Yasmeen Asali

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EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT

2020 - Present

Ph.D. in Astronomy

M.S., M.Phil. in Astronomy (2022)

Columbia University, New York, NY

2016 - 2020

B.A. in Astrophysics

Departmental Honors in Physics

Dean's List Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Researcher

September 2020 - Present

New Haven, CT, USA

Yale Astronomy Department
Thesis Advisor: Marla Geha

Dissertation Research: Characterizing Satellite Galaxies in the SAGA Survey

Additional Projects:

The Kinematic Distribution of Willman 1, an Ultra-Faint Galactic Satellite; Advisor: Marla Geha

AGNFinder: A Variational Autoencoder for AGN Identification; Advisor: Meg Urry

Undergraduate Researcher

September 2017 - August 2020

New York, NY, USA

Columbia Astronomy Department Advisors: Szabi Marka, Zsuzsa Marka

Advanced LIGO Timing Diagnostic System

Low-Latency Algorithm for Multi-messenger Astrophysics (LLAMA)

Summer Undergraduate Researcher

June 2019 - April 2020

Dutch National Institute for Subatomic Physics (Nikhef)

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

University of Florida's International REU Program in Gravitational Physics

Advisor: Chris Van Den Broeck

Probing Resonant Excitations in Exotic Compact Objects

Summer Undergraduate Researcher

June 2018 - August 2018

Instituto de Astrofísica, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Santiago, Chile

Advisors: Germán Gómez-Vargas, Andreas Reisenegger

Cherenkov Telescope Array Sensitivity to Dark Matter Annihilation

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications:

1. **Y. Asali**, P. T. H. Pang, A. Samajdar, and C. Van Den Broeck. Probing resonant excitations in exotic compact objects via gravitational waves. Phys. Rev. D, 102(2):024016, July 2020

Non-Refereed Publications:

1. **Y. Asali**, K. Gerbig, A. Ghosh, C. Lindsay, Z. Shen, and M. Geha. A Standardized Framework for Collecting Graduate Student Input in Faculty Searches. *Bulletin of the AAS*, 54(1), December 2022. https://baas.aas.org/pub/2022i091

Included on the following author lists:

LIGO Scientific Collaboration Author List (approved Oct. 2019 for Feb. 2020 revision, removed Dec. 2022) LIGO O3 Detector Author List (approved Oct. 2019 for Dec. 2019 revision, removed Dec. 2022)

PRESENTATIONS

Research Talks:

Yale Astronomy Professional Seminar, April 2021. AGNFinder: A Variational Autoencoder for AGN Identification

Columbia Astronomy Department Senior Presentation, May 2020. Probing Resonant Excitations in Exotic Compact Objects via Gravitational Waves

Columbia Astronomy Department Lunch, December 2018. Cherenkov Telescope Array Sensitivity to Dark Matter Annihilation

Research Posters:

APS Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, Yale University, Jan. 2020

235th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Honolulu, HI, Jan. 2020

Conference for Undergraduate Women in Astronomy, West Virginia University, Nov. 2019

Undergraduate Research Showcase, Columbia University, Oct. 2019

Astrofest, Columbia University, Sept. 2019 (2nd Place Prize)

233rd Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Seattle, WA, Jan. 2019

Astrofest, Columbia University, Sept. 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning, McDougal Graduate Fellow	May 2022
La Serena School for Data Science, Teaching Assistant	August 2021, August 2022
Reading Team Math, Teacher and Group Leader	September 2017 - June 2021
Yale University, Teaching Fellow	
Research Methods in Astrophysics, Astronomy Department	Fall 2022
Current Research in Astrophysics, Astronomy Department	Fall 2021
Frontiers & Controversy in Astrophysics, Astronomy Department	Spring 2021
Introduction to General Relativity and Black Holes, Astronomy Department	Fall 2020
Columbia University, Teaching Assistant	
Theories of the Universe, Astronomy Department	Spring 2020
Weapons of Mass Destruction, Physics Department	Spring 2018, Spring 2019
Stars and Atoms, Astronomy Department	Fall 2018

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Dean's Fund for Seminars and Colloquia, Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	2023
GPPD Career Grant, POD Network	2022
Columbia University Office of Academic Affairs Conference Fund	2018, 2020
ACM-W Scholarship for Women in Computing	2019
Sigma Xi Grant in Aid of Research	2019
Columbia University Senior Thesis Research Fund	2018
Columbia University C.S. Wu Fund for Women in Physics	2018

OUTREACH

Invited Public Outreach Talks:

Yale Pathways Summer Program, July 2022. The Milky Way Galaxy and its Satellites

Astronomy on Tap NYC, November 2021. Cosmic Happy Hour: Exotic Compact Objects

Columbia Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement, November 2019. Global Spotlight Panel Discussion:

So You Think You Can Research Abroad

Columbia University Public Outreach Lecture for Skt. Josef's School, April 2019. Gravitational Wave Astrophysics with LIGO

Yale Graduate Affiliate for Ezra Stiles College, Graduate Affiliate	September 2022 - Present
Open Labs at Yale, Scientist Volunteer	February 2023 - Present
AAS Astronomy Ambassadors Program, Outreach Ambassador	January 2022 - Present
Skype a Scientist, Scientist Volunteer	March 2020 - Present
Letters to a Pre-Scientist, Scientist Volunteer	August 2019 - June 2021
SCiMMA Education and Public Outreach, Contributor	April 2020 - September 2020
Columbia BlueShift Astronomy Society, President and Senior Advisor	January 2018 - May 2020
Columbia Astronomy Public Outreach, Volunteer	February 2017 - May 2020

MENTORING

Research Advising:

Meredith Stone, UMass Amherst (undergraduate, Dorrit Hoffleit Scholar)	June 2021 - August 2021
Amanda Beck, Columbia University (undergraduate)	September 2019 - May 2021
Ana Carolina Oliveira, Columbia University (undergraduate)	May 2020 - September 2020

Yale Astro Sibs Program, Grad Student Mentor & Co-Coordinator

September 2020 - Present

OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

Siding Spring Observatory, Coonabarabran: 2dF, Anglo-Australian Telescope (3.9 m)	3 nights
Palomar Observatory, California: DBSP, Hale Telescope (5.1 m)	17 nights
MDM Observatory, Arizona: Hiltner Telescope (2.4 m)	4 nights

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Physics Department Faculty Hiring Committee, Graduate Representative	January 2023
Yale Astronomy Student Council, Elected Representative	September 2021 - Present
Yale Astronomy Committee on Diversity and Climate, Member	September 2022 - Present
Columbia Alumni Representative Committee, Prospective Student Interviewer	January 2021 - Present
AAS 237 Chambliss Poster Competition, Judge	January 2021

MEDIA COVERAGE

A Grad Student Seat at the Faculty Hiring Table, astrobites	January 2023
Senior Spotlight: Yasmeen Asali, the Blue and White Magazine	May 2020

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SUMMER SCHOOLS

AAS Astronomy Ambassadors Workshop, Virtual	January 2022
AAS 238, Virtual	June 2021
AAS 237 Machine Learning Workshop, Virtual	January 2021
Columbia University Machine Learning In Science and Engineering, Virtual	December 2020
ITS CUNY Adventures in the Theoretical Sciences Summer School, Virtual	June - July 2020
SCiMMA Virtual Workshop, Virtual	May 2020

IceCube Collaboration Meeting, Virtual	May 2020
WFIRST Science Jamboree, NYC	March 2020
LIGO DetChar Face-to-Face Meeting, LIGO Livingston Observatory, LI	January 2020
AAS 235, Honolulu, HI	January 2020
La Serena School for Data Science, La Serena, Chile	August 2019
GR22 and Amaldi13, Valencia, Spain	July 2019
LSST Detection of Optical Counterparts of Gravitational Waves 2nd Workshop, NYC	May 2019
SCiMMA Community Planning Workshop, NYC	January 2019
AAS 233, Seattle, WA	January 2019
Future by the Future: Workshop in Multi-messenger Astrophysics, NYC	November 2018
APS Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, Local Organizer, NYC	January 2018
PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES	
POD Network	2022 - Present
Astronomical Society of the Pacific (ASP)	2022 - Present
American Astronomical Society (AAS)	2019 - Present
American Physical Society (APS)	2019 - Present
Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Honor Society	2019 - 2021
Association for Computing Machinery	2020 - 2021