

Zachary A. Kaplan

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EDUCATION

Yale University, New Haven, CT
Bachelor of Arts in Astronomy, Expected May 2013
Cumulative GPA 3.62/4.0

Whitefish Bay High School, Whitefish Bay, WI
Graduated third in class of 224
Unweighted GPA 4.0/4.0

EXPERIENCE

Apr. 2010-present

Student Researcher, Yale Exoplanet Lab, Yale University, New Haven, CT

- Analyzed scrambling properties of fiber optic cables for discovery of earth-size planets
- Built optical experiments in dust-controlled lab
- Conducted observation runs at Lick Observatory, San Jose, CA to test optical properties of self-designed fiber optic feeds

Dec. 2009-Aug. 2010

Student Researcher, Yale Drop Team, NASA, Houston, TX

- Researched for the Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program through NASA
- Flew on Parabolic Flight Campaign in June 2010, conducting research on dusty plasma in zero gravity

May 2007-Dec. 2008

Student Researcher, Legacy Heritage Fund, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

- Received competitive internship in science and Israeli policy
- Investigated advanced studies in refraction patterns

LEADERSHIP

Sept. 2003-Jun. 2009

Head Teaching Assistant (2008-2009), **Teaching Assistant** (2003-2009), Congregation Shalom

- Oversaw 31 teacher's assistants, dealing with logistical meetings and disciplinary action
- Taught Hebrew to classes ranging from 3rd to 10th grade, teaching one class independently

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Sept. 2011

Spronck, J., **Kaplan, Z.**, Fischer, D. 2011, "Use and limitations of single- and multi-mode fibers for exoplanet detection" in the book: *Optical Fibers / Book 3*, Tech - Open Access Publisher

Sept. 2011

Fischer, D. A., Schwamb, M. E., Schawinski, K., Lintott, C. Brewer, J., Giguere, M., Lynn, S, Parrish, M., Sartori, T., Simpson, R., Smith, A., Spronck, J., Batalha, N., Rowe, J., Jenkins, J., Bryson, S., Prsa, A., Tenenbaum, P., Crepp, J., Morton, T., Howard, A., Belem, M., **Kaplan, Z.**, vanNispen, N. Sharzer, C., DeFouw, J., Hajduk, A., Neal, J. P., Nemecek, A., Schuepbach, N., Zimmermann, V. 2011, "Planet Hunters. I. Two Planet Candidates Discovered by the Public using the Kepler Public Archive Data," *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, in press. (**First undergraduate author**)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Sept. 2011

Spronck, J., **Kaplan, Z.**, Fischer, D. A. 2011, "Fiber Scrambling for Extreme Doppler Precision" *Extreme Solar Systems II*. Jackson Hole, WY

May 2011

Kaplan, Z., Spronck, J., Fischer, D. 2011, "Fiber Scrambling for High Precision Spectrographs" *American Astronomical Society (AAS) 21840604*. Boston, MA

OTHER DISTINCTIONS

Dec. 2008

Semi-finalist, Siemens Science Competition in Math, Science & Technology

- Submitted paper using research conducted at Hebrew University in June 2007
- Selected as one of 100 semi-finalists from 1200 applications (only Wisconsin semi-finalist)