

Curriculum Vitae  
**CHRISTOPHER ALAN ONKEN**

March 2009

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**PERSONAL DATA**

Born: 14 August 1978; Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A.

Citizenship: U.S.A.

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**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. Astronomy. The Ohio State University. 2005  
“Measurement of Black Hole Masses in Active Galactic Nuclei”  
Adviser: Dr. Bradley M. Peterson
- M.S. Astronomy. The Ohio State University. 2002
- B.S. Astrophysics (*summa cum laude*). University of Minnesota. 2000  
“The Search for Large-Scale Magnetic Field Structure in the Milky Way Galaxy”  
Adviser: Dr. John M. Dickey
- B.S. Physics (*magna cum laude*). University of Minnesota. 2000

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**EXPERIENCE**

- Deputy Australian Gemini Scientist. Mount Stromlo Observatory. 2008—Present
- Plaskett Fellow. Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics. 2005—2008
- Graduate Research and Teaching Assistant. The Ohio State University. 2000—2005
- Lab Instructor (Introductory Astronomy). University of Minnesota. 1999—2000
- Undergraduate Summer Student Program. Space Telescope Science Institute. 1999
- Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program. Northern Arizona University. 1998

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**AWARDS & HONORS**

- Plaskett Fellowship. Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics. 2005
- Distinguished University Fellowship. The Ohio State University. 2000
- Asteroid “1998 MZ7” designated “12868 Onken”. 1999

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**OBSERVING RUNS**

- Dominion Astrophysical Observatory - 1.85m 2007 Jun-Jul
- Gemini Observatory - Gemini North Queue: 2006B, 2007A, 2008A
- W.M. Keck Observatory - Keck I 2006 Mar
- MMT Observatory 2004 May
- Hubble Space Telescope 2003 (Cycle 12); 2007 (Cycle 15)
- MDM Observatory - 1.3m 2003 Nov; 2005 Feb
- Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory - 4m 2003 Apr
- Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory - 0.9m 2003 Jan, Oct
- Kitt Peak National Observatory - 4m 2001 Oct; 2003 Dec
- South African Astronomical Observatory - 1m 2001 Jun
- MDM Observatory - 2.4m 2001 Jan, Apr, Oct; 2003 Mar
- Lowell Observatory - 0.6m 1998 Jun-Aug

**REFEREED PUBLICATIONS**

15. *An Improved Method for Using Mg II to Estimate Black Hole Masses in Active Galactic Nuclei.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, & Kollmeier, J.A. 2008, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 689, L13.
14. *The Black Hole Mass of NGC 4151: Comparison of Reverberation Mapping and Stellar Dynamical Measurements.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, Valluri, M., Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Bentz, M.C., Ferrarese, L., Vestergaard, M., Crenshaw, D.M., Sergeev, S.G., McHardy, I.M., Merritt, D., Bower, G.A., Heckman, T.M., & Wandel, A. 2007, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 670, 105.
13. *NGC 5548 in a Low-Luminosity State: Implications for the Broad-Line Region.*  
 Bentz, M.C., Denney, K.D., Cackett, E.M., Dietrich, M., Fogel, J.K.J., Ghosh, H., Horne, K.D., Kuehn, C., Minezaki, T., **Onken, C.A.**, Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Pronik, V.I., Richstone, D.O., Sergeev, S.G., Vestergaard, M., Walker, M.G., & Yoshii, Y. 2007, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 662, 205.
12. *The Mass of the Black Hole in the Seyfert 1 Galaxy NGC 4593 from Reverberation Mapping.*  
 Denney, K.D., Bentz, M.C., Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Cackett, E.M., Dietrich, M., Fogel, J.K.J., Ghosh, H., Horne, K.D., Kuehn, C., Minezaki, T., **Onken, C.A.**, Pronik, V.I., Richstone, D.O., Sergeev, S.G., Vestergaard, M., Walker, M.G., & Yoshii, Y. 2006, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 653, 152.
11. *A Reverberation-based Mass for the Central Black Hole in NGC 4151.*  
 Bentz, M.C., Denney, K.D., Cackett, E.M., Dietrich, M., Fogel, J.K.J., Ghosh, H., Horne, K., Kuehn, C., Minezaki, T., **Onken, C.A.**, Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Pronik, V.I., Richstone, D.O., Sergeev, S.G., Vestergaard, M., Walker, M.G., & Yoshii, Y. 2006, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 651, 775.
10. *Black Hole Masses and Eddington Ratios at  $0.3 < z < 4$ .*  
 Kollmeier, J.A., **Onken, C.A.**, Kochanek, C.S., Gould, A., Weinberg, D.H., Dietrich, M., Cool, R., Dey, A., Eisenstein, D.J., Jannuzi, B.T., Le Flo'c'h, E., & Stern, D. 2006, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 648, 128.
9. *The Mass of the Central Black Hole in the Seyfert Galaxy NGC 4151.*  
 Metzroth, K.G., **Onken, C.A.**, & Peterson, B.M. 2006, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 647, 901.
8. *The Radius—Luminosity Relationship for Active Galactic Nuclei: The Effect of Host-Galaxy Starlight on Luminosity Measurements.*  
 Bentz, M.C., Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Vestergaard, M., & **Onken, C.A.** 2006, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 644, 133.
7. *Supermassive Black Holes in Active Galactic Nuclei. II. Calibration of the Black Hole Mass—Velocity Dispersion Relationship for Active Galactic Nuclei.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, Ferrarese, L., Merritt, D., Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Vestergaard, M., & Wandel, A. 2004, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 615, 645.

6. *Central Masses and Broad-Line Region Sizes of Active Galactic Nuclei. II. A Homogeneous Analysis of a Large Reverberation-Mapping Database.*  
Peterson, B.M., Ferrarese, L., Gilbert, K.M., Kaspi, S., Malkan, M.A., Maoz, D., Merritt, D., Netzer, H., Onken, C.A., Pogge, R.W., Vestergaard, M., & Wandel, A. 2004, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 613, 682.
5. *History of Hydrogen Reionization in the Cold Dark Matter Model.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, & Miralda-Escudé, J. 2004, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 610, 1.
4. *Black Hole Masses in Three Seyfert Galaxies.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, Peterson, B.M., Dietrich, M., Robinson, A., & Salamanca, I.M. 2003, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 585, 121.
3. *Steps toward Determination of the Size and Structure of the Broad-Line Region in Active Galactic Nuclei. XVI. A 13 Year Study of Spectral Variability in NGC 5548.*  
Peterson, B.M., Berlind, P., Bertram, R., Bischoff, K., Bochkarev, N.G., Borisov, N., Burenkov, A.N., Calkins, M., Carrasco, L., Chavushyan, V.H., Chornock, R., Dietrich, M., Doroshenko, V.T., Ezhkova, O.V., Filippenko, A.V., Gilbert, A.M., Huchra, J.P., Kollatschny, W., Leonard, D.C., Li, W., Lyuty, V.M., Malkov, Y.F., Matheson, T., Merkulova, N.I., Mikhailov, V.P., Modjaz, M.,  
**Onken, C.A.**, Pogge, R.W., Pronik, V.I., Qian, B., Romano, P., Sergeev, S.G., Sergeeva, E.A., Shapovalova, A.I., Spiridonova, O.I., Tao, J., Tokarz, S., Valdes, J.R., Vlasiuk, V.V., Wagner, R.M., & Wilkes, B.J. 2002, *The Astrophysical Journal*, 581, 197.
2. *The Mass of the Central Black Hole in the Seyfert Galaxy NGC 3783.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, & Peterson, B.M. 2002, 572, 746.
1. *CCD Photometry of the Globular Cluster NGC 5986 and Its Post-Asymptotic Giant Branch and RR Lyrae Stars.*  
Alves, D.R., Bond, H.E., & **Onken, C.A.** 2001, *The Astronomical Journal*, 121, 318.

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## **CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**

9. *AGES-II Black Hole Masses and Eddington Ratios.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, Kollmeier, J.A., & The AGES Team 2007, BAAS, 2008 Winter Meeting.
8. *The Black Hole Mass and Eddington Ratio Distributions of the 2QZ.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, & Kollmeier, J.A. 2006, BAAS, 2007 Winter Meeting.
7. *Calibration of the  $M$ — $\sigma$  Relation for AGNs.*  
**Onken, C.A.** 2004, BAAS, 2005 Winter Meeting.
6. *Determining the Zero-Point Calibration for AGN Black Hole Mass Estimates.*  
**Onken, C.A.**, Ferrarese, L., Merritt, D., Peterson, B.M., Pogge, R.W., Vestergaard, M., & Wandel, A. 2004, in The Interplay among Black Holes, Stars, and ISM in Galactic Nuclei, eds. T. Storchi Bermann, L.C. Ho, & H.R. Schmitt, IAU Symposium, 222, 109.
5. *Zero-Point Calibration for AGN Black-Hole Mass Estimates.*  
Peterson, B.M., & **Onken, C.A.** 2004, in AGN Physics with the Sloan Digital Sky Survey, eds. G.T. Richards & P.B. Hall, ASP Conference Series, 311, 75.

4. *Photometric Selection of Local Group Post-AGB Stars.*

**Onken, C.A.**, & Chanamé, J. 2003, in The Local Group as an Astrophysical Laboratory, eds. M. Livio & T.M. Brown, p. 72.

3. *A Supermassive Black Hole in the Seyfert 1 Galaxy NGC 3783.*

**Onken, C.A.** 2001, BAAS, 2002 Winter Meeting.

2. *Two Post-AGB A-F Stars in the Globular Cluster NGC 5986.*

Bond, H.E., Alves, D.R., & **Onken, C.** 2000, BAAS, 2000 Summer Meeting.

1. *A Straw-Man Model of the Galactic Magnetic Field.*

Dickey, J.M., **Onken, C.A.**, McClure-Griffiths, N.M., Gaensler, B.M., Green, A.J., Haynes, R.F., & Wieringa, M.H. 2000, in Radio Polarization: A New Probe of the Galaxy, ed. T.L. Landecker, p. 43.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“1998 QH2”, 1998, Minor Planet Electronic Circ., 1998-Q21.

“1998 PG”, 1998, Minor Planet Electronic Circ., 1998-P13.

“1998 PF”, 1998, Minor Planet Electronic Circ., 1998-P12.

“1998 ME3”, 1998, Minor Planet Electronic Circ., 1998-M15.

“1998 MQ”, 1998, Minor Planet Electronic Circ., 1998-M08.

**TALKS**

Gemini-South, La Serena, Chile.	Seminar	2009 Feb
American Astronomical Society, Austin, TX.	Contributed	2008 Jan
<i>Active Galactic Nuclei in the Cosmological Context</i> , Center for Cosmology and AstroParticle Physics, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.	Invited	2007 Oct
American Astronomical Society, Seattle, WA.	Contributed	2007 Jan
Royal Astronomical Society of Canada—Victoria Centre, Victoria, BC.	Public	2006 Jun
<i>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Sidney van den Bergh's Ph.D.</i> , Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, Victoria, BC.	In-House	2006 Feb
Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, Victoria, BC.	Seminar	2005 Nov
American Astronomical Society, San Diego, CA.	Contributed	2005 Jan
<i>The Central Parsec of Galaxies</i> , Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie, Heidelberg, Germany.	Contributed	2004 Oct