

WAQAS A. BHATTI

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Interests and Recent Work

Engineering of data extraction, analysis, and archiving infrastructure for large astronomical surveys; Time domain astronomy; Variable stars; Eclipsing binaries; Low mass stars; Stellar populations in the Galaxy

Education

- **Johns Hopkins University** — Doctor of Philosophy in Physics & Astronomy, August 2012
 - ▷ Dissertation: “Testing Low-mass Stellar Models with M-dwarf Eclipsing Binaries from SDSS Stripe 82” ([PDF copy](#))
 - ▷ Dissertation Advisor: Professor Holland C. Ford, Department of Physics and Astronomy
- **University of California, Los Angeles** — Bachelor of Science in Physics, June 2005

Work Experience

- **2015-09-01 to 2019-08-31: Associate Research Scholar**
Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University
 - ▷ Developed and maintain [Astrobase](#), an open-source Python package to analyze large collections of astrophysical time-series data (light curves), filter and browse them interactively, and search for and characterize stellar variability.
 - ▷ Developed and maintain the [HAT Data Server](#), an interactive web search interface and portal for all publicly released HAT Exoplanet Survey light curve data. Organized the public release of 5 million light curves from the HATNet Exoplanet Survey via this service. The [code running this service](#) is available under an open source license.
 - ▷ Developing the [photometry data calibration pipeline](#), computing infrastructure, and testing prototype instrument components for the [HATPI](#) Exoplanet Survey.
 - ▷ Manage HAT data processing and computing infrastructure, including: hardware purchasing and maintenance, image calibration and photometry data pipeline maintenance, network improvements, monitoring, and backups for the [HATNet](#), [HATSouth](#), [HATPI](#), and [CHAT](#) projects.
- **2012-09-01 to 2015-08-31: Postdoctoral Research Associate**
Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Princeton University
 - ▷ Observation scheduling, image data calibration and generation of photometry time-series data (light curves) for the HATNet transiting exoplanet candidate follow-up photometry program, using the 1.2-m telescope and KeplerCam at the Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory (FLWO), Arizona.

- ▷ Observing HATNet transiting exoplanet candidates with the Apache Point Observatory 3.5-m telescope and the Echelle spectrograph instrument. Qualified for remote observation after on-site training on May 5–9, 2014.
- ▷ Developed and maintain [HAT remotecontrol](#) — a real-time monitoring and control interface for HATNet and HATSouth telescopes.
- ▷ Set up and maintain the HATSouth Exoplanet Survey [globally distributed database](#) for the image calibration pipeline running on remote observation sites at Las Campanas Observatory, Chile; HESS Observatory, Namibia; and Siding Spring Observatory, Australia.
- ▷ Developed and maintain websites for the [HATNet](#) and [HATSouth](#) surveys, including curating discovery and follow-up data made publicly available for exoplanets found by these two surveys.
- **2006-09-01 to 2012-08-31: Graduate Student Research Assistant**
Department of Physics & Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University
 - ▷ As Part 2 of PhD thesis, led project to identify M dwarf eclipsing binaries in SDSS Stripe 82 and characterize their discrepancies with predictions from stellar models.
 - ▷ As Part 1 of PhD thesis, led project to improve upon SDSS Stripe 82 photometric precision, then detect and classify variables and periodic variables from these sparsely sample time-series data.
- **2005-09-01 to 2006-05-30: Graduate Student Teaching Assistant**
Department of Physics & Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University
 - ▷ Taught discussion sections for 171.101 (General Physics for Physical Science Majors I — Fall 2005) and 171.102 (General Physics for Physical Science Majors II — Spring 2006).
 - ▷ Led laboratory sessions for 173.111 (Lab for General Physics for Physical Science Majors I — Fall 2005) and 173.112 (Lab for General Physics for Physical Science Majors II — Spring 2006).
 - ▷ Tutored undergraduate students for General Physics courses 171.101 and 171.102 (for physical science majors), 171.103 and 171.104 (for biological science majors).

Qualifications and Technical Skills

- **Astronomy** — IDL, IRAF, photometric/spectroscopic data calibration and reduction pipelines
- **Programming (Python)** — scientific (NumPy, SciPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Astropy, scikit-learn, Cython), web (Tornado, Django), databases (SQLAlchemy, psycopg2, cassandra-driver), and distributed systems (ZeroMQ via pyzmq, RabbitMQ via pika and celery)
- **Programming (other)** — basic C and C++, Amazon Web Services (S3, SQS, EC2, Batch)
- **Databases** — general SQL and schema design, SQLite, PostgreSQL, MySQL/MariaDB (& Galera Cluster), Cassandra
- **Web** — HTML, Javascript, CSS, basic web design & frameworks (Foundation, Bootstrap)
- **Other** — shell scripting, L^AT_EX, Linux system administration (server hardware, config management with Ansible, networks)

See [Github profile](#) for publicly available and open source code.

Research Grants

- Co-Investigator on "Difference Imaging of Star Clusters at Low Galactic Latitudes", NASA TESS Guest Investigator Program, G011103 (July 2018 to June 2020)
- Co-Investigator on "Finding and Characterizing a Large and Diverse Population of Transiting Exoplanets with HAT- South in Support of NASA Space Missions", NASA Exoplanets Research Program XRP16_2-0070 (2017-01-01 to 2020-12-31)

Professional Service

Peer Review

- Peer reviewer for the 2018-2XRP NASA Exoplanet Research Program (2019)
- Peer reviewer for the American Astronomical Society's *Astronomical Journal* (2016–2017)
- Peer reviewer for the NASA Kepler K2 Mission Guest Observer Program Cycle 1 (2014)

Outreach

- Developer and maintainer of the [Princeton Astro-coffee](#) website for astro-ph arXiv article discussion with voting (2014 to date)
- Exhibit presenter and volunteer, Princeton University Science and Engineering EXPO (2013)
- Exhibit presenter and volunteer, Johns Hopkins University Science Fair (2006–2010)

References

Available on request.

Refereed Publications

See [NASA ADS](#) or [arXiv](#) for more up-to-date lists.

- Bouma, L. G., Winn, J. N., Baxter, C., **Bhatti, W.**, Dai, F., Daylan, T., Désert, J.-M., Hill, M. L., Kane, S. R., Stassun, K. G., Villasenor, J., Ricker, G. R., Vanderspek, R., Latham, D. W., Seager, S., Jenkins, J. M., Berta-Thompson, Z., Colón, K., Fausnaugh, M., Glidden, A., Guerrero, N., Rodriguez, J. E., Twicken, J. D., & Wohler, B. 2019, "WASP-4b Arrived Early for the TESS Mission", *Astronomical Journal*, **157**, 217, arXiv:1903.02573
- Jordán, A., Brahm, R., Espinoza, N., Cortés, C., Díaz, M., Drass, H., Henning, T., Jenkins, J. S., Jones, M. I., Rabus, M., Rojas, F., Sarkis, P., Vučković, M., Zapata, A., Soto, M. G., Bakos, G. Á., Bayliss, D., **Bhatti, W.**, Csubry, Z., Lachaume, R., Moraga, V., Pantoja, B., Osip, D., Shporer, A., Suc, V., & Vásquez, S. 2019, "K2-287 b: An Eccentric Warm Saturn Transiting a G-dwarf", *Astronomical Journal*, **157**, 100, arXiv:1809.08879
- Hartman, J. D., Bakos, G. Á., Bayliss, D., Bento, J., **Bhatti, W.**, Brahm, R., Csubry, Z., Espinoza, N., Henning, T., Jordán, A., Mancini, L., Penev, K., Rabus, M., Sarkis, P., Suc, V., de Val-Borro, M., Zhou, G., Addison, B., Arriagada, P., Butler, R. P., Crane, J., Durkan, S., Shectman, S., Tan, T. G., Thompson, I., Tinney, C. G., Wright, D. J., Lázár, J., Papp, I., & Sári, P. 2019, "HATS-60b-HATS-69b: 10 Transiting Planets from HATSouth", *Astronomical Journal*, **157**, 55, arXiv:1809.01048
- Wallace, J. J., Hartman, J. D., Bakos, G. Á., & **Bhatti, W.** 2019, "Ultralow-amplitude RR Lyrae Stars in M4", *Astrophysical Journal Letters*, **870**, L7, arXiv:1812.07552
- Zhou, G., Bakos, G. Á., Bayliss, D., Bento, J., **Bhatti, W.**, Brahm, R., Csubry, Z., Espinoza, N., Hartman, J. D., Henning, T., Jordán, A., Mancini, L., Penev, K., Rabus, M., Sarkis, P., Suc, V., de Val-Borro, M., Rodriguez, J. E., Osip, D., Kedziora-Chudczer, L., Bailey, J., Tinney, C. G., Durkan, S., Lázár, J., Papp, I., & Sári, P. 2019, "HATS-70b: A 13 MJ Brown Dwarf Transiting an A Star", *Astronomical Journal*, **157**, 31, arXiv:1811.06925
- Becker, J. C., Vanderburg, A., Rodriguez, J. E., Omohundro, M., Adams, F. C., Stassun, K. G., Yao, X., Hartman, J., Pepper, J., Bakos, G., Barentsen, G., Beatty, T. G., **Bhatti, W.**, Chontos, A., Collier Cameron, A., Hellier, C., Huber, D., James, D., Kuhn, R. B., Lund, M. B., Pollacco, D., Siverd, R. J., Stevens, D. J., Cardoso, J. V. d. M., & West, R. 2019, "A Discrete Set of Possible Transit Ephemerides for Two Long-period Gas Giants Orbiting HIP 41378", *Astronomical Journal*, **157**, 19, arXiv:1809.10688
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