus Project, which is a collaboration aiming to provide emulators for cosmological research. Developed an emulator for the halo mass function accurate at the sub-percent level.
- Member of the DES collaboration. Contributed to the cluster calibration, cluster cosmology, trough analysis, and splashback invesitgations. Advised by Eduardo Rozo. Primary collaborators are Tamas Varga, Peter Melchior, Daniel Gruen, and Erin Sheldon.
- Member of LSST-DESC. Presented work on cluster calibration and contributed to the Core Cosmology Library. Leader of the cluster cosmology project in Data Challenge 2, which is an effort to create a full analysis pipeline on simulated data catalogs.
- Analyzed the physics of frisbee flights, both through simulations and video analysis. Used Bayesian statistics and MCMC to constrain physical models of flight parameters, and set limits on the resolution and frames-per-second needed to be able to set constraints from video. Co-advised with Kevin Lim the thesis of Elizabeth Hannah.

• Investigated alternative cosmological models, specifically the $R_h = ct$ Universe. Advised by Fulvio Melia.

University of Edinburgh Edinburgh Parallel Copmuting Centre Edinburgh, Scotland, UK Graduate Student Sept. 2011 - Aug. 2012

• Developed a parallelized version of a tax and benefits simulation to determine optimal tax policies based on individuals' lifestyles.

Amherst College Physics Department

Amherst, MA

Senior Thesis and Research Intern

Sept. 2010 - Aug. 2011

• investigated the possibility of low-mass x-ray binary star systems as sources of positrons responsible for the 511 keV flux seen in the galactic bulge.

Brookhaven National Laboratory

Brookhaven, NY

Research Intern

June 2010 - Aug. 2010; June 2009 - Aug. 2009

- SULI student scientist at the National Synchrotron Light Source under Dario Arena.
- Developed control systems for ferromagnetic resonance experiments.
- Designed and machined an electromagnet for use in x-ray magnetic circular dichroism experiments.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Arizona Department of Physics

Tucson, AZ

- Co-advised an undergraduate thesis researching the physics of frisbee flights.
- Developed a new curriculum for the PHYS 105:Introduction to Scientific Computing.
- Teaching assistant for PHYS 182: Laboratory Electromagnetism and Optics.
- Teaching assistant for PHYS 105:Introduction to Scientific Computing and PHYS 305: Computational Physics.
- Grader for PHYS 321: Theoretical Mechanics.
- Tutored college and high school students in mechanics, electromagnetism, optics, and statistical mechanics.

Amherst College Department of Physics

Amherst, MA

- Grader for statistical mechanics, and introduction to electromagnetism.
- Resident councilor for three years. Worked two years in first-year dormitories and one year in upperclass housing. Assisted residents adjusting to college life and acted as a liaison between students, faculty, and staff.
- Tutored high school AP Physics students.