

YASWANT DEVARAKONDA

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📍 Texas A&M University, Department of Physics & Astronomy

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Type Ia Supernova - Ultraviolet Emission - Super-Chandrasekhar Mass Supernova - Binary Companion Interaction - CSM Interaction - Supernova/Host Galaxy Relations - Cosmology - Astrostatistics

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University

PhD in Astronomy, Advisors: Dr. Peter Brown & Dr. Nicholas Suntzeff

Expected May 2023

M.S. in Astronomy, Advisors: Dr. Peter Brown & Dr. Nicholas Suntzeff

December 2021

Applied Statistics Certificate

December 2021

Associate Certificate: Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning

August 2019

The University of Texas at Austin

B.S. in Astronomy, Advisor: Dr. Steve Finkelstein

May 2018

B.S. in Physics, Advisor: Dr. Steve Finkelstein

May 2018

PUBLICATIONS

First Author

Comparisons of Type Ia Supernova Light Curves in the UV and Optical with the Swift Ultra-violet/Optical Telescope

Y. Devarakonda & P. J. Brown, *The Astronomical Journal*, Volume 163, Issue 6, id.258, 10 pp. (2022) [ADS](#)

Co-Author

The Spitzer-HETDEX Exploratory Large Area Survey. II. The Dark Energy Camera and Spitzer/IRAC Multiwavelength Catalog

I. G. B. Wold, L. Kawinwanichakij, M. L. Stevens, S. L. Finkelstein, C. Papovich, **Y. Devarakonda**, and 12 additional authors

The Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series, Volume 240, Issue 1, article id. 5, 21 pp. (2019) [ADS](#)

Contributing Author

The Hobby-Eberly Telescope Dark Energy Experiment (HETDEX) Survey Design, Reductions, and Detections

K. Gebhardt, E. Mentuch Cooper, R. Ciardullo, V. and 60 additional authors including **Y. Devarakonda**

The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 923, Issue 2, id.217, 39 pp. (2021) [ADS](#)

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Cook's Branch Supernova Retreat, Montgomery, TX

- Talk: *Early Light Curves of Type Ia SNe in the UV and Optical*

15 March 2022

ComSciCon Houston, Rice University

- Talk: *Type Ia SNe in the Ultraviolet*

5 March 2022

SuperVirtual 2021 (Virtual)

- Poster: *Comparing Type Ia Supernovae in the Ultraviolet and Optical*

17 November 2021

Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VII (Virtual)

- iPoster: *The Variability of Type Ia Supernovae in the Ultraviolet*

7 June 2021

Frank N. Bash Symposium, University of Texas at Austin

- Poster: *Using Stellar Kinematics to Measure Black Hole Masses*

22 October 2019

- Poster: *The Faint End of the Lyman Alpha Luminosity Function from $2 \leq z \leq 3.8$*

23 October 2017

231st Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, Washington, DC

- Poster: *The Faint End of the Lyman Alpha Luminosity Function from $2 \leq z \leq 3.8$*

9 January 2018

Texas Undergraduate Research Symposium, Rice University

- Talk: *The Faint End of the Lyman Alpha Luminosity Function from $2 \leq z \leq 3.8$*

13 October 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant/Instructor of Record

- ASTR 102: Observational Astronomy, Texas A&M University Fall 2019 - Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant

- ASTR 111: Overview of Modern Astronomy (Lab), Texas A&M University Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

- AST 321: The Future of Humanity, University of Texas at Austin Spring 2018

- AST 309: The Lives and Deaths of Stars, University of Texas at Austin Fall 2017

- AST 301: Introduction to Astronomy, University of Texas at Austin Fall 2016 - Fall 2017

OUTREACH & SERVICE

AggieNova Undergraduate Research Group Summer 2022 - Current

- Mentor

Astronomy on Tap BCS Fall 2018 - Current

- Organizing Committee, Show Host (recurring), "What's Up" Presenter (monthly)

- Panel Member: *Burning Questions* 26 January 2022

- Talk: *Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night: The Explosive Deaths Of Stars* 15 December 2021

- Talk: *When Will The Sun Die?* 25 August 2021

- Panel Member: *Burning Questions* 23 June 2021

- Talk: *Black Astronauts: Unsung Heroes and Pioneers* 24 June 2020

- Talk: *The Robotic Invasion of Mars* 15 April 2020

- Talk: *The Mars Rovers* 15 January 2020

- Panel Member: *Burning Questions* 11 September 2019

- Talk: *The Cosmic Distance Ladder* 8 May 2019

- Panel Member: *Burning Questions* 10 April 2019

- Panel Member: *Burning Questions* 13 December 2018

- Talk: *Crash Course: Cosmology* 8 November 2018

Mentoring and Advising Graduates in an Inclusive Community ([MAGIC](#)) Fall 2019 - Current

- Mentor

Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) Fall 2020 - Current

- Senator

- Wrote and Introduced GPSG Bill 55.07: *On the Accessibility of Menstrual Health Products on Campus*

American Astronomical Society Congressional Visits Day 2-4 May 2022

- Selected Participant, Co-Lead of Team South

Graduates Learning Astronomy Skills Seminar (GLASS) Fall 2020 - Summer 2022

- Co-Chair

Society for the Underrepresented in Physics and Astronomy ([SUPA](#)) Fall 2020 - Summer 2022

- Co-Chair

- Discussion Leader: *A People's History of Asian America* 20 May 2022

- Talk: *Mentoring Underrepresented Minorities* 25 February 2022

- Discussion Leader: *Department Climate* 17 September 2021

- Discussion Leader: *Prideland: LGBTQ+ Life in the South* 13 August 2021

- Discussion Leader: *The Sum of Our Parts: Usage of Umbrella Terms for Minority Communities* 16 July 2021

- Discussion Leader: *The Problem with "Google is Free" Activism* 2 July 2021

- Discussion Leader: *"Eat the Rich": Reparations in Modern America* 18 June 2021

- Talk: *Performative Masculinity in Society, Culture, and Academia* 26 February 2021

- Discussion Leader: *Departmental Response to COVID-19* 20 November 2020

- Discussion Leader: *Departmental Efforts to Increase BIPOC Representation* 30 October 2020

- Discussion Leader: *AIP TEAM-UP Report* 28 February 2020

Discover, Explore, and Enjoy Physics and Engineering ([DEEP](#)) Fall 2020 - Spring 2022

- Mentor

Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics (CUWiP), Texas A&M University 17-19 January 2020

- Organizing Committee, Panel Moderator, Social Media Co-Lead

Astronomy on Tap ATX

- Stargazing Coordinator

Astronomy Students Association, University of Texas at Austin

- Secretary

- President

Undergraduate Astrophysical Journal Club, University of Texas at Austin

- Founder, Co-Chair

Painter Hall Observatory

- Telescope Operator, Star Party Host

Spring 2017 - Summer 2018

Fall 2014 - Spring 2018

Fall 2015 - Summer 2016

Fall 2016 - Summer 2017

Summer 2017 - Summer 2018

Spring 2017 - Summer 2018