SARA ISSAOUN

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Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Astrophysical black holes, accretion flow mechanisms, interstellar medium, Galactic Center, computational imaging, very long baseline interferometry.

EDUCATION

PhD in Astrophysics, Radboud University Thesis title: "Lifting the Veil on Black Holes: Approaching the Event Horiz Resolution Imaging" supervised by Prof. H. Falcke (cum laude)	2017 – 2021 zon with High
MSc in Physics & Astronomy, Radboud University Thesis title: "VLBA imaging of 3mm SiO masers near Orion Source I" (cu	2015 – 2017 um laude)
BSc in Physics, McGill University	2012 - 2015
RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE	
Student Supervision	
Kim Alonso, SAO intern	Jan – Jul 2024
Erandi Chavez, Harvard University	2022 – present
Noemi La Bella, Radboud University	2021 – present
Black Hole Explorer Science Operations Lead	2023 – present
Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian	
NHFP Einstein Fellow / SMA Fellow Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian	2021 – present
Lecturer Lorentz School on the Fundamentals of the Universe – Black Holes on All SMA Interferometry School – Very Long Baseline Interferometry (2022 – 2	
Member of the Event Horizon Telescope Collaboration Polarimetry Working Group coordinator	2015 – present 2022 – present
Graduate Teaching Assistant, <i>Faculty of Science, Radboud University</i> Courses: Planetary Systems (2017 – 2020), Gas Dynamics (2017 – 2019), Observational Astronomy (2017 – 2019), Quantum Mechanics 2 (2016 – 2	2016 - 2020 2017)
Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory Predoctoral Fellow Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian	2018

RECENT HONORS AND AWARDS

Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian pH Lecture	2024	
Christiaan Huygens Science Prize	2022	
EHT Thesis Award – Data Analysis Category	2021	
L'Oreal Netherlands For Women In Science Rising Talent Prize (1st place)	2021	
NASA Hubble Fellowship Program – Einstein Fellowship	2021	
Sub-Millimeter Array Postdoctoral Fellowship (deferred to 2024)	2021	
EHT Early Career Award –	2020	
for contributions to the observations, array calibration, data validation, and imaging		
of the 2017 EHT data, leading to the results published in the first six EHT papers		
<i>Einstein Medal for EHT</i> – as member of the EHT	2020	
Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics for EHT – as member of the EHT	2020	
Radboud University Team Science Award – as member of RU EHT team	2019	
NSF Diamond Achievement Award – as member of the EHT	2019	
Radboud University Christine Mohrmann Stipend	2019	
Radboud University Best Faculty of Science Thesis Prize	2018	

RECENT SCIENTIFIC TALKS

CfA Colloquium (for pH Lecture)	Sept 2024
CfA Summer Colloquium Series Lecture	Jul 2024
Black Hole Explorer Japan Workshop Invited Talk	Jun 2024
Harvard Black Hole Initiative Annual Conference Invited Talk	May 2024
Princeton Gravity Initiative Seminar	Apr 2024
CfA Special Colloquium on new EHT results	Mar 2024
Boston University Astronomy Colloquium	Mar 2024
NASA IRSTIG meeting talk on Black Hole Explorer	Nov 2023
Onsala Space Observatory Colloquium	Oct 2023
JuliaCon 2023 Radio Interferometry Mini Symposium Talk	Jul 2023
EAS EHT Special Session Talk	Jul 2023
Bologna VLBI: Life Begins at 40! conference Invited Talk	May 2023
Princeton Gravity Initiative/PCTS Workshop Invited Talk	Feb 2023
Korean Astronomy & Space Institute Colloquium	Nov 2022
Seoul National University Astronomy Colloquium	Nov 2022
Yonsei University Astronomy Colloquium	Nov 2022
Boston University Astronomy Colloquium	Nov 2022
Tufts University Astronomy Colloquium	Oct 2022

PyCon US 2022 Keynote Speaker	Apr 2022
Galaxy Evolution Seminar, University of Oxford (remote)	Oct 2021
CASPER Workshop Invited Talk (remote)	May 2021
COSPAR Invited Talk (remote)	Jan 2021
NCAC Colloquium, Polish Academy of Sciences (remote)	Oct 2020
Black Hole Initiative Colloquium, Harvard (remote)	Sept 2020
McGill Space Institute Astronomy Seminar, McGill (remote)	Sept 2020
EHT Special Session Speaker. 235th AAS, Hawaii, USA	Jan 2020
Invited Talk. Galactic Center Workshop, Yokohama, Japan	Oct 2019
Invited Keynote Talk. EuroSciPy 2019, Bilbao	Sept 2019

RECENT ACADEMIC SERVICE

Organizing Committee. CfA RMS Seminar	2024 – present
CfA Workshop/Conference and Visitor Committee	2024
Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 32 proposal review panelist	2024
Scientific Organizing Committee. Black Hole Explorer Japan Workshop	2024
Local Organizing Committee. 50 Years of Narayan Conference	2023 - 2024
EHTC Polarimetry Working Group Coordinator	2022 – present
Organizing Committee and lecturer. Annual SMA Interferometry School	2022 - present
NSERC Fellowship Selection Committee	2022 - 2024
Scientific Organizing Committee. COSPAR 2024 Session E1.18	Oct 2022–2024
ASTRON SEP Evaluation Committee	2023
Scientific Organizing Committee. EAS 2023 Special Session 23	2022 - 2023
Scientific Organizing Committee. EHT collaboration meetings	2018, 2019, 2023
NASA Astrophysics Proposal Reviewer	2022
Organizer. Black Holes Across Space and Time (BLAST) Workshop	2021 - 2022
Organizing Committee Chair. Broadening Horizons ngEHT Workshop	2022
Scientific Organizing Committee. EAS 2021 Special Session 11.	2021
Scientific Organizing Committee. EHT Imaging Workshops	2018, 2020
Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. EHT Collaboration	2020 - 2022
Project Director Search Committee. EHT Collaboration	2019 - 2020
Scientific Organizing Committee. EHT Polarimetry Workshop	2019

RECENT OUTREACH

Guest on The Women's Table podcast	Sept 2024
Guest on NPR All Things Considered	Mar 2024
Guest on Bulletin Spatial documentary series (French)	Oct 2023
EHT Black Hole Week in coordination with NASA Universe	2022 - 2024

Guest on Talk Python podcast	Jan 2023
Guest on PBS Stargazers	Jun 2022
Black Hole PIRE Webinar Series on the Galactic Center Talk	Feb 2022
Talk for Ciencia en Bicicleta at the Planetario de Medellín. (Spanish, remote)	Aug 2021
Boston Museum of Science Panelist (remote)	May 2021
Yuri's Night World Space Party Turkey (remote)	Apr 2021
Guest Speaker, Telus Spark Camp Girls Heart Science (remote)	Aug 2020
Guest Speaker, Canadian Online Science Fair (remote)	June 2020
Keynote Speaker. '2020: A Space Odyssey' Symposium, Grinnell College, Iowa	Feb 2020
Invited Panelist. EHT panel at the Genoa Science Festival, Genoa, IT	Nov 2019
Invited Speaker. Flemish Amateur Astronomy Society, Brugges, BE	Oct 2019
Guest on Starts With A Bang podcast	Sept 2019
Speaker. Public Lectures at the Museum Valkhof, Nijmegen, NL	Apr 2019