

GUÐMUNDUR KÁRI STEFÁNSSON, PHD — CV

HENRY NORRIS RUSSELL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW

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EDUCATION

- 2013-2019** | **Penn State University:** Ph.D., Astronomy & Astrophysics (advisor: Suvrath Mahadevan)
— Thesis: *Extreme Precision Photometry and Radial Velocimetry from the Ground*
- 2012** | **Stanford University:** Summer International Honors Program
- 2010-2013** | **University of Iceland:** B.S., Physics (Thesis: *Observational Constraints on Dark Energy*)

APPOINTMENTS

- 2019-2022** | **Henry Norris Russell Postdoctoral Fellow**
Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University [Advisor: Dr. Joshua Winn]
- 2016-2019** | **NASA Earth and Space Science Fellow**
Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Penn State University [Advisor: Dr. Suvrath Mahadevan]
- 2015-2016** | **Leifur Eiriksson Research Fellow**
Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Penn State University [Advisor: Dr. Suvrath Mahadevan]
- 2013-2014** | **Teaching Assistant in Astrophysics**
Dept. of Astronomy & Astrophysics, Penn State University
- 2013** | **CERN Summer Research: ISOLDE Experiment**
European Organization for Nuclear Research, CERN [Advisor: Dr. María Borge]
- 2011-2013** | **Undergraduate Researcher in Nanophotonics**
Department of Physics, University of Iceland [Advisor: Dr. Kristján Leósson]

INSTRUMENTS & COLLABORATIONS

The Habitable-zone Planet Finder | Deputy Project Scientist

Near-infrared (NIR) spectrograph on the 10m Hobby-Eberly Telescope. I currently lead the HPF 5-year survey. Using my RV extraction pipeline, we have demonstrated some of the highest RV precision in the NIR (1.5m/s). I led and co-lead the design and testing of a number of subsystems (e.g., environmental control system, fiber-feed).

NEID | Instrument & Science Team Member

The NASA-NSF precision RV spectrograph on the WIYN 3.5m telescope with a ~ 30 -50cm/s RV precision. I led and co-lead the design and testing of a number of subsystems. My template matching pipeline has demonstrated ~ 50 cm/s RV precision on nearby stars with NEID. I am currently leading a number of NEID science programs.

KPF | Science Team Member

I am a member of the science team of the Keck Planet Finder, the next-generation RV spectrograph for the Keck-I telescope.

Space-Quality Photometry with Engineered Diffusers | NSF-funded collaboration

I have pioneered the use of Engineered Diffusers to achieve some of the highest precision photometry from the ground.

SELECT AWARDS & HONORS

- 2021** | **Robert J. Trumpler Award**, for an important PhD Thesis in Astronomy
- 2016-2019** | **NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship (NESSF)**
- 2016,18,19** | **Zaccheus Daniel Travel Award**, Penn State
- 2017** | **Downsbrough Graduate Fellowship**, Penn State
- 2015** | **Stephen B. Brumbach Fellowship in Astrophysics**, Penn State
- 2015** | **Leifur Eiríksson Foundation Fellowship**
- 2014** | **TA of the Year**, Penn State
- 2013** | **Braddock-Roberts Fellowship**, Penn State
- 2013** | **Fulbright Fellowship**, PhD program at Penn State

PROFESSIONAL TALKS

1. 2021/09/09: Invited colloquium, University of Oklahoma (online)
2. 2021/06/03: Invited talk, Princeton Astrophysics Advisory Council (online)
3. 2021/04/07: Invited seminar, University of Pennsylvania (online)
4. 2020/10/29: Invited seminar, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (online)
5. 2020/10/15: Thunch seminar talk, Princeton University (online)
6. 2020/03/11: Seminar talk, Center for Computational Astrophysics, New York, NY, USA
7. 2019/08/20: Contributed talk, Extreme Solar Systems IV, Reykjavik, Iceland
8. 2019/03/21: Contributed talk, Extreme Precision Radial Velocities IV, Grindelwald, Switzerland
9. 2019/01/08: Dissertation talk, 233rd AAS Meeting, Seattle, WA, USA
10. 2019/01/08: Invited talk, NESSF Special Session, 233rd AAS Meeting, Seattle, WA, USA
11. 2018/09/17: Exoplanet seminar talk, Princeton University, NJ, USA
12. 2018/09/14: Invited seminar, Space Sciences Lab, Berkeley, CA, USA
13. 2018/09/12: Invited exoplanet seminar, California Institute of Technology, CA, USA
14. 2018/09/10: Seminar talk, Center for Exoplanets and Habitable Worlds, Penn State, PA, USA
15. 2018/06/22: Contributed talk, Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Science IV, Penn State, PA, USA
16. 2017/08/15: Invited breakout session, Extreme Precision Radial Velocities III, Penn State, USA
17. 2017/08/14: Contributed talk, Extreme Precision Radial Velocities III, Penn State, USA
18. 2017/01/05: Contributed talk, Icelandic Astronomical Society Meeting, Reykjavik, Iceland
19. 2016/06/12: Contributed talk, Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Science II, Cornell, NY, USA
20. 2015/05/28: Contributed talk, Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Science I, Penn State, PA, USA

MENTORING

2020+	Sinclair Jones Undergraduate at Princeton. 2x Junior Projects, Senior Thesis advisor.
2019+	Shubham Kanodia Graduate Student at Penn State. Planet Detection, Instrumentation.
2019+	Caleb Cañas Graduate Student at Penn State. Planet Detection & Characterization.
2018+	Marissa Maney Undergraduate at Penn State. Transits & instrumentation. Now at Harvard.
2016-18	Yiting Li Undergraduate at Penn State. Transits & instrumentation. Now at UCSB.
2015-17	David Conrad Undergraduate at Penn State. Instrumentation. Now at RIT.

TEACHING

2013,14	INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD , Astro 11, Penn State
2014	TA , Planetarium, Davey Lab Observatory Observing, Penn State
2014	TA & GUEST LECTURER , Astro 1, Astro 5, Astro 6, Penn State
2013,14	TA & GUEST LECTURER , Astro 1, 5, 6, 10, Planetarium Shows, Penn State
2012,13	TA , Physics 2, Physics-305G, Experimental Physics Lab, Classical Mechanics, Uni. Iceland
2012	TA , Classical Mechanics, Uni. Iceland
2012	PRIVATE TUTOR , Physics 1V, Nobel 101

PRESS RELEASES

Nov 2020	In the Mysterious Blue Ring Nebula, Scientists See the Fate of Binary Stars — Princeton
Aug 2020	Surprisingly Dense Exoplanet Challenges Planet Formation Theories — NOIRLab
Feb 2020	Sub-Neptune-sized planet validated with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder — Penn State
Jan 2020	A New Tool for 'Weighing' Unseen Planets — NASA/JPL
Oct 2017	Press Release on Engineered Diffuser Technology — Penn State

SELECT OUTREACH

Feb 2021	Amateur Astronomy Association of Princeton: Talk on Exoplanets and Instrumentation
Jan 2020	Nobel Prize in Physics: Exoplanets Public talk, National History Museum of Iceland
Current (2014+)	HPF & NEID Blogs: (hpf.psu.edu): 10 articles, and 4 videos
2017,2019, 2021	Radio Interviews: <i>Morgunúttvarpið</i> , <i>Samfélagið</i> , Icelandic public radio
2017,2019, 2021	Newspaper Interviews: <i>Vísir</i> , Icelandic newspaper
2017	Solar Eclipse Viewing: Volunteering during solar eclipse on August 21st
2014-2016	@astrobites: Wrote > 20 articles, a daily astronomy literature journal
2014, 2015	Public Observing: Numerous nights with 10", 12", and 24" telescopes, Penn State
2013, 2014, 2015	Astro-Fest, Astro-Night: Public observing, planetarium, make-a-comet, Penn State
2013, 2014, 2015	Astro-Night: Public observing, planetarium, Penn State
2014	Exploration U: Community Science Night, State College
2012, 2013	University Day: Experimental Physics Demonstrations, Uni. Iceland

SELECT ACADEMIC SERVICE

Review Panels	NASA Extreme Precision Radial Velocity Foundation Science Proposals, March 2021
Referee	MNRAS, A&A, ApJL
Membership Organizer	American Astronomical Society, Astronomical Society of Iceland, SPIE Emerging Researchers in Exoplanet Science I, IV, V , Penn State 2015, 2018, Princeton 2021 Extreme Solar Systems IV , Reykjavík, Iceland, August, 2019 Extreme Precision Radial Velocities IV , Penn State, August 14-17, 2017

List of Publications — Gudmundur Stefansson

45 Total, 30 peer reviewed, 1 in Nature.

1st Author (9 Total, 7 Peer Reviewed)

9. [Stefansson, et al. 2020, AJ, 160, 6.](#)
A Mini-Neptune and a Radius-Valley-Planet Orbiting the Nearby M2 dwarf TOI-1266 in its Venus-Zone: Validation with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder.
8. [Stefansson, et al. 2020, AJ, 160, 192.](#)
The Habitable-zone Planet Finder Reveals A High Mass and a Low Obliquity for the Young Neptune K2-25b.
7. [Stefansson, et al. 2020, AJ, 159, 100.](#)
A sub-Neptune sized planet transiting the M2.5-dwarf G 9-40: Validation with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder.
6. [Stefansson, et al. 2018, AJ, 156, 266.](#)
Diffuser-assisted Photometric Follow-up Observations of the Neptune-sized Planets K2-28b and K2-100b.
5. [Stefansson, et al. 2018, SPIE Conference Series, Vol. 10702.](#)
Extreme precision photometry from the ground with beam-shaping diffusers for K2, TESS, and beyond.
4. [Stefansson, et al. 2017, ApJ 848, 9.](#)
Toward Space-like Photometric Precision from the Ground with Beam-shaping Diffusers.
3. [Stefansson, et al. 2016, ApJ 833, 175.](#)
A Versatile Technique to Enable Sub-milli-Kelvin Instrument Stability for Precise Radial Velocity Measurements: Tests with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder.
2. [Stefansson, et al. 2016, SPIE Conference Series, 9908, 990871.](#)
Ultra-stable temperature and pressure control for the Habitable-zone Planet Finder spectrograph.
1. [Stefansson, et al. 2011, Raust, 8, 1.](#)
Samþætting vökvarása og ljósrása á örflögum (English: Fabrication of integrated optical and microfluidic devices).

2nd and 3rd Author (17 Total, 14 Peer Reviewed)

17. [Vissapragada, Stefansson, Greklek-McKeon et al. 2021, AJ \(accepted\).](#)
A Search for Planetary Metastable Helium Absorption in the V1298 Tau System.
16. [Kanodia, Stefansson, Cañas et al. 2021, AJ, 162, 135.](#)
TOI-532b: The Habitable-zone Planet Finder confirms a Large Super Neptune in the Neptune Desert orbiting a metal-rich M dwarf host.
15. [Krishnamurthy, Hirano, Stefansson et al. 2021, AJ, 162, 82.](#)
Non-detection of Helium in the upper atmospheres of TRAPPIST-1b, e and f.
14. [Lubin, Robertson, Stefansson et al. 2021, AJ 162, 61.](#)
Stellar Activity Manifesting at a One Year Alias Explains Barnard b as a False Positive.
13. [Mahadevan, Stefansson, Robertson et al. 2021, ApJL, 919, 9.](#)
The Habitable-zone Planet Finder Detects a Terrestrial-mass Planet Candidate Closely Orbiting Gliese 1151: The Likely Source of Coherent Low-frequency Radio Emission from an Inactive Star.

12. [Cañas, Stefansson, Kanodia, et al. 2020, AJ, 160, 147.](#)
A warm Jupiter transiting an M dwarf: A TESS single transit event confirmed with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder.
11. [Kanodia, Cañas, Stefansson et al. 2020, ApJ, 899, 29.](#)
TOI-1728b: The Habitable-zone Planet Finder confirms a warm super Neptune orbiting an M dwarf host.
10. [Robertson, Stefansson, Mahadevan, et al. 2020, ApJ, 897, 125.](#)
Persistent starspot signals on M dwarfs: multi-wavelength Doppler observations with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder and Keck/HIRES.
9. [Ninan, Stefansson, Mahadevan, et al. 2020, ApJ, 894, 97.](#)
Evidence for He I 10830 Å absorption during the transit of a warm Neptune around the M-dwarf GJ 3470 with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder.
8. [Ninan, Mahadevan, Stefansson et al. 2019, ISPA 2018.](#)
Impact of crosshatch patterns in H2RGs on high precision radial velocity measurements: Exploration of measurement and mitigation paths with HPF.
7. [Kanodia, Wolfgang, Stefansson, et al. 2019, ApJ 882, 38.](#)
Mass-Radius relationship for M dwarf exoplanets: Comparing nonparametric and parametric methods.
6. [von Essen, Stefansson, Mallon, et al. 2019, A&A, 628, 11.](#)
First Light of Engineered Diffusers at the Nordic Optical Telescope Reveal Time Variability in the Optical Eclipse Depth of WASP-12b.
5. [Cañas, Stefansson, Monson, et al. 2019, ApJL 877, 29.](#)
TOI-150: A transiting hot Jupiter in the TESS southern CVZ.
4. [Robertson, T. Anderson, G. Stefansson, et al. 2019, JATIS, 015003.](#)
Ultrastable environment control for the NEID spectrometer: design and performance demonstration.
3. [Li, Stefansson, Robertson, et al. 2017, RNAAS, 1, 49.](#)
A Candidate Transit Event around Proxima Centauri.
2. [Bender, Robertson, Stefansson et al. 2016, SPIE, 9913, 991338.](#)
The instrument control software package for the Habitable-Zone Planet Finder spectrometer.
1. [Slovinsky, Stefansson, Kossoy et al. 2013, Plasmonics 8.4, 1613.](#)
Propagation Loss of Long-Range Surface Plasmon Polariton Gold Stripe Waveguides in the Thin-Film Limit.

Other Coauthor (19 Total, 9 Peer Reviewed)

19. [Terrien \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2021, AJ, 161, 252.](#)
Broadband Stability of the Habitable Zone Planet Finder Fabry-Pérot Etalon Calibration System: Evidence for Chromatic Variation.
18. [Seifahrt et al. \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2021, SPIE, 11447.](#)
On-sky commissioning of MAROON-X: A new precision radial velocity spectrograph for Gemini North.
17. [Kanodia \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2021, ApJ, 912, 15.](#)
A Harsh Test of Far-field Scrambling with the Habitable-zone Planet Finder and the Hobby-Eberly Telescope.

16. [Tran \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2021, AJ, 161, 173,](#)
The Epoch of Giant Planet Migration Planet Search Program. I. Near-Infrared Radial Velocity Jitter of Young Sun-like Stars.
15. [Gupta \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2021, AJ, 161, 130,](#)
Target Prioritization and Observing Strategies for the NEID Earth Twin Survey.
14. [Schwab \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, SPIE, 11447,](#)
The NEID spectrometer: fibre injection system design.
13. [Kanodia \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, SPIE, 11447,](#)
Ghosts of NEID's past.
12. [Hoadley \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, Nature, 587, 387-391,](#)
A blue ring nebula from a stellar merger several thousand years ago.
11. [Obermeier \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, A&A, 639, 130,](#)
Following the TraCS of exoplanets with Pan-Planets: Wendelstein-1b and Wendelstein-2.
10. [Roy \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, AJ, 159, 161,](#)
Solar Contamination in Extreme-precision Radial-velocity Measurements: Deleterious Effects and Prospects for Mitigation.
9. [Lam \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2020, AJ, 159, 120,](#)
It takes two planets in resonance to tango around K2-146.
8. [Metcalf \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2019, Optica, 6, 233,](#)
Stellar Spectroscopy in the Near-infrared with a Laser Frequency Comb.
7. [Kanodia \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2018, SPIE, 10702,](#)
Overview of the spectrometer optical fiber feed for the habitable-zone planet finder.
6. [Ninan \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2018, SPIE, 10709,](#)
The Habitable-Zone Planet Finder: improved flux image generation algorithms for H2RG up-the-ramp data.
5. [Halverson \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2016, SPIE 9908, 99086,](#)
A comprehensive radial velocity error budget for next generation Doppler spectrometers.
4. [Robertson \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2016, SPIE, 9908, 990862,](#)
A system to provide sub-milliKelvin temperature control at T 300K for extreme precision optical radial velocimetry.
3. [Schwab \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2016, SPIE, 9912, 991274,](#)
Adaptive optics fed single-mode spectrograph for high-precision Doppler measurements in the near-infrared.
2. [Hearty \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2014, SPIE, 9147, 914752,](#)
Environmental control system for Habitable-zone Planet Finder (HPF).
1. [Mahadevan \(including Stefansson\) et al. 2014, SPIE, 9147,](#)
The Habitable-zone Planet Finder: A status update on the development of a stabilized fiber-fed near-infrared spectrograph for the for the Hobby-Eberly telescope.