

# CURRICULUM VITAE

STEFAN CIKOTA

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## PERSONAL DATA

**Name:** Stefan  
**Last name:** Cikota  
**Date of birth:** January 30, 1988  
**Place of birth:** Osijek, Croatia  
**Nationality:** Croatian

**Adress:** [REDACTED]  
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Website: <http://lapp.irb.hr/~scikota/>

## EDUCATION

- 2003 – 2007: V. gimnazija, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia (1 – 4 grade gymnasium)
- 2007 – 2010: Physics Institute, University of Zurich, 8057 Zürich, Switzerland
- 2011 – 2016: Physics Department, University of Split, 21000 Split, Croatia
- 2016 – present: Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

- BSc in Physics, 2014

Bachelor thesis: A photometric search for active main belt asteroids

- MSc in Physics, 2016

Master's thesis: ELF/ULF observations of the ionosphere searching correlation between meteor activity and electric discharge

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2017 – present: Assistant at University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing - FER, Department of Applied Physics, Unska 3, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia
- 2015 – 2017: Technical advisor at Swiss Space Systems d.o.o., Ribnjak 40, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Member of the National reference group for Space (Ministry of Science and Education, 2018)
- Member of State Commission for the National competition in Astronomy (Education and Teacher Training Agency, 2017)
- Croatian Physical Society (member since 2017)
- Croatian Astronomical Society (member since 2016)
- Center for Inquiry Croatia (co-founder and member since 2011)

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

- German: fluent
- English: fluent
- Croatian: native

## SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Total number of SAO/NASA Astrophysics Data System entries: **152**

Link: [http://adsabs.harvard.edu/cgi-bin/nph-basic\\_connect?qsearch=Cikota,+S.&version=1](http://adsabs.harvard.edu/cgi-bin/nph-basic_connect?qsearch=Cikota,+S.&version=1)

### Selected:

- Cikota, A.; Leloudas, G.; Bulla, M.; Inserra, C.; Chen, T. W.; Spyromilio, J.; Patat, F.; Cano, Z.; Cikota, S.; Coughlin, M. W.; Kankare, E.; Lowe, T. B.; Maund, J. R.; Rest, A.; Smartt, S. J.; Smith, K. W.; Wainscoat, R. J.; Young, D. R. (2018). "**Testing the magnetar scenario for superluminous supernovae with circular polarimetry**", accepted for publication in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.
- Cikota, A.; Hoang, T.; Taubenberger, S.; Patat, F.; Mazzei, P.; Cox, N. L. J.; Zelaya, P.; Cikota, S.; Tomasella, L.; Benetti, S.; Rodeghiero, G. (2018). "**Spectropolarimetry of Galactic stars with anomalous extinction sightlines**", accepted for publication in Astronomy & Astrophysics
- Cikota, S.; Fernandez-Valenzuela, E.; Ortiz, J. L.; Morales, N.; Duffard, R.; Aceituno, J.; Cikota, A.; Santos-Sanz, P. (2018). "**Activity of (2060) Chiron possibly caused by impacts?**", Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 475
- Ortiz, J. L.; Santos-Sanz, P.; Sicardy, B.; Benedetti-Rossi, G.; Bérard, D.; Morales, N.; Duffard, R.; Braga-Ribas, F.; Hopp, U.; Ries, C.; Nascimbeni, V.; Marzari, F.; Granata, V.; Pál, A.; Kiss, C.; Pribulla, T.; Komžik, R.; Hornoch, K.; Pravec, P.; Bacci, P.; Maestriepieri, M.; Nerli, L.; Mazzei, L.; Bachini, M.; Martinelli, F.; Succi, G.; Ciabattari, F.; Mikuz, H.; Carbognani, A.; Gaehrken, B.; Mottola, S.; Hellmich, S.; Rommel, F. L.; Fernández-Valenzuela, E.; Campo Bagatin, A.; Cikota, S.; Cikota, A.; Lecacheux, J.; Vieira-Martins, R.; Camargo, J. I. B.; Assafin, M.; Colas, F.; Behrend, R.; Desmars, J.; Meza, E.; Alvarez-Candal, A.; Beisker, W.; Gomes-Junior, A. R.; Morgado, B. E.; Roques, F.; Vachier, F.; Berthier, J.; Mueller, T. G.; Madio, J. M.; Unsalan, O.; Sonbas, E.; Karaman, N.; Erece, O.; Koseoglu, D. T.; Ozisik, T.; Kalkan, S.; Guney, Y.; Niaei, M. S.; Satir, O.; Yesilyaprak, C.; Puskullu, C.; Kabas, A.;

Demircan, O.; Alikakos, J.; Charmandaris, V.; Leto, G.; Ohlert, J.; Christille, J. M.; Szakáts, R.; Takácsné Farkas, A.; Varga-Verebélyi, E.; Marton, G.; Marciniak, A.; Bartczak, P.; Santana-Ros, T.; Butkiewicz-Bąk, M.; Dudziński, G.; Alí-Lagoa, V.; Gazeas, K.; Tzouganatos, L.; Paschalis, N.; Tsamis, V.; Sánchez-Lavega, A.; Pérez-Hoyos, S.; Hueso, R.; Guirado, J. C.; Peris, V.; Iglesias-Marzoa, R. (2017). **"The size, shape, density and ring of the dwarf planet Haumea from a stellar occultation"** Nature 550

- Cikota, A.; Patat, F.; Cikota, S.; Spyromilio, J.; Rau, G. (2017). **"Common continuum polarization properties: a possible link between proto-planetary nebulae and Type Ia Supernovae progenitors"**, Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 471
- Cikota, A.; De Cia, A.; Schulze, S.; Vreeswijk, P. M.; Leloudas, G.; Gal-Yam, A.; Perley, D. A.; Cikota, S.; Kim, S.; Patat, F.; Lunnan, R.; Quimby, R.; Yaron, O.; Yan, L.; Mazzali, P. A. (2017). **"Spatially resolved analysis of superluminous supernovae PTF 11hrq and PTF 12dam host galaxies"** Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 469
- Cikota, A.; Patat, F.; Cikota, S.; Faran, T. (2017). **"Linear spectropolarimetry of polarimetric standard stars with VLT/FORS2"** Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 464
- Cikota, S.; Ortiz J.L.; Cikota, A.; Morales, N.; Tancredi, G. (2014). **"A photometric search for active main belt asteroids"** Astronomy & Astrophysics 562
- de Leon, J.; Ortiz, J.; Pinilla-Alonso, N.; Cabrera-Lavers, A.; Alvarez-Candal, A.; Morales, N.; Duffard, R.; Santos-Sanz, P.; Lisandro, J.; Perez-Romero, A.; Lorenzi V.; Cikota, S. (2013). **"Visible and near-infrared observations of asteroid 2012 DA14 during its closest approach of February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013"** Astronomy & Astrophysics 555
- Cikota, S.; Ortiz, J. L.; Morales, N.; Moreno, F.; Tancredi, G. (2013). **"A Photometric Search for Main Belt Comets"** LPI Contribution No. 1719, p.1520 (LPSC 2013 abstract)
- Pletikosa, I.; Cikota, S.; Rodriguez, J.; Burwitz, V. (2011). **"Lightcurve Photometry of 6670 Wallach"** Minor Planet Bulletin 38, No. 4, 205
- Ortiz, J. L.; Cikota, A.; Cikota, S.; Hestroffer, D.; Thirouin, A.; Morales, N.; Duffard, R.; Gil-Hutton, R.; Santos-Sanz, P.; de la Cueva, I. (2010). **"A mid-term astrometric and photometric study of Trans-Neptunian Object (90482) Orcus"** Astronomy & Astrophysics 525
- Cikota, S.; Cikota, A. (2010). **"Lightcurve Photometry of 112 Iphigenia"** Minor Planet Bulletin 37, 107
- Cikota, S.; Sanchez, S.; Nomen, J.; Rodrigez, J.; Cikota, A. (2010). **"Lightcurve photometry of the NEO 2007 PU11"** Minor Planet Bulletin 37, 23
- Burwitz, V.; Pietsch, W.; Cikota, S.; Henze, M.; Violat-Bordonau, F. (2008). **"A new optical nova candidate in M 31"** The Astronomer's Telegram, #1591
- Pietsch, W.; Burwitz, V.; Hatzidimitriou, D.; Steinle, H.; Slowikowska, A.; Stefanescu, A.; Reig, P.; Papamastorakis, G.; Cikota, S.; Cikota, A.; Sanchez, S.; Haberl, F.; Sala, G.; Greiner, J., (2007). **"A new optical Nova in M31"** The Astronomer's Telegram, #1162
- Burwitz, V.; Hatzidimitriou, D.; Stefanescu, A.; Steinle, H.; Pietsch, W.; Manousakis, A.; Reig, P.; Papamastorakis, G.; Cikota, S.; Cikota, A.; Sanchez, S. (2007). **"A new optical Nova in M31"** The Astronomer's Telegram, #1146

## INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL REVIEWER

- Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society (MNRAS), Oxford University Press
- Planetary and Space Science, Elsevier

## SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

- June 09, 2010 – July 11, 2010: involved in a research project of dr. Jose Luis Ortiz on Trans-Neptunian Objects at the Institute of Astrophysics of Andalusia, IAA-CSIC, Granada, Spain

## CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

- MAGIC Collaboration Meeting Split 2017, June 12-16, 2017, Split, Croatia
- The Brijuni Conference 2014, August 25-30, 2014, National Park Brijuni, Croatia  
*Poster presentation:* Cikota, S. et al. - A search for active Main Belt asteroids
- The Brijuni Conference 2012, August 27-31, 2012, National Park Brijuni, Croatia
- Sarajevo School of High Energy Physics 2012, May 9-13, 2012, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- BELISSIMA workshop: Science with 1.5 m telescopes, October 13-14, 2011, Belgrade, Serbia
- 1st IAA Planetary Defence Conference, April 27-30, 2009, Granada, Spain  
*Poster presentation:* Cikota, S. et al. - Astrometry and photometry of 2008 TC3
- Alpe Adria Meeting 2006, October 15, 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Meeting on Asteroids and Comets in Europe 2006, May 12-14, 2006, Vienna, Austria
- International Meteor Conference 2005, September 15-18, 2005, Oostmalle, Belgium  
*Poster presentation:* Cikota, S., & Pelajic, I. - Meteor observations at Visnjan Observatory

## PROJECTS & INTERESTS

- In March 2017 I joined the **Major Atmospheric Gamma Imaging Cherenkov (MAGIC)** collaboration
- At the moment, I am involved in a research project of dr. Jose Luis Ortiz on **Trans-Neptunian Objects** at the Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía - CSIC. For imaging, we are using remotely telescopes located at the Atacama Observatory (MPC 116) - San Pedro de Atacama, Chile and Alianza S4 (MPC 108) - Cerro Burek, Argentina.
- Since the beginning of 2009 I am involved in a student's project at Visnjan Observatory (Croatia) with the goal to research the correlations between **electrochthonic sounds of meteors and their ELF/VLF emission of Electromagnetic waves.**
- From September 2006 to September 2009 I was a team member of the Spanish **La Sagra Sky Survey (J75)**. In this period, we discovered over 3100 minor planets, from that 1 comet and 12 Near Earth Asteroids.

## **OBSERVATION RUNS**

- September 16 - 22, 2010 - Calar Alto Observatory, Spain
- September 06 - 13, 2008 - Observatorio Astronomico de La Sagra, Spain
- June 19 - July 12, 2008 - Observatorio Astronomico de La Sagra, Spain
- December 27, 2007 - January 12, 2008 - Observatorio Astronomico de La Sagra, Spain
- July 03 - July 27, 2007 - Observatorio Astronomico de La Sagra, Spain

## **EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEES**

- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2017 & group leader of the "Astronomical spectroscopy group"
- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2016
- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2015
- Organizing committee member of The Brijuni Conference 2014, August 25-30, 2014, National Park Brijuni, Croatia
- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2014
- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2013
- Coordinator of the Visnjan School of Astronomy 2012
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2011, group leader of the "Asteroid photometry group"
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2010, group leader of the "ELF/VLF Ionosphere group"
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2009, group leader of the "ELF/VLF Ionosphere group"
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2008, group leader of the "Asteroid astrometry and photometry group"
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2007, group leader of the "NEO astrometry group"
- Visnjan School of Astronomy 2006, group leader of the "Visnjan Observatory Robotic Telescope group"

## **POPULAR ARTICLES, TALKS & PUBLIC OUTREACH**

- Public talk: "The definition of a planet", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (April 17, 2018)
- Public talk: "Asteroids - threat from space", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (April 10, 2018)
- Seminar talk: "Aerospace sector - a drive for research, innovation and the economy", National reference group for Space, Zagreb (March 19, 2018)

- Public talk: "The Sun", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (February 6, 2018)
- Public talk: „Impacts in our Solar System“, Tomislavov dom, Nature Park Medvednica (December 16, 2017)
- Public talk: "Asteroids - big bluff or real threat from space?", Nikola Tesla Technical Museum, Zagreb (November 16, 2017)
- Seminar talk: "Ideas for student projects in astronomy", Education and Teacher Training Agency, Zagreb (July 6, 2017)
- Public talk: "The Sun", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (March 28, 2017)
- Public talk: "Asteroids - The threat from space", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (March 14, 2017)
- Public talk: "The definition of a planet", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (March 7, 2017)
- Cikota S., "Most stable quasi-satellite of Earth: 2016 HO3", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 3, year LIX (April 2017)
- Public talk: "Impacts in our Solar System", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (March 29, 2016)
- Public talk: "Why isn't Pluto a planet anymore?", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (March 15, 2016)
- Public talk: "Asteroids - big bluff or real threat?", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (February 3, 2016)
- Public talk: "The Sun – internal structure and its activity", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (December 1, 2015)
- Cikota S., "Swiss Space Systems in Croatia", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 4, year LVII (May 2015)
- Public talk: "Exploring the Solar system", KIC Nikola Tesla, Udbina, Croatia (May 23, 2015)
- Public talk: "The Sun – internal structure and its activity", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (January 13, 2015)
- Public talk: "Impact statistics of Small bodies of the Solar system", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (February 11, 2014)
- Public talk: "Impacts in our Solar System", Dubrovnik, Croatia (November 08, 2013)
- Astronomy popularisation event with public sky observations, Sinj, Split & Dubrovnik, Croatia (November 04 - 10, 2013)
- Cikota S., "The Chelyabinsk impact - an extraordinary event or just statistics?", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 4, year LV (May 2013)
- Public talk: "The Kuiper belt objects", Ekonomska i birotehnicka skola Bjelovar, Bjelovar, Croatia (March 21, 2013)
- Public talk: "Small Bodies of the Solar System ", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (February 05, 2013)
- Public talk: "The Kuiper belt - Why isn't Pluto a planet anymore?", Dom mladih Skenderija, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (April 13, 2012)

- Astronomy popularisation event with public sky observations, Dubrovnik, Croatia (March 30 - April 01, 2012)
- Cikota S., "Jupiter impacts", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 2, year LIII (January 2011)
- Astronomy popularisation event with public sky observations, Dubrovnik, Croatia (January 12 - 14, 2011)
- Cikota S., "Gravitational waves and project LISA", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 4, year LII (July 2010)
- Cikota S., "Impact of 2008 TC3", *Covjek i Svemir*, no. 3, year LI (April 2009)
- Cikota S., "The discovery of the Martian Trojan 2007 NS2", *Interstellarum*, no. 55 (January 2008)
- Public talk: "Expedition La Sagra", Visnjan Observatory, Visnjan (August 22, 2007)
- Public talk: "Why isn't Pluto a planet anymore?", Zagreb Observatory, Zagreb (June 06, 2007)
- Cikota S., "The Sun", *Priroda* no. 934, (May 2005)
- Cikota S., "Meteor showers", *Priroda*, no. 931, (February 2005)
- Cikota S., "Asteroids", *Priroda*, no. 929, (December 2004)
- Cikota S., "The Moon surface", *Meridijani*, no. 77, (September 2003)
- Cikota S., "The worldwide biggest telescopes", *Meridijani*, no. 72, (February 2003)