

Dr. Paola Pinilla

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EDUCATION

JUL. 2010- JUL. 2013 **Ph.D. in Astrophysics**, ITA, University of Heidelberg, Germany.
SEP. 2007- SEP. 2009 **M.Sc. in Physics**, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.
JAN. 2003- SEP. 2007 **B.Sc. in Physics, focus on Mathematics**, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.

CURRENT AND PREVIOUS POSITIONS

JUL. 2022 **Associate Professor**, MSSL/UCL, UK.
JUN. 2019 - JUN. 2022 **Independent Research Group Leader**, MPIA, Germany.
NOV. 2016 - MAY. 2019 **NASA Hubble Fellow**, University of Arizona, USA.
SEP. 2013 - OCT. 2016 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Leiden University, The Netherlands.

ACCEPTED REFEREED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

I have a total of 130 refereed publications in international peer-reviewed journals, including 25 papers as a first author (two of them are reviews). From these publications, I am second or third author of 36 papers, from which I supervised 27 of them. Currently, my h-index is 51, with a total of ~ 7600 citations. Complete list at this [URL](#).

SELECTED GRANTS AND AWARDS

I have obtained a total of $\sim 5,462,195$ euros, of which I have declined $\sim 2,485,200$ euros to accept other positions/offers. The money has been used for my independent research, and $\sim 23,000$ euros have been donated to non-profit organizations. Here I highlight some of the accepted awards/grants:

- 2024 New Horizons in Physics Award, Breakthrough Foundation.
- Successful ERC Starting Grant Proposal 2023-2028.
- NINS-DAAD 2020 program for International Exchange between Japan and Germany.
- Ludwig Biermann Award 2020 from the German Astronomical Society to the best young astronomer in Germany.
- Approved Lorentz Center Workshop 2021.
- Sofja Kovalevskaja Award, 2018, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.
- NASA Hubble Fellowship 2016.
- NRAO Grant to organize the conference "Star and Planet Formation (SPF2) in the South-West", March 2018.
- NOVA Grant to organize a Lorentz workshop, March 2015.
- Patzer Prize for one of the best publications by a young scientist at MPIA/ZAH in 2012.
- Graduate Research Fellowship, International Max Planck Research School (2010-2013), Germany.

OBSERVATIONAL PROGRAMS

- (co-) Principal Investigator of Accepted Proposals for: ALMA (incl. a large program), VLT/SPHERE, PdBI.
- Co-Investigator of Accepted Proposals for JWST, ALMA, HST, PdBI, CARMA, VLT/NACO, VLT/SPHERE, VLT/CRIRES, VLT/X-SHOOTER, VLA, LBT, ATCA.

SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS AND POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS

- **Post-doctoral Fellows:** Dr. Matías Gárate (MPIA, 2020-2023), Dr. Aníbal Sierra (UCL, 2024-2027), Dr. Minjae Kim (UCL, 2024-2027), Dr. Fabiola Gerosa (UCL, 2024-2027).
- **PhD Students:** Juanita Antilen (UCL, 2022-2026), Lilian Luo (UCL, 2022-2026), Nicolas T. Kurtovic (MPIA, 2019-2023), Timmy Delage (MPIA, 2019-2023).

- **Master Students:** Andrew Allan (UCL, 2023-2024), Wing Yu (UCL, 2022-2023), Wali Butt (UCL, 2022-2023), Jochen Stadler (MPIA, 2021), Nicola Kroon (Leiden University, 2014), Roman Tatch (Leiden University, 2014), Adriana Pohl (University of Heidelberg, 2013).
- **Bachelor Students:** Leon Marx (MPIA, 2021), Max Ackermann (MPIA, 2020).
- **Summer-internship Students:** Aoife Boyle (LEAPS Program, 2015).
- **Co-supervision PhD Students:** Anna Thomas (UCL, 2022-2026), Kan Chen (UCL, 2021-2025), Dr. Feng Long (University of Pekin, 2019), Dr. Michael Hammer (University of Arizona, 2017-2020), Dr. Nathan Hendler (University of Arizona, 2017-2020), Dr. Giovanni Dipierro (Milan University, 2015), Dr. Maria de Juan Ovelar (Leiden University, 2014).

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Currently, I am a lecturer of Planetary Atmospheres at the University College London in the UK. Previously, I taught several different lectures, including: experimental physics, observational astronomy, and the IMPRS seminar at University of Heidelberg, topics on astronomical research, planet formation, and advanced extra galactic astronomy at University of Arizona, and different physics lessons at Universidad de los Andes.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS, REVIEWING ACTIVITIES, AND RESPONSABILITIES

- **PhD thesis committee:** [1] Dr. Daniel Elsender, Exeter University, UK (2024). [2] Dr. Johan Appelgren, Lund University, Sweden (2024). [3] Dr. Samuel Emery, UCL, UK (2024). [4] Dr. Andres Izquierdo, Leiden Observatory, the Netherlands (2023). [5] Dr. Akke Corporaal, Leuven Observatory, Belgium (2023). [6] Dr. Daniel Cummins, Imperial College London, UK (2022). [7] Dr. Nathan Hendler, LPL/University of Arizona, USA (2020). [8] Dr. Leon Trapman, Leiden Observatory, The Netherlands (2020). [9] Dr. Paolo Cazzoletti, Leiden Observatory, The Netherlands (2019).
- **Member of LOC and/or SOC:** [1] International Space Science Institute (ISSI) Meeting 2025, Bern, Switzerland. [2] Workshop on the formation of circumbinary planetary systems and their evolution across the HR diagram 2025, Florence, Italy. [3] UK Exoplanet meeting 2023 (~150 participants), London, UK. [4] EAS session "Formation of planetary systems: connecting theory and observations (~30 participants), Krakow, Poland. [5] "The hidden newly born planets" in EXOA – Exoplanets & Origins of Planetary Systems and Astrobiology (30 participants), Granada, Spain. [6] Lorentz workshop: "Planet-forming Disks: From Surveys to Answers" (80 participants), Leiden, the Netherlands. [7] IMPRS Summer School: "Planet Formation in Protoplanetary Disks" (110 participants), Heidelberg, Germany. [8] "Space Studies of the Earth-Moon System, Planets, and Small Bodies of the Solar System" (100 participants), Pasadena, California, USA. [9] "Star and Planet Formation (SPF2) in the South-West" (120 participants), Biosphere 2 Center, Arizona, USA. [10] Lorentz workshop: "Transition Disks and Planet Formation" (50 participants), Leiden, the Netherlands.
- **Observing Proposal Reviewer:** Panel member for the Cycle 1 Time Allocation Committee (TAC) of JWST (2020). External reviewer for JWST Cycle 2 and Cycle 3. Member of ESO Observing Programmes Committee (2024-2026)
- **Journal Referee:** Science, Nature, Nature Astronomy, ApJ, ApJL, A&A (papers and letters), MNRAS, PASJ, RMxAA, Planetary and Space Science (Elsevier), and Astrophysics and Space Science (Springer). I review in average ~ 6 papers/year since 2014.
- **Grants Reviewer:** [1] Panelist for the Emerging Worlds Program (NASA), [2] NASA Exoplanets Research Program (XRP), [3] Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), [4] National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT), [5] French National Research Agency, [6] Distributed Research utilizing Advanced Computing (DIRAC), [7] Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology (FINESST), [8] The Stephen Hawking Fellowship, [9] National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFI, Hungary), [10] Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) - UKRI (3 times), [11] EU-funded MSCA4Ukraine, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. [12] STFC Astronomy observation and theory small awards 2024.
- **Institutional Responsibilities:** [1] Deputy of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee at MSSL/UCL. [2] Academic representative for Student and Staff consultative committee (SSCC) at MSSL/UCL. [3] Post-doc recruitment committee at MPIA (2019 and 2022) and MSSL/UCL (2022, 2023, 4 times), [4] PhD's recruitment committee of IMPRS 2019. [5] Mentor in the [Mothers in Science](#) Program. [6] Co-leader of the project "Mothers in Astronomy" book. More information [here](#). [7] Member of the MPIA working group "Workplace Culture & Environment" 2020-2022.

SCIENTIFIC TALKS

I have given more than 110 scientific talks, including 70 *invited* talks to international institutes and conferences. Of these talks, 25 were public colloquium (three in Spanish), and 4 have been main reviews in large conferences (more than 100 participants). Here I highlight the talks that I gave in the last year

- JUN. 2024 Contributed talk in Exoplanets V, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- JUN. 2024 Invited Seminar in the Exoplanets Research Group, Cambridge, UK
- APR. 2024 Invited talk at the Conference Direct Imaging & Characterization of Exoplanets in the ELT Era, Tucson, US
- MAR. 2024 Invited Talk, Planet Formation Meeting, Como, Italy
- DEC. 2023 Invited Seminar, Leiden Observatory, the Netherlands.
- NOV. 2023 Invited colloquium, Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia.
- NOV. 2023 Invited colloquium, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.
- OCT. 2023 Invited Seminar at the Astrophysics Department at University of Warwick, UK.
- AUG. 2023 Contributed Talk at UKEXOM 2023, UK.
- MAY. 2023 Invited Seminar at the Astrophysics Department at Imperial College London, UK.

In addition, I have given five outreach talks, and talks related to different topics of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, including: [1] Impostor Syndrome Workshop (12 times), [2] Mothers in Astronomy (3 times), [3] Life-work Balance (2 times), [4] Balancing Scientific Collaborations (2 times), [5] Unconscious Bias (2 times), [6] Inclusion in Astronomy (1 time), [7] Ethics in Astrophysics (2 times), and [8] Career Paths in Astronomy (1 time).

CAREER BREAKS

- JUNE 2021 Maternity Leave (6 months)
- MARCH 2020 Part-time work because of increased caring responsibility for dependent person, including homeschooling of children (1 year of part-time work (50%) for a total of 6 months).
- JULY 2018 Maternity Leave (6 months).