Intro to AJC

FALL 2016

VICTOR CALDERON
What is AJC?

- “Astronomy Journal Club”.
- Good practice for giving scientific talks.
- Slightly more specialized than a colloquium talk.
- First-year students are exempt the 1st semester.

Make sure you’re on the AJC and Physics-Astronomy lists:

PHYS_AJC@LIST.VANDERBILT.EDU

PHYS_ASTRO@LIST.VANDERBILT.EDU

- If not, talk to Don Pickert (SC 6301) or donald.pickert@vanderbilt.edu
When and where?

- Every Wednesday at 12pm.
- Here, at SC 6333
How to find it?

Vanderbilt Astronomy Group

The Astronomy Group is a part of the Department of Physics & Astronomy at Vanderbilt University. Both theoretical and observational research is carried out at Vanderbilt, with the work carried out at various national, international and space-platform facilities. In addition, Vanderbilt helps operate the KELT survey for transiting extrasolar planets, and members of the group are active participants in the Kepler and SDSS collaborations, as well as preparing for future large-scale projects like TESS and LSST. The on-campus ACCRE cluster, with over 4000 CPUs, provides the resources for computational astrophysics.
## Journal Club – Fall 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 31, 2016</td>
<td>AJC Orientation and Informal AJC</td>
<td>Victor Calderon and Kevan Stassun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6, 2016 (Tuesday)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Antonio Porrés</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Victor Calderon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 14, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Savannah Jacklin</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Laura Vega</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 28, 2016</td>
<td>No AJC – Matt’s Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 5, 2016</td>
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<td>Michael Lund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Karl Jaeinig</td>
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<td>October 19, 2016</td>
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<td>Adam Szewcij</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Girona Dunn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1, 2016 (Tuesday)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Natasha McMann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Christina Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 9, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>George Veyar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 16, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rose Perez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 23, 2016</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Break</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 30, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>John Hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 7, 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nicholas Chason</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14, 2016</td>
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<td>Samalayaf Farid</td>
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</tbody>
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Guidelines

✓ Aim for 40-50 minutes + Questions
✓ Keep your audience in mind.
✓ Be really familiar with the topic.
✓ Introduce the topic and explain why it is important
  ❖ Use figures and plots, if possible.
✓ Explain what the “big picture” is.
✓ Close with a short summary and ready to answer questions
Guidelines

- **DO’s:**
  - Topic beyond a specific sub-field of astronomy
  - Know all the major points of the paper
  - Provide background to the topic
  - Nice graphics.
  - Practice your talk.
  - Be ready for questions.

- **DON’Ts:**
  - Review Papers
  - Too many equations in one slide
  - Too much jargon
  - Exceed your allotted time.
Finding a topic

- Talk about your research
- Talk about someone else’s research
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- arXiv & astro-ph

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  - arXiv & astro-ph
  - VoxCharta

http://vanderbilt.voxcharta.org
Finding a topic

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- VoxCharta
- OSU The Daily Brew

http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/Coffee/coffee.html
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https://arxiver.wordpress.com
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  - arXiver
  - ADS

http://adsabs.harvard.edu
Other resources

Vanderbilt Astronomy Group

TALKS AND MEETINGS

Astronomy Journal Club

Journal Club meets Wednesdays at 12:00 pm in SC 6333. Please see schedule below. Contact: Meegan Lang (meegan.m.lang)

- Current Journal Club Schedule
- Journal Club Schedule Archives

Usefulness:

- Giving a Scientific Talk
- Journal Club Guideline
- Presentation Rubric
- Evaluation Form
Other resources

- Vanderbilt-Astronomy PBworks page:
  - [http://vanderbiltastro.pbworks.com](http://vanderbiltastro.pbworks.com)
  - A repository for important info and other resources.
  - Open an account on PBworks and request access to the repository
  - Or send me an email and I’ll invite you to the repository.
Summary

- Good for practicing giving talks
- 40-50 minutes + Questions
- Know the key points of the paper
- Background and terminology
- Use the available resources
QUESTIONS?