

HUGH P. OSBORN

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Born: 16 April 1991 · UK & Irish (EU) citizen

address Gesellsschaftstrasse 6, CH-3012, Bern, Switzerland
email hugh.osborn@unibe.ch & hosborn@ethz.ch
website hughosborn.co.uk
phone +41 (0)31 684 3608

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Bern Feb 26 – Assistant Professor

- SNSF-funded starting grant on statistical analyses of the architectures, radii, masses & atmospheres of Neptune-like planets.
- Lead of group including two PhDs and a PostDoc.

ETH Zurich Jun 24 – Jan 26 Advanced PostDoc

- Leading project on detection of exoplanets in TESS data using classical & machine learning techniques.
- Exploring atmospheric characterisation of mini-Neptune exoplanets using JWST.

CHEOPS Apr 25 – Jan 26 CHEOPS Data Analyst

- Monitoring & characterisation of CHEOPS CCD
- Developing improvements on data reduction of the CHEOPS mission
- Preparing technical case for second mission extension.

MIT & Bern Nov 19 – Jan 26 CHESS Post-Doctoral Fellowship

- Independent research at the interface of the ESA/Cheops and NASA/TESS space telescopes
- Acting as a bridge between the Cheops GTO and the NASA/TESS science team.
- Managing key science projects within the ESA/Cheops GTO – This project has so-far lead to ~20 new exoplanets with eight published papers & four more in prep.
- Exploring direct links between characterised mini-Neptune exoplanets and theory e.g. planetary formation & interior structures.
- Managing synergistic observations between Cheops, TESS & PLATO.

Nov 19 – Dec 24: 100%; Jan 24 – May 24: 80%; June 24 – Mar 25: 50%; Apr 25 – Jan 26: 20%

Marseille Jun 17 – Oct 19 Post-Doctoral Researcher

- Developing ranking procedures for transiting exoplanet candidates for ESA PLATO.
- Testing new ranking methods, including machine learning and classical metric-based approaches, with both Kepler, TESS & Simulated PLATO planet populations.
- Continuing search & follow-up of long-period planets transiting bright stars in K2 & TESS.

Warwick Sep 13 – Jun 17 Doctoral Research Student

- Leading the exoplanet search in K2 campaigns 1 to 8, producing more than 100 candidates and six publications.
- Analysing the detection of long-period planets in ground-based (WASP) & space-based (TESS & K2) transit surveys, as well as for long-duration eclipses caused by dusty companions.

EDUCATION

PhD Sept 2013–Jun 2017 University of Warwick, UK

Title: "Long Period Worlds from Exoplanet Transit Surveys"

Supervisor: Prof. Don POLLACCO

Funding: Chancellor's Scholarship

MSci Sept 2009–Jun 2013 University College London, UK

First Class Honours · School: Earth Sciences

Courses studied: Astro (40%), geology (35%), climate (16%), maths (4%), computing (4%).

MSci Research Thesis (2012-2013): *The Observability of Transiting Exoplanet Atmospheres with the EChO Space Telescope*

Advisor: Prof. Giovanna TINETTI

First-author
(2020-)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Rapid Classification of TESS Planet Candidates with Convolutional Neural Networks (2020)
- A hot mini-Neptune in the radius valley orbiting solar analogue HD 110113 (2021)
- Uncovering the true periods of the young sub-Neptunes orbiting TOI-2076 (2022)
- Two Warm Neptunes transiting HIP9618 revealed by TESS & Cheops (2023)
- The TOI-1812 Overture: 3 planets traversing the gas giant regime (2026, in prep)
- CHEOPS Duos: A population small planets on long orbits recovered with CHEOPS photometry (2026, in prep)

Others

FIRST AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS: 8 · CO-AUTHOR PUBLICATIONS: >100 ·
Nature/Science PUBLICATIONS : 6 · TOTAL CITATIONS: >5000 · H-INDEX: 44
 Full publication list available at: hughosborn.co.uk/pubs

OTHER SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

Meetings

- Conference presentations including 30 years of 51 Peg (OHP, France, 2025), Transits to Trends (New Mexico, 2025), ESP25 (Marseille, 2025), TESS Sci Con 3 (MIT, 2024), Exoplanets V (Leiden, 2024), PLATO ESP24 (Catania, 2024), TOE3 (Porto, 2023), etc.
- Recent seminars at Cambridge, DLR, Bern, Geneva, UCL, Leiden, Granada (since 2022)
- Splinter session organiser at TESS SciConf (2021); Session chair at Exo IV (May, 2022); SOC member for PLATO ESP2024 & TESS Science Conference 3 (both 2024).

Proposals

- PI & Co-I on many successful proposals for exoplanet detection & characterisation (e.g. CARMENES, PFS, HARPS-N, LCO, HARPS, ESPRESSO, etc.).

Computing

- PYTHON (advanced); Machine Learning; Bayesian Model fitting; LATEX; Unix; Data Visualisation; Microsoft Office; simple video, audio & image editing

Teaching

- 3yrs as Astronomy Lab Demonstrator (Warwick) & 2yr as Physics lab Demonstrator (Bern).
- Led workshop on Data Visualisation the the Warwick Astronomy Knowledge Exchange programme & workshop on transit modelling at Bern (2022).

Supervision

- Second supervisor to the PhD project of David Degen (ETH, 2023-2027).
- Mentored PhD students as lead of Cheops GTO projects.
- Lead semester project at ETH Zurich.
- Supervised a MSci final year project and summer internship for a student at Bern (2022-23).
- Supervised two undergraduate projects using TESS & K2 data at MIT (Summer 2021).

Awards

- Warwick Chancellor's Scholarship; UCL Dean's List; UCL Jackson Lewis Scholarship

Languages

- English (native); French (C1); German (A1/Beginner)

OTHER INFORMATION

- 2011 to Present · FELLOW OF THE ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
- 2018 to Present · ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE NEXT GENERATION TRANSIT SURVEY (NGTS)
- 2023 to Present · ESA COMMUNITY SCIENTIST ON THE PLATO SCIENCE WORKING TEAM
- 2023 to Present · DEPUTY COORDINATOR OF ONE OF THE THREE CHEOPS GTO "AXES"
- 2025 to Present · EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER FOR RAS "TECHNIQUES & INSTRUMENTS" JOURNAL
- 2025 to Present · SPOKESPERSON FOR PLANETARY ARCHITECTURES WITHIN SWISS "PLANET-S" NETWORK

Outreach

- Creator & co-presenter of *Exocast*, a podcast focused on communicating concepts of exoplanet research with a wider audience which has registered 100,000+ downloads.
- Experienced in astronomy outreach talks with participation in numerous sci-comm events such as Astronomy on tap Boston & Bern (including organisational roles), at schools & amateur astro societies
- Written many articles & blogs conveying exoplanetary science to a general audience.

Referees

- Prof. Didier Queloz · ETH Zürich · dqueloz@ethz.ch
- Prof. George Ricker · Massachusetts Institute of Technology · grr@mit.edu
- Prof. Don Pollacco · University of Warwick · D.Pollacco@warwick.ac.uk