

Will Barnes

NRC POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Space Science Division, U.S. Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, D.C., USA

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Education

Rice University

PH.D. PHYSICS

- Thesis: Diagnosing the Frequency of Energy Deposition in the Magnetically-Closed Solar Corona
- Advisor: Dr. Stephen Bradshaw

Houston, TX

2016 – 2019

Rice University

M.S. PHYSICS

Houston, TX

2013 – 2016

Baylor University

B.S. ASTROPHYSICS

- Thesis: Astrophysical Applications of Dusty Plasma Physics, Advisor: Dr. Lorin Matthews
- University Honors Program, Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List
- Minors: Mathematics, Great Texts of the Western Tradition

Waco, TX

2009 – 2013

Experience

NRC Postdoctoral Research Associate

U.S. NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Washington, D.C.

January 2020 – present

Visiting Postdoctoral Scholar

W. W. HANSEN EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS LABORATORY, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Exploring applications of HPC/cloud computing to analysis of HMI data

Stanford, CA

July – December 2019

Postdoctoral Research Scientist

LOCKHEED MARTIN SOLAR AND ASTROPHYSICS LABORATORY, BAY AREA ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Developing workflows for analyzing AIA imaging data using HPC/cloud infrastructure in collaboration with Stanford U. and NASA Ames

Palo Alto, CA

May – December 2019

Research Computing Intern

CENTER FOR RESEARCH COMPUTING, RICE UNIVERSITY

Developed web application for scheduled data transfers with Globus. Refactored high performance computing documentation in reStructuredText and Sphinx with interactive examples. Explored research applications for cloud computing.

Houston, TX

October 2018 – May 2019

Graduate Research Assistant

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY, RICE UNIVERSITY

Investigated observable signatures of nanoflare heating frequency using hydrodynamic simulations of coronal loops, forward modeling, and machine learning

Houston, TX

May 2014 – May 2019

Papers

A current publication list is also available from Orcid (ID: 0000-0001-9642-6089).

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 **Understanding Heating in Active Region Cores through Machine Learning II. Classifying Observations**, W. T. Barnes, S. J. Bradshaw, N. M. Viall, *in prep*
- 2020 **SunPy: A Python Package for Solar Physics**, Stuart J. Mumford, Nabil Freij, Steven Christe, Jack Ireland, Florian Mayer, V. Keith Hughitt, Albert Y. Shih, Daniel F. Ryan, Simon Liedtke, David Pérez-Suárez, et al. (including Will Barnes), *JOSS*, doi: 10.21105/joss.01832
- 2020 **The SunPy Project: Open Source Development and Status of the Version 1.0 Core Package**, The SunPy Community, Will T. Barnes, Monica G. Bobra, Steven D. Christe, Nabil Freij, Laura A. Hayes, Jack Ireland, Stuart Mumford, David Pérez-Suárez, Daniel F. Ryan, Albert Y. Shih, et al., *ApJ*, doi: 10.3847/1538-4357/ab4f7a
- 2019 **Solar Active Region Heating Diagnostics from High Temperature Emission using the Marshall Grazing Incidence X-ray Spectrometer (MaGIXS)**, P. S. Athiray, Amy R. Winebarger, Will T. Barnes, Stephen J. Bradshaw, Sabrina Savage, Harry P. Warren, Ken Kobayashi, Patrick Champey, Leon Golub, Lindsay Glesener, *ApJ*, doi: 10.3847/1538-4357/ab3eb4
- 2019 **Understanding Heating in Active Region Cores through Machine Learning I. Numerical Modeling and Predicted Observables**, W. T. Barnes, S. J. Bradshaw, N. M. Viall, *ApJ*, doi: 10.3847/1538-4357/ab290c
- 2016 **Inference of Heating Properties from Hot Non-flaring Plasmas in Active Region Cores II. Nanoflare Trains**, W. T. Barnes, P. J. Cargill, S. J. Bradshaw, *ApJ*, doi: 10.3847/1538-4357/833/2/217
- 2016 **Inference of Heating Properties from Hot Non-flaring Plasmas in Active Region Cores I. Single Nanoflares**, W. T. Barnes, P. J. Cargill, S. J. Bradshaw, *ApJ*, doi: 10.3847/0004-637X/829/1/31

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- 2017 **ChiantiPy: A Python Package for Astrophysical Spectroscopy**, W. T. Barnes, K. P. Dere, *16th SciPy Conference*, doi: 10.25080/shinma-7f4c6e7-011
- 2013 **Dust Grain Growth in a Protoplanetary Disk: Effects of Location on Charge and Size**, W. T. Barnes, L. S. Matthews, T. W. Hyde, *44th LPSC*, bibcode: 2013LP....44.1897B

OTHER NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

- 2018 **Modeling Coronal Loops in 3D with sunpy.coordinates**, W. T. Barnes, *SunPy Blog*, url: sunpy.org

Research Fellowships Awarded

NRC Research Associateship Postdoctoral Fellowship

NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCES

Awarded 1-year NRC postdoctoral fellowship to study observational signatures of thermal non-equilibrium in coronal loops

Washington, D.C.

January 2020 – present

NASA Postdoctoral Program Fellowship (declined)

NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER, USRA

Awarded competitive NPP Fellowship to study physics of coronal heating; declined in favor of NRC postdoctoral fellowship

Washington, D.C.

NSF REU Research Fellowship

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, CASPER

Received NSF REU fellowship to study dust grain charging and growth in protoplanetary disks.

Waco, TX

June – August 2012

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY, DEPT. OF PHYSICS

Awarded summer research funding to investigate plasma physics of charged dust grains in Saturn's F Ring.

Waco, TX

June – August 2011

Professional Service

Reviewer for: The Astrophysical Journal

Python in Astronomy Conference 2020

MEMBER OF SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Organize webpage, communicate meeting announcements to community, and assist in choosing program of speakers

20 – 24 April 2020

SHINE Workshop

DISCUSSION SESSION CO-ORGANIZER AND CO-CHAIR (WITH S. BRADSHAW AND N. VIALL)

Topic: Signatures of Time-dependent Heating in Active Regions and the Slow Solar Wind

30 July – 3 August 2018

SPD/AAS Congressional Visit Day

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Visited senators and representatives to lobby for increase in NASA heliophysics budget

25 June 2018

Presentations

CONFERENCE TALKS

Machine Learning in Heliophysics

CENTRUM WISKUNDE AND INFORMATICA

Seeing the Trees through a Random Forest: Details of Active Region Heating Revealed through Forward Modeling and Classification

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

16 – 20 September 2019

Coronal Loops Workshop IX

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

Constraining the Frequency of Energy Deposition through Quantitative Comparisons of Models and Observations (invited)

St Andrews, UK

11 – 14 June 2019

Heliophysics Community Python Working Group Meeting

LABORATORY FOR ATMOSPHERIC AND SPACE PHYSICS

fiasco: a Python Interface to the CHIANTI Atomic Database

Boulder, CO

13 – 15 November 2018

2018 SDO Science Workshop

ROYAL OBSERVATORY BELGIUM, SOLAR-TERRESTRIAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Understanding Heating Properties of Active Region Loops through Forward Modeling and Machine Learning

Ghent, Belgium

29 October – 2 November 2018

Triennial Earth-Sun Summit

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

Timelag Analysis of Simulated Active Region Cores Heated by Nanoflares

Leesburg, VA

21 – 24 May 2018

Python in Astronomy 2018

CENTER FOR COMPUTATIONAL ASTROPHYSICS, THE FLATIRON INSTITUTE

A Complete fiasco - The Difficulties of Dealing with Atomic Data and a Possible Pythonic Solution

New York City, NY

30 April – 4 May 2018

16th Python in Science Conference

SciPy, ENTHOUGHT

ChiantiPy: a Python package for Astrophysical Spectroscopy

Austin, TX

10 – 16 July 2017

Coronal Loops Workshop VIII

INAF IASF PALERMO

Constraining Nanoflare Heating Frequency with a Global Active Region Model

Palermo, Italy

27 – 30 June 2017

AAS Solar Physics Division Meeting

AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Hot Non-flaring Plasmas in Active Region Cores Heated by Single Nanoflares

Boulder, CO

31 May – 3 June 2016

Texas Undergraduate Astronomy Research Symposium

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Dust Grain Charging in a Protoplanetary Disk

College Station, TX

14 September 2012

SEMINARS

Stanford Solar Group Science Meeting

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Seeing the Trees through a Random Forest: Details of Active Region Heating Revealed through Forward Modeling and Classification

Stanford, CA

26 June 2019

Lockheed Martin Solar and Astrophysics Seminar

LOCKHEED MARTIN SOLAR AND ASTROPHYSICS LABORATORY

Seeing the Trees through a Random Forest: Details of Active Region Heating Revealed through Forward Modeling and Classification

Palo Alto, CA

20 June 2019

Space Physics Seminar Series

RICE UNIVERSITY

Understanding Heating Frequency in Active Region Loops through Forward Modeling and Machine Learning

Houston, TX

19 November 2018

NRL Solar and Heliospheric Physics Branch Seminar

NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY

Investigating Heating Frequency in Active Region Cores through Timelag Analysis of Forward Modeled Emission (invited)

Washington, D.C.

11 July 2018

Space Physics Seminar Series

RICE UNIVERSITY

A Framework for Forward Modeling Solar Active Regions

Houston, TX

27 February 2017

Space Physics Seminar Series

RICE UNIVERSITY

Impacts of Two-fluid Effects on Emission from Impulsively Heated Coronal Loops

Houston, TX

9 November 2015

OUTREACH

North Houston Astronomy Club Late Summer Gathering

LONE STAR COLLEGE-MONTGOMERY CAMPUS

Why is the Sun So Hot? A Current Perspective on Coronal Heating

Conroe, TX

24 August 2018

POSTERS

American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting

AMERICAN GEOPHYSICAL UNION

The Sun at Scale: Interactive Analysis of High Resolution EUV Imaging Data on HPC Platforms with Dask

San Francisco, CA

9 – 13 December 2019

Solar Heliospheric and Interplanetary Environment (SHINE) Workshop

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Using Synthetic and Observed Timelags to Constrain Nanoflare Heating Frequency in Active Region Cores

Cocoa Beach, FL
30 July – 3 August 2018

Rice Data Science Conference

RICE UNIVERSITY

Timelag Analysis of Global Hydrodynamic Simulations of Active Regions in the Solar Corona

Houston, TX
9 – 10 October 2017

Solar Heliospheric and Interplanetary Environment (SHINE) Workshop

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Modeling Observable Signatures of Nanoflare Heating Frequency in Active Region Cores

Saint-Sauveur, Quebec, CA
24 – 28 July 2017

Solar Heliospheric and Interplanetary Environment (SHINE) Workshop

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Understanding the Impact of Nanoflare Heating Frequency on the Observed Emission Measure Distribution

Santa Fe, NM
11 – 15 July 2016

Coronal Loops Workshop VII

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Effects of Ion Heating on Emission Measure of Coronal Loops in Active Region Cores

Cambridge, UK
26 – 23 July 2015

Triennial Earth-Sun Summit

AMERICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

Nonnegative Matrix Factorization as a Method for Studying Coronal Heating

Indianapolis, IN
26 – 30 April 2015

44th Annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference

LUNAR AND PLANETARY SCIENCE INSTITUTE

Dust Grain Growth in a Protoplanetary Disk: Effects of Location on Charge and Size

The Woodlands, TX
18 – 22 March 2013

Honors and Awards

Nov 2018 **Metcalf Travel Award to the SDO Workshop**, Solar physics Division of the AAS
Nov 2017 **Scientific Image Contest (Second Place)**, Wiess School of Natural Sciences, Rice University
Jul 2017 **Outstanding Student Poster Award**, SHINE Workshop
May 2016 **William and Elva Gordon Fellowship**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Rice University
May 2016 **Chuoque Graduate Student Award**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Rice University
Apr 2015 **Studentship Travel Award for AAS Solar Physics Division Meeting**, Solar Physics Division of the AAS
Apr 2013 **URSA Scholars Week Outstanding Research Poster in Physics**, Baylor University
2009–2013 **President's Gold Scholarship**, Baylor University
2011, 2012 **Gordon K. Teal Scholarship**, Department of Physics, Baylor University
2010, 2011 **Herbert D. Schwetman Scholarship**, Department of Physics, Baylor University

Software and Computing

SKILLS

Languages	Bash, C, C++, IDL, Mathematica, MATLAB, Python
Scientific Computing	numerical methods, high performance computing (e.g. SLURM, PBS), parallel/distributed data processing
Markup	CSS, HTML, LaTeX, markdown, reStructuredText
DevOps	continuous integration, documentation, testing, version control

OPEN SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

A more complete record of my contributions is available on GitHub.

fiasco

MAINTAINER

fiasco provides a modern Python interface to the CHIANTI atomic database in addition to implementing many atomic physics calculations commonly used in solar physics. I am the creator and primary maintainer of fiasco.

2017 – present
github.com/wtbarnes/fiasco

SunPy

CONTRIBUTOR

SunPy is a library for solar data analysis in Python. I am an active member of the SunPy community and have made several contributions to the package. Specifically, I have worked to implement the widely-used AIA temperature response functions in SunPy.

2016 – present
github.com/sunpy/sunpy

ChiantiPy

CONTRIBUTOR

ChiantiPy is a Python interface to CHIANTI atomic database. My main contributions to ChiantiPy have been improving the documentation and packaging infrastructure and adding a test suite.

2016 – 2017
github.com/chianti-atomic/ChiantiPy

Teaching and Mentoring

STUDENTS MENTORED

Lily Han

UNDERGRADUATE

Assisted in advising undergraduate thesis work on force-free field extrapolations and forward modeling

Rice University

October 2017 – April 2018

Brandon Wang

HIGH SCHOOL INTERN

Advisor for STEM research course.

Clements High School

April 2017 – May 2018

Tessa Wilkinson

UNDERGRADUATE

Mentor for project to implement AIA response functions in SunPy

Google Summer of Code

May – August 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PHYS 480/580: Introduction to Plasma Physics

GUEST LECTURER

Gave guest lecture for introductory plasma course for senior undergraduate and graduate students. Topics covered included electrostatic waves, binary collisions, and motion in a uniform magnetic field.

Rice University

Fall 2018

ASTR 201: Stars, Galaxies, and the Universe

GUEST LECTURER

Gave two guest lectures for non-majors astronomy course of approximately 70 undergraduate students. Topics covered included eclipses, phases of the moon, and the celestial sphere.

Rice University

Spring 2017

PHYS 102: Electricity and Magnetism

LAB TEACHING ASSISTANT

Instructed lab sections of 40+ undergraduate students on topics including electrostatic interactions, magnetic induction, and basic circuits.

Rice University

Spring 2014, Spring 2015

PHYS 101: Mechanics

LAB TEACHING ASSISTANT

Instructed lab sections of 40+ undergraduate students on topics including kinematics, collisions, and simple harmonic motion.

Rice University

Fall 2014, Fall 2015

Memberships

- American Astronomical Society, Solar Physics Division (Junior Membership)
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Sigma Pi Sigma