

# Emily C. Cunningham

## NASA Hubble Fellow

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## Education

- UC Santa Cruz**, Ph.D. in Astronomy & Astrophysics *June 2019*  
Designated Emphasis in Statistics  
Thesis title: *HALO7D: Disentangling the Milky Way's Accretion History with Observations in 7 Dimensions*  
Advisors: Alis Deason (Durham), Raja Guhathakurta (UCSC), Connie Rockosi (UCSC)
- UC Santa Cruz**, M.S. Astronomy & Astrophysics *June 2015*
- Haverford College**, B.S. with High Honors in Physics and Astronomy *May 2012*  
GPA: 3.914; graduated *Magna Cum Laude*

## Awards and Fellowships

- NASA Hubble Fellowship**, Columbia University *October 2022–Present*
- LSSTC Catalyst Fellowship**, Columbia University *Beginning October 2025*
- Flatiron Research Fellowship**, Flatiron Institute *September 2019–September 2022*
- ARCS Foundation Scholar Award**, UC Santa Cruz *2018–2019*
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship** *September 2014–May 2017*
- Whitford Prize**, UC Santa Cruz Astronomy Department *2015*  
*Awarded to 2nd year UCSC student(s) who attains highest achievement in research, coursework, teaching, and the preliminary exam.*
- Osterbrock Leadership Fellowship**, UC Santa Cruz Astronomy Department *August 2013–2017*  
*Award for students committed to learning leadership skills.*
- Fulbright Fellowship**, Fulbright U.S. Student Program *September 2012–May 2013*  
*One year of funded research at the Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris, supervised by Gary A. Mamon (IAP) and Andrea Cattaneo (Marseille).*
- Phi Beta Kappa** *2012*

## Selected Talks

### *Selected Recent and Upcoming Seminars and Colloquia*

- University of Delaware, Research Seminar, December 13, 2022 (invited)
- University of Arizona TAP Colloquium, November 7, 2022 (invited).
- AMNH Astro Seminar, October 18, 2022 (invited).
- CITA Theory Seminar, May 16, 2022 (invited; remote).
- Carnegie Observatories Lunch Talk, April 1, 2022 (invited; remote).
- University of Wisconsin at Madison Colloquium, November 18, 2021 (invited).
- UC Davis Cosmology & Astronomy Seminar, Davis, CA, September 27, 2018 (invited).
- UC Santa Cruz Colloquium, Santa Cruz, CA, December 13, 2017 (invited).

### *Selected Recent Conference Presentations*

EAS Annual Meeting, S1: A holistic view of the Milky Way: linking ages, chemistry and kinematics. July 1, 2021.  
GALAH Science Meeting 2021, June 22, 2021 (invited) (video [here](#)).  
STScI Symposium: The Local Group Assembly and Evolution, September 2, 2020 (video [here](#); beginning at 49:00).  
Flatiron-wide Algorithms and Mathematics, New York, NY, October 31, 2019.  
Santa Cruz Galaxy Workshop, Santa Cruz, CA, August 9, 2018 (video [here](#)).

## Teaching

### **Guest Lecturer**

*Columbia University: Graduate Course in Galactic Dynamics, Prof. Kathryn Johnston* October 20, 2022  
*University of Pennsylvania: Survey of the Universe, Prof. Robyn Sanderson* November 20, 2020  
*Columbia University: Graduate Course in Galactic Archaeology, Prof. Melissa Ness* April 2, 2020

### **Workshop Leader**

*Big Apple Dynamics School, Flatiron Institute* June 2021

### **Head Teaching Assistant**

*Associate Instructor for Astro205 (Fall Quarter 2016).*  
*Responsible for UC Santa Cruz Astronomy Department T.A. training and management.* September 2016–August 2017

### **Instructor, Castilleja School**

*Co-instructor for research based seminars for high school students.* September 2015–September 2017

### **Instructor, Project for Inmate Education**

*Instructor for pre-algebra and algebra classes at Santa Cruz County Jail* September 2014–September 2016

### **Teaching Assistant**

*UCSC ASTR3: The Solar System (Prof. Jonathan Fortney).* Fall 2013

## Mentoring

### **Undergraduate Mentoring**

*Ludia Adhikary, City College of New York '23* June 2022–Present  
*Jennifer Locke, University of Pennsylvania '22* March 2021–June 2022  
*Matthew Werneken, Columbia '24* Nov 2020–Sept 2021  
*Madison Harris, UCSC '18* October 2016–January 2018

### **Graduate Student Mentoring**

*Aida Behmard, Caltech (Ph.D. Expected 2023)* February 2022–present  
*Alex Riley, Texas A&M University (Ph.D. June 2022; now 1851 Research Fellow, Durham)* July 2021–present  
*Danny Horta, LJMU (Ph.D. August 2022; now Flatiron Research Fellow)* July 2020–present  
*Kevin McKinnon, UCSC (Ph.D. Expected 2023)* September 2017–present

### **High School Student Mentoring**

*Scientific Internship Program* Summer 2016–Summer 2018  
*Modern High School, Kolkata, India* Summer 2014

## Service

**Scientific Organizing Committee, Big Apple Dynamics Summer School** Summer 2021  
*Helped select mentors and students, developed workshops, and mentored projects.*

### **Referee**

*Astrophysical Journal, Nature Astronomy*

### **Review Panelist**

*NSF (2022), NASA (2022)*

## Publications

**E.C. Cunningham**, R.E. Sanderson, K.V. Johnston, N. Panithanpaisal, M.K. Ness, A. Wetzel, S.R. Loebman, I. Escala, D. Horta, and C.-A. Faucher-Giguère. *Reading the CARDS: the Imprint of Accretion History in the Chemical Abundances of the Milky Way's Stellar Halo*. *ApJ*, 934, 172.

**E.C. Cunningham**, N. Garavito-Camargo, A.J. Deason, K.V. Johnston, D. Erkal, C.F.P. Laporte, G. Besla, R. Luger, and R.E. Sanderson. *Quantifying the Stellar Halo's Response to the LMC's Infall with Spherical Harmonics*. *ApJ*, 898, 4, 2020.

**E.C. Cunningham**, A.J. Deason, R.E. Sanderson, S.T. Sohn, J. Anderson, P. Guhathakurta, C.M. Rockosi, R.P. van der Marel, S.R. Loebman, and A. Wetzel. *HALO7D II. The Halo Velocity Ellipsoid and Velocity Anisotropy with Distant Main Sequence Stars*. *ApJ*, 879, 120, 2019.

**E.C. Cunningham**, A.J. Deason, C.M. Rockosi, P. Guhathakurta, Z.G. Jennings, E.N. Kirby, E. Toloba, and G. Barro. *HALO7D I: The Line of Sight Velocities of Distant Main Sequence Stars in the Milky Way Halo*. *ApJ*, 876, 124, 2019.

**E.C. Cunningham**, A.J. Deason, P. Guhathakurta, C.M. Rockosi, R.P. van der Marel, E. Toloba, K.M. Gilbert, S.T. Sohn, and C.E. Dorman. *Isotropic at the Break? 3D Kinematics of Milky Way Halo Stars in the Foreground of M31*. *ApJ*, 820, 18, 2016.

D. Horta, **E.C. Cunningham**, R.E. Sanderson, K.V. Johnston, et al. *The observable properties of galaxy accretion events in Milky Way-like galaxies in the FIRE-2 cosmological simulations*. arXiv:2211.05799 (submitted to *ApJ*).

N. Panithanpaisal, R.E. Sanderson, A. Arora, **E.C. Cunningham**, J. Baptista. *Constraining the Tilt of the Milky Way's Dark Matter Halo with the Sagittarius Stream*. arXiv:2210.14983 (submitted to *ApJ*).

A. Behrard, M.K. Ness, **E.C. Cunningham**, M. Bedell. *Elemental Abundances of Kepler Objects of Interest in APOGEE DR17*. arXiv:2210.14187 (submitted to *ApJ*).

N. Shipp, N. Panithanpaisal, L. Necib, R. Sanderson, D. Erkal, T.S. Li, I.B. Santistevan, A. Wetzel, L.R. Cullinane, A.P. Ji, S.E. Koposov, K. Kuehn, G.F. Lewis, A.B. Pace, D.B. Zucker, J. Bland-Hawthorn, **E.C. Cunningham** et al. *Streams on FIRE: Populations of Detectable Stellar Streams in the Milky Way and FIRE*. arXiv:2208.02255 (submitted to *ApJ*).

A. Arora, R.E. Sanderson, N. Panithanpaisal, A. Wetzel, N. Garavito-Camargo, **E.C. Cunningham**, and J. Baptista. *On the stability of tidal streams in action space*. *ApJ*, 939, 2.

K. Chamberlain, A.M. Price-Whelan, G. Besla, **E.C. Cunningham** et al. *Implications of the Milky Way travel velocity for dynamical mass estimates of the Local Group*. arXiv:2204.07173 (accepted to *ApJ*).

W. Wang, S. Kassin, S.M. Faber, D.C. Koo, **E.C. Cunningham** et al. *The Baltimore Oriole's Nest: Cool Winds from the Inner and Outer Parts of a Star-Forming Galaxy at  $z = 1.3$* . *ApJ*, 930, 146, 2022.

M.K. Ness, A.J. Wheeler, K. McKinnon, D. Horta, A.R. Casey, **E.C. Cunningham**, A.M. Price-Whelan. *The homogeneity of the star forming environment in the Milky Way disk over time*. *ApJ*, 926, 144, 2022.

E. Kado-Fong, R. Sanderson, J. Greene, **E.C. Cunningham**, et al. *The In-situ Origins of Dwarf Stellar Outskirts in FIRE-2*. *ApJ*, 931, 152, 2022.

S.K. Grunblatt, J.C. Zinn, A.M. Price-Whelan, R. Angus, N. Saunders, M. Hon, A. Stokholm, E.P. Bellinger, S.L. Martell, B. Mosser, **E.C. Cunningham**, J. Tayar, D. Huber, J. Lysgaard Rørsted, V. Silva Aguirre. *Age-Dating Red*

*Giant Stars Associated with Galactic Disk and Halo Substructures.* ApJ, 916, 88, 2021.

N. Panithanpaisal, R.E. Sanderson, A. Wetzel, **E.C. Cunningham**, J. Bailin, and C.-A. Faucher-Giguère. *The Galaxy Progenitors of Stellar Streams around Milky Way-mass Galaxies in the FIRE Cosmological Simulations.* ApJ, 920, 10, 2021.

S. Tacchella, C. Conroy, S.M. Faber, B.D. Johnson, J. Leja, G. Barro, **E.C. Cunningham**, A.J. Deason, P. Guhathakurta, Y. Guo, L. Hernquist, D. C. Koo, K. McKinnon, C.M. Rockosi, J. S. Speagle, P. van Dokkum, H. M. Yesuf. *Fast, Slow, Early, Late: Quenching Massive Galaxies at  $z \sim 0.8$ .* ApJ, 926, 134.

N. Garavito-Camargo, G. Besla, C.F.P. Laporte, A.M. Price-Whelan, **E.C. Cunningham**, K.V. Johnston, M.D. Weinberg, F.A. Gomez. *Quantifying the impact of the Large Magellanic Cloud on the structure of the Milky Way's dark matter halo using Basis Function Expansions.* ApJ, 919, 109, 2021.

I. Escala, E.N. Kirby, K.M. Gilbert, J. Wojno, **E.C. Cunningham**, and P. Guhathakurta. *Elemental Abundances in M31: Properties of the Inner Stellar Halo.* ApJ, 902, 51, 2020.

J.A.S. Hunt, K.V. Johnston, A.R. Pettitt, **E.C. Cunningham**, D. Kawata, and D.W. Hogg. *The power of co-ordinate transformations in dynamical interpretations of Galactic structure.* MNRAS, 497, 818, 2020.

I. Escala, K.M. Gilbert, E.N. Kirby, **E.C. Cunningham**, J. Wojno, P. Guhathakurta. *Elemental Abundances in M31: A Comparative Analysis of Iron and Alpha Element Abundances in the Outer Disk, Giant Stellar Stream, and Inner Halo of M31.* ApJ, 889, 177, 2020.

I. Escala, E.N. Kirby, K.M. Gilbert, **E.C. Cunningham**, J. Wojno. *Elemental Abundances in M31: Alpha and Iron Abundances from Low-resolution Resolved Stellar Spectroscopy in the Stellar Halo.* ApJ, 878, 42, 2019.

H.M. Yesuf, D.C. Koo, S.M. Faber, J.X. Prochaska, Y. Guo, F.S. Liu, **E.C. Cunningham**, A.L. Coil, and P. Guhathakurta. *No Evidence for Feedback: Unexceptional Low-ionization Winds in Host Galaxies of Low Luminosity Active Galactic Nuclei at Redshift  $z \sim 1$ .* ApJ, 841, 83, 2017.

K.A. Plant, B. Margon, P. Guhathakurta, **E.C. Cunningham**, E. Toloba, and J.A. Munn. *Runaway Dwarf Carbon as Candidate Supernova Ejecta.* ApJ, 833, 232, 2016.

C. Liu, E.W. Peng, E. Toloba, J.C. Mihos, L. Ferrarese, K. Alamo-Martinez, H.-X. Zhang, P. Cote, J.-C. Cuillandre, **E.C. Cunningham**, P. Guhathakurta, S. Gwyn, G. Herczeg, S. Lim, T.H. Puzia, J. Roediger, R. Sánchez-Janssen, and J. Yin. *The Most Massive Ultra-compact Dwarf Galaxy in the Virgo Cluster.* ApJL, 812, L2, 2015.

A.J. Deason, V. Belokurov, K.M. Hamren, S.E. Koposov, K.M. Gilbert, R.L. Beaton, C.E. Dorman, P. Guhathakurta, S.R. Majewski, and **E.C. Cunningham**. *TriAnd and its Siblings: Satellites of Satellites in the Milky Way Halo.* MNRAS, 444, 3975, 2014.

E. Boettcher, B. Willman, R. Fadely, J. Strader, M. Baker, E. Hopkins, T. Tasnim Ananna, **E.C. Cunningham**, T. Douglas, J. Gilbert, A. Preston, A.P. Sturmer. *A Search for RR Lyrae Stars in Segue 2 and Segue 3.* AJ, 146, 94, 2013.