

Rebekah Hounsell

Astrophysicist

Space Telescope Science Institute
3700 San Martin Drive
Baltimore
Maryland
21218

Research Positions

Postdoctoral Researcher

[Space Telescope Science Institute.](#)

Education

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10/08 - 05/12 **Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)** [ARI, John Moores University Liverpool, UK.](#)

Doctoral Thesis: *On the Outbursts and Environments of Classical and Recurrent Novae.*

Supervisors: Prof. Michael Bode & Dr. Matthew Darnley.

09/04 - 07/08 **Masters Degree in Astrophysics 1st class with Hons. (MPhys)**

[The University of Liverpool, UK.](#)

Masters Thesis: A Catalogue of the Variable Population of the Andromeda Galaxy.

Supervisor: Dr. Matthew Darnley.

09/02 - 07/04 **A-Levels**

[The Sixth Form College Colchester, Colchester Essex, UK.](#)

Subjects: Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics (AS), Chemistry, Art (AS). Awarded grade A in each.

Data Analysis & Modeling

Gnuplot ★★★★★
Python ★★★★★
Excel ★★★★★
Shape ★★★★★
XS5 ★★★★★
Starlink ★★★★★
Splat-VO ★★★★★
Galfit ★★★★★
IMFIT ★★★★★
Drizzlepac ★★★★★
Tiny Tim ★★★★★

Grants & Awards

2011 **Royal Astronomical Society grant:** Support to continue collaborations with UCSD on data from the Solar Mass Ejection Imager (SMEI) - £450 (grant applicant)

2011 **Royal Astronomical Society grant:** Support to attend IAU symposium "New Horizons in Time Domain Astronomy" - £332 (grant applicant)

2010 **Presentation Award:** Post Graduate Research Day Oral - £500.

[Liverpool John Moores University, UK.](#)

2010 **Travel Grant:** Funded a one month visit to San Diego (USA) to work with the solar physics group at the University of California San Diego and the nova research group at San Diego State University. Research was conducted using data from the Solar Mass Ejection Imager (SMEI).

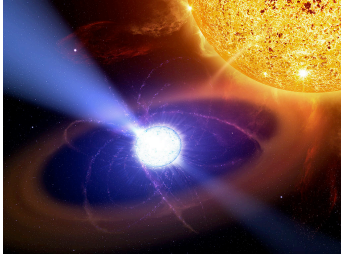
[Liverpool John Moores University, UK.](#)

Photometry

IRAF ★★★★★
PyRAF ★★★★★
SExtractor ★★★★★
ISIS ★★★★★
Starlink ★★★★★

Spectroscopy

IRAF ★★★★★
Splat-VO ★★★★★



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- 2008 - 2012 **STFC Research Studentship: PhD** Liverpool John Moores University, UK.
2007/2008 **Isaac Roberts Prize: Awarded for Best Astrophysics MPhys - £100.**
University of Liverpool, UK.
2006 **Departmental Undergraduate Scholarship: £70**
University of Liverpool, UK.

Selected Invited Talks, Colloquia & Seminars

- 2014 **Invited Colloquium** Centre of Astrophysics and Cosmology, University of Iceland
2013 **Invited Seminar** Arizona State University, Arizona, USA
2012 **Internal Colloquia** Space Telescope Science Institute, Baltimore, USA
2011 **Invited Seminar** California Institute of Technology, USA
2011 **Invited Seminar** Carnegie Institution for Science, USA
2011 **Contributed Talk** IAU Symposium, Oxford, UK
2011 **Contributed Talk** RAS National Astronomy Meeting, Llandudno, UK
2010 **Collaborative Research Speaker** ARI & UCSD. Chair Rebekah Hounsell
2010 **Collaborative Research Speaker** Ruherford Appleton Laboratories, UK
2010 **Internal Seminar** Liverpool John Moores University, Post Graduate Research Day
2010 **Invited Seminar** University of California San Diego, USA
2009 **Invited Seminar** Swift Nova Workshop, Minneapolis, USA

Press Releases

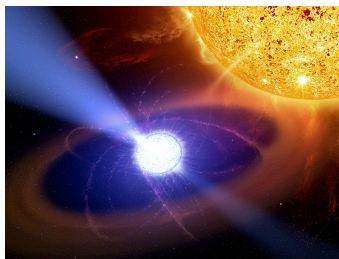
- 2011 **Astronomy Now** Stellar explosions go unnoticed

Peer Review

- 2014 **HST TAC Support Assistant - Cycle 22** STScI, Baltimore, USA

Teaching & Public Outreach

- 2008-2011 **Demonstrator Lower** Liverpool John Moores University, UK.
2011 **Demonstrator Higher** Liverpool John Moores University, UK.
2010 **Aim Higher Associate** Aim Higher Merseyside, UK.
2006-2007 **Spaceport Crew Member** Space Port. Wallasey, Wirral, UK.
2007 **Summer Research Assistant** Liverpool John Moores University, UK.



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Observing Experience

2007 **Observatorio del Teide Observational/ Mons 19.7” Telescope**

One week workshop (12 applicants selected). Multi-wavelength observations of various sources including planets, nebulae, and galaxies

2013 **Kitt Peak, Steward Bok Telescope/ 90”**

4 nights observing a selection of variable objects including novae.

Telescope Proposals

2014 **The Burst of the Century - HST[Co-I].**

2014 **r-process kilonova emission accompanying short-duration GRBs - HST[Co-I].**

2014 **The progenitors of the longest duration high-energy transients - HST[Co-I].**

2014/2013 **The Astrophysics of the Most Energetic Gamma-Ray Bursts - HST[Co-I].**

2013 **How Low Can They Go? Detecting low luminosity supernova progenitors - HST[Co-I].**

2013 **A supernova in the brightest gamma-ray burst - HST[Co-I].**

2011 **Liverpool Telescope Observation of the Planetary Nebula surrounding V458 Vulpeculae via its Light Echo - LT[PI].**

2010 **Follow-up monitoring of Local Group nova eruptions - LT[Co-I].**

2009 **Target follow-up monitoring of Local Group nova eruptions - LT[Co-I].**

2009 **The fundamental properties of Galactic Novae in outburst - LT[Co-I].**