

Dr Dimitri Veras - George Darwin Lectureship (A)

Dr Dimitri Veras is an outstanding theoretical astrophysicist, specialising in the dynamics of planetary systems, and is a leader in the field of post-main-sequence planetary science. He investigates the fate of planets, asteroids and comets when their host stars finish their main sequence lives and seeks to connect observations with the progenitor planetary systems. This involves modelling the gravitational interactions between the components of planetary systems while taking into account many other effects of the star's evolution including mass loss, increased radiation, interaction with Galactic tides and the influence of stellar binary companions. His work has enabled observations to be used to learn about the underlying physical processes and to provide insights into the nature, composition and ultimate fate of planetary systems that would be impossible to extract any other way. He is also an engaging and very successful science communicator, an inspirational speaker to audiences of all kinds, and a superb ambassador for exoplanet science and stellar astrophysics.