

Dr. Samuel (Sam) N. Lindsay

CONTACT INFORMATION
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PROFILE PhD astrophysicist currently working in the editorial and press offices of the Royal Astronomical Society, publishing and promoting cutting edge research in astrophysics, looking for a new career in data science in the London area. Almost 5 years of academic research experience in a highly analytical subject and a competitive field, requiring experience of multiple programming languages, statistical techniques and large data sets. Skilled at communicating complex work to both expert audiences and the general public, in technical writing, presentations and orally.

KEY SKILLS

- Strong, numerical, academic background spanning mathematical/theoretical physics to practical observational astrophysics. Emphasis on statistical analysis (using e.g. Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods and machine learning) and manipulation of large datasets.
- Programming proficiency in IDL (widely used in astronomy research), Python and C++ languages, and other astronomy-specific software.
- Well-rounded presentation skills through written publications (using \LaTeX) and oral conference presentations (using PowerPoint and Keynote).
- Further communication skills honed through extensive individual and group teaching (both academic and non-academic), and live media work with the Royal Astronomical Society.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Editor

Royal Astronomical Society

May 2015 – Present

- Overseeing and organising the anonymous peer review process and publication of scientific research papers for a leading astrophysics journal, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society (MNRAS).
- Deputy Press Officer, taking charge of writing and editing press releases, operating social media outlets, and providing expert comments for the press regarding our activities, publications and other astronomy-related news.

Postdoctoral Research Assistant

University of Oxford

May 2014 – May 2015

- Academic research funded by the UK Space Agency, applying machine learning algorithms to photometric redshift estimation for the Euclid space mission.
- Further work on statistical analysis of the clustering properties of radio galaxies with model fitting to derive underlying galaxy properties, and cross-correlation with clustering signals from collaborations in other fields of study.
- Presenting work at international conferences; assisting with the supervision of PhD and MPhys students.

Mathematics Tutor

University of Hertfordshire

January 2011 – May 2011

- Designated tutor in Engineering Mathematics course for a class of thirty 1st year BSc Motor-sport Engineering students.
- Leading weekly tutorials to walk through and elaborate on problems set in lectures, as well as marking exam scripts.

Private Tutor

Self-employed

January 2009 – May 2013

- Focused tuition of individual students and small groups at age 13–19 to develop often struggling pupils with their grasp of maths and science.
- Flexibility across a wide range of curricula at KS3, GCSE, A-level and early undergraduate level in Science and Mathematics.

EDUCATION	<p>PhD, Astrophysics University of Hertfordshire</p> <p>October 2010 – May 2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis Title: <i>‘Tracing Large-Scale Structure with Radio Sources’</i> • Supervisor: Prof. Matt Jarvis (Oxford) <p>Academic research on statistical spatial clustering of radio galaxies as a function of time, requiring extensive data manipulation, cross-matching, modelling and general problem solving in a scientific field with many practical limitations and complications.</p>
	<p>MSci, Physics with Theoretical Physics (2:1) Imperial College London</p> <p>September 2005 – June 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis Title: <i>‘Theory and Simulation of Large-Scale Dark Matter Structure Formation’</i> • Supervisor: Prof. Carlo Contaldi <p>A challenging course with a clear focus on more advanced mathematical physics, such as group theory, advanced classical mechanics, quantum field theory and general relativity. Final year project on a cosmological dark matter simulation written in C++.</p>
	<p>A-levels and GCSEs The Haberdashers’ Aske’s Boys’ School</p> <p>September 1998 – July 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A-levels: Physics (A), Maths (A), Further Maths (A), Chemistry (B) and Advanced Extension Award in Physics (Merit) - <i>UCAS points: 480</i> • GCSE: 6 A*s (including French & Spanish) and 4 As.
COMPUTING SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming in IDL, Python and C++ languages (currently learning R). • Experienced with various astrophysics-specific software and command-line tools. • Familiar with Mac OS X, Linux and Windows operating systems. • Proficient user of \LaTeX, Word, PowerPoint and Keynote.
PUBLICATIONS, CONFERENCES & PRESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published in 7 scientific journal articles (2 as primary author). • Presented my work at international conferences across the UK, in Germany and the USA. • Lead observation blocks with telescopes at leading international facilities in La Palma and Chile, making observations and analysing the subsequent image data for scientific output. • Represented the Royal Astronomical Society through live and pre-recorded interviews with radio, TV and printed media, including BBC World News, ITV News, Sky News and the Telegraph.
OTHER SKILLS, INTERESTS & ACHIEVEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media training for radio, print, and TV interviews from Boffin Media • Amateur photographer, particularly high dynamic range (HDR) photography – photos of lunar eclipse and Perseid meteor shower featured on BBC TV and online • Rugby union player for Ealing RFC 2nd XV. • Rower and sculler representing Imperial College Boat Club and Vesta Rowing Club at British Universities events, National Championships and Henley Royal Regatta • Recreational musician and singer: Five years in a rock band, touring venues in and around London, and recording multiple original albums • National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM) Level 2 qualified Fitness Coach • Full UK driving license (10 years)
REFERENCES AVAILABLE TO CONTACT	<p>Prof. Matt J. Jarvis, University of Oxford (matt.jarvis@physics.ox.ac.uk)</p> <p>Dr. Kim Clube, Royal Astronomical Society (kc@ras.org.uk)</p>