

Yugo KAWAI

*PhD Student in Exoplanetary Science,
JSPS Research Fellow (DC2)*

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Profile

PhD student specializing in exoplanet formation and evolution, with experience in observational analysis and statistical modeling.

Education

- 2024–
Expected 2027 **Ph.D.**, *The University of Tokyo*, Tokyo, Japan
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Supervisor: Prof. Norio Narita
- 2022–2024 **M.A. in Arts**, *The University of Tokyo*, Tokyo, Japan
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Thesis: *Probing the peculiar architecture of an exoplanetary system with TESS photometric light curves* (Outstanding Master's Thesis Award)
Supervisor: Prof. Norio Narita
- 2017–2022 **B.A. in International Liberal Studies**, *Waseda University*, Tokyo, Japan
B.A. in Communications and New Media, *National University of Singapore*, Singapore
(Double Degree Program)

Fellowships

- 2025–Present **JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC2)**, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, The University of Tokyo
- 2023–2024 **JST SPRING Fellowship**, Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation, The University of Tokyo
- 2022–2023 **WINGS-ABC Fellowship**, World-leading Innovative Graduate Study Program of Advanced Basic Science, The University of Tokyo

Papers

- Kawai**, Y., A. Fukui, N. Watanabe, S. Fukazawa, and N. Narita (Nov. 2025). "Identifying Close-in Jupiters that Arrived via Disk Migration: Evidence of Primordial Alignment, Preference of Nearby Companions and Hint of Runaway Migration". In: *The Astronomical Journal* 170.6, p. 299. DOI: 10.3847/1538-3881/ae0a11. URL: <https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-3881/ae0a11>.
- Kawai**, Y., N. Narita, A. Fukui, N. Watanabe, and S. Inaba (Feb. 2024). "The flipped orbit of KELT-19Ab inferred from the symmetric TESS transit light curves". In: *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society* 528.1, pp. 270–280. DOI: 10.1093/mnras/stad3915.

— +15 additional co-authored paper as observer with MuSCAT instruments.

Talks

- Jul 2025 *Identifying hot Jupiters that arrived via disk migration*, Detection and Dynamics of Exoplanets, Coimbra, Portugal
- May 2025 *Identifying hot Jupiters that arrived via disk migration*, Japan Geoscience Union Meeting, Chiba, Japan
- Oct 2024 *The Potentially Decaying Orbit of an Ultra-Hot Jupiter*, Exoclock Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal
- May 2023 *The flipped orbit of KELT-19Ab inferred from the symmetric TESS light curves*, Japan Geoscience Union Meeting, Chiba, Japan
- +3 additional oral presentations in domestic conferences

Posters

- Mar 2024 *The flipped orbit of KELT-19Ab inferred from the symmetric TESS light curves*, Extreme Solar Systems V, Christchurch, New Zealand

Colloquia

- Nov 2025* NAOJ Planetary Seminar, Tokyo, Japan
- Jul 2025 Geneva Observatory Exoplanet Seminar, Geneva Switzerland
- Jun 2025 Subaru Seminar, Hawaii, USA
- Feb 2024 Nagoya University Theoretical Astrophysics Group, Nagoya, Japan
- Dec 2023 Komaba Science Club, Tokyo, Japan
- *Invited

Grants and Funding

- 2025–2027 **JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (DC2)**, Grant No. 25KJ1036
- 2022–2024 **JASSO Scholarship**, Japan Student Service Organization
- Oct 2024 **JST SPRING-GX International Conference Grant (Lisbon)**, Grant No. JPMJSP2108
- Mar 2024 **Intl. Conference Grant (Christchurch)**, Foundation for Promotion of Astronomy

Accepted Observing Proposals

- 2025A **MOIRCS/Subaru**, PI: Yugo Kawai — *Confirmation of first orbital decay of a hot Jupiter around a low-mass star (0.5 nights)*
- 2024B **MAROON-X/Gemini**, PI: Yugo Kawai — *Obliquity measurement to search for proto-planetary disk misalignment (0.5 nights, Subaru Time Exchange)*

Teaching

- 2024–Present **Astrophysics Lab**, Teaching Assistant, UTokyo — *Astrophysics using Python*.
- 2024 Fall **Undergraduate research program**, Teaching Assistant, UTokyo — *Exoplanet photometric data analysis using Python. (Advised two undergraduate students)*

Awards

- 2023 **Ichiko Commemorative Award**, Outstanding Master's Thesis Award, University of Tokyo

Languages

Japanese Native
English Fluent
Python Proficient

Academic and professional use
For data analysis, modeling, and automation