

LUIA LUCIE-SMITH

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Formation and evolution of cosmic structures in our Universe.
- The connection between dark and visible matter.
- Computational techniques: numerical simulations, machine learning, Bayesian statistics.

EMPLOYMENT

- Research Fellowship** **Nov 2020 – present**
Max-Planck-Institut für Astrophysik, Garching, Germany.
- Postdoctoral Research Fellowship** **Nov 2019 – Oct 2020**
University College London, UK.

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Astrophysics.** University College London, UK. **Oct 2015 – Oct 2019**
Thesis: “Insights into cosmological structure formation with machine learning”
Supervisors: Prof. Hiranya Peiris, Prof. Andrew Pontzen.
Examiners: Prof. Benjamin Wandelt, Prof. Ofer Lahav.
- MSc Quantum Fields and Fundamental Forces.** Imperial College London, UK. **Sep 2013 – Sep 2014**
Thesis: “Reheating of the Universe and Gravitational Wave Production”
Supervisor: Prof. Arttu Rajantie; Grade: Merit.
- BSc Mathematical Physics.** The University of Nottingham, UK. **Sep 2010 – Jul 2013**
Thesis: “Tunnelling in Quantum Field Theory”
Supervisor: Dr. Clare Burrage; Grade: 1st Class Honours.

PUBLICATIONS

Selected works:

1. **Lucie-Smith L.**; Peiris H.V.; Pontzen A.; Nord B.; Thiyaalingam J., “Deep learning insights into cosmological structure formation”. Submitted to *Nature Machine Intelligence*. Preprint at [arXiv:2011.10577](https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.10577), 2020.
2. **Lucie-Smith L.**; Peiris H.V.; Pontzen A., “An interpretable machine learning framework for dark matter halo formation”. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, Volume 490, Issue 1, November 2019, Pages 331–342. <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stz2599>
3. **Lucie-Smith L.**; Peiris H.V.; Pontzen A.; Lochner M., “Machine learning dark matter halo formation”. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, Volume 479, Issue 3, September 2018, Pages 3405–3414. [doi:10.1093/mnras/sty1719](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/sty1719).

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- **Universities Research Association Grant.** *Deep learning dark matter halo formation*. PI; \$12,500; collaborators at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (USA) and University College London (UK). *March 2019*.
- **Cosmology and Astroparticle Student and Postdoc Exchange Network Grant.** *Machine learning the density profile of dark matter halos*. PI; £2,600; collaborators at Stanford University (USA) and University College London (UK). *July 2018*.
- **Royal Astronomical Society Grant.** Travel support to present my research at 22nd annual International Conference on Particle Physics and Cosmology, South Korea. £1,014. *Nov 2015*.
- **George Green Prize.** Awarded by University of Nottingham for most outstanding student of the year in the BSc Mathematical Physics course. £400. *July 2013*.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentations about my research to broad and specialized audiences in astrophysics and machine learning:

- Max-Planck-Institut for Astrophysics, Germany. *Institute Seminar*, **invited** talk. *April 2021*.
- LMU Munich, Germany. *Machine learning meeting*, **invited** talk. *March 2021*.
- Origins Excellence Cluster, Munich. *Origins data science meeting*, **invited** talk. *Feb 2021*.
- Cambridge – LMU online cosmology workshop. *Connecting through the cosmic web*, talk. *Jan 2020*.
- GRAPPA (Gravitation Astroparticle Physics Amsterdam). *ML journal club*, **invited** talk. *Nov 2020*.
- Max-Planck-Institut for Astrophysics, Germany. *Cosmology Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Nov 2020*.
- The University of Amsterdam, Netherlands. *AI for Science Colloquium*, **invited** talk. *Nov 2020*.
- University of Oxford, UK. *Cosmology Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Feb 2020*.
- Max-Planck-Institut for Astrophysics, Germany. *Cosmology Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Jan 2020*.
- University of Cambridge, UK. *Cavendish mini-seminar series*, **invited** talk. *Jan 2020*.
- Ringberg Castle, Germany. *Machine learning in Astronomy*, **invited** talk. *Dec 2019*.
- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, USA. *Astrophysics Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Sep 2019*.
- Argonne National Laboratory, USA. *High Energy Physics Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Sep 2019*.
- Flatiron CCA, New York. *Cosmology X Data Science Meeting*, talk. *Jun 2019*.
- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, USA. *New Perspectives 2019*, talk. *Jun 2019*.
- Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland. *BASP Frontiers Workshop*, **invited** deluxe poster. *Mar 2019*.
- University of Sheffield, UK. *Astrophysics Seminar*, **invited** talk. *Mar 2019*.
- Stanford University, USA. *Cosmology Meeting*, talk. *Feb 2019*.
- Institute of Cosmology, London. *London Cosmology Discussion Meeting*, talk. *Oct 2018*.
- Institute for Basic Science, South Korea. *22nd annual International Conference on Particle Physics and Cosmology*, talk. *Aug 2018*.
- University of Oxford, UK. *Statistical Challenges for Large-scale Structure in the Era of LSST*, talk. *Apr 2018*.
- Oskar Klein Centre, Stockholm. *Astrophysics Seminar*, talk. *Mar 2018*.
- University Paris Diderot, France. *21st annual International Conference on Particle Physics and Cosmology*, talk. *Aug 2017*.
- Queen Mary University, London. *Machine Learning in Physics*, **invited** talk. *Dec 2016*.

DUTIES, TEACHING & MENTORING

Institutional roles

- Organizer of Women Encouragement Group, Max-Planck-Institut for Astrophysics. *Dec 2020 – present*.
- Organizer of Cosmology seminar, University College London. *Nov 2019 – Nov 2020*.

Teaching

- Presented my research at 1st year BSc Classical Mechanics lecture, University College London. *Dec 2020*.
- Lecture: *Machine learning in Physics*. Max-Planck-Institut for Astrophysics. *Nov 2020 (postponed)*.
- Led workshop: *Effective remote presentations*. University College London. *Oct 2020*.
- Lecture: *An Introduction to Decision Trees and Random Forests*. University College London. *Mar 2018*.
- Led workshop: *Clean code: guidelines for elegant and efficient code*. University College London. *Nov 2017*.
- Lecture: *An Introduction to Machine Learning*. University College London. *Oct 2016, Oct 2017*.
- Lecture: *Feature Importances in Random Forest*. Oskar Klein Centre, Stockholm, Sweden. *Nov 2016*.

Supervision

- Co-supervising PhD student Lillian Guo at University College London. *Oct 2020 – present*.
- Peer-mentoring for incoming PhD students, *2017*.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Presenter at Kathleen Lonsdale Building Opening, University College London, UK. *April 2018*.
- Presenter for science events, festivals and astronomy groups, including for *Highgate High School* (Nov 2017), *Blackheath High School* (May 2017), *International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Italy* (Mar 2017) and *Your Universe Festival* (Mar 2016).
- Led tour guides at the *University College London Observatory* to members of the public to introduce the field of Astrophysics and explain the workings of telescopes. *Oct 2015 – Oct 2016*.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- European Space Astronomy Centre, Madrid. *Data Analysis & Statistics Workshop*. Statistical inference, Bayesian statistics, computational Bayesian inference, Monte Carlo Markov Chain, machine learning. *Nov 2017*.
- Les Houches, France. Summer school on *Cosmology after Planck: what is next?* *Apr 2016*.
- NVIDIA, London. *Deep Learning and Neural Networks GPU*. *Feb 2016*.
- Imperial College, London. *Bayesian Data Analysis Workshop*. *Sep 2016*.
- University College, London. *Advanced Python course*. *Nov 2015*.
- University College, London. *Software Carpentry Workshop*. *Nov 2015*.
- Imperial College, London. *Introduction to High Performance and Throughput Computing*. *Oct 2015*.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming languages and tools: proficient with Python (NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, scikit-learn, Keras, TensorFlow, LightGBM), Git, slurm; basic ability with C++, Perl; HPC unix systems.

Cosmological simulations: GADGET, SUBFIND, PYNBODY, ASTROPY, CAMB, AHF.