



**Report of ASTRONOMICA:
Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's
College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad**

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Introduction of the Club

ASTRONOMICA is a group of students and staff of the Physics & Electronics department of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad which does various activities related to Astronomy. The club organizes different activities like Astronight (a fun-filled night of star-gazing),

telescope handling sessions, lectures, and online webinar sessions on astrophysics, observational, and theoretical astronomy.

Our basic aim is to develop scientific temperament among students and motivate them towards Astronomy. This club aims to spread knowledge about astronomy among students in a simple yet interactive way such that students can understand the basic concepts of astronomy, astrophysics, and cosmology.

Events in 2019:

Ravigrahan



The solar eclipse is an amazing astronomical event where the light of the sun is blocked by the moon. Watching a solar eclipse is much more fun than watching a lunar eclipse because it is short timed so the sun can be clearly seen being uncovered. The solar eclipse that took place on 26th December 2019, Thursday, was rather more important because it was very rare. This type of eclipse is called an annular solar eclipse. In this eclipse, the moon is a bit far from the Earth so it doesn't cover the whole sun and we can see the sun as an annulus or a bright ring.

In the Partial Solar Eclipse, Sun, Moon, and Earth don't align perfectly due to which the sun doesn't get fully covered, but is partially covered by the moon. There are three stages of Partial Solar Eclipse: 1) Beginning of Solar Eclipse, 2) Maximum Eclipse, and 3) Ending of Solar Eclipse. The probability of Partial Solar Eclipse (35%) is much more compared to Total Solar Eclipse and Annular Solar Eclipse.

Astronomica: Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad organized an event named, "Ravigrahan"- Student watching of Solar Eclipse, for observing the Solar Eclipse on 26th December 2019 at 7:30 a.m. in collaboration with Universe Science Forum. A partial Solar Eclipse was visible from Ahmedabad. The Amateur Astronomy Club had a total of three telescopes for observing the phenomena. For ease of observing the phenomena, they projected the sun on a white screen using one telescope so everybody could watch it together. For the people who were unable to remain present at the venue, they did live streaming on YouTube. The other two telescopes were installed along with sun filters so that the visitors could also observe the phenomena using those telescopes. Also, an arrangement of DSLR with sun filter was made for capturing the whole event of Partial Eclipse whose image can be seen below. This program was held under the guidance of Dr. Tushar C. Pandya. Two teams of volunteers conducted this program, namely:

1. The Coordinating Team:

- a) Suresh Parekh
- b) Vaibhav Trivedi
- c) Jahaan Thakkar
- d) Kishan Malaviya
- e) Bhavya Thacker

2. The Photography Team:

- a) Jaydeep Kholvadiya
- b) Vedant Agrawal



The Coordinator's team was responsible for hosting the program so well and managing the crowd as well as YouTube live streaming. The photos that we are seeing are all due to the photography team who kept clicking photos of the eclipse at different phases. Nearly 500+ people witnessed this event including the people present at the venue as well as watching live on YouTube.

Events in 2020:

Lunar Eclipse



Somgrahan: Public watching event of Lunar Eclipse and Star Gazing

Eclipses are the most fascinating astronomical events. Lunar eclipses are longer than solar eclipses. Therefore, we get more time to watch the lunar eclipse in comparison with the solar eclipse. There are basically two types of lunar eclipses: Total Lunar Eclipse and Penumbral Lunar Eclipse. In the Total lunar eclipse, the Moon passes from the Earth's umbra hence we can see the moon being covered by the shadow of the Earth whereas, in the Penumbral lunar eclipse, the Moon passes from the Earth's penumbra. So, it cannot be seen as a shadow covering the Moon but in this eclipse, the brightness of the Moon will decrease.



It is somewhat difficult to see the change in brightness with the naked eye because it decreases gradually. But as shown in the photographs below, the change can be seen if you compare the photographs at the starting of the eclipse and the peak of the eclipse. On the 10th of January, 2020 we were able to watch the Penumbral Lunar Eclipse. Astronomica: Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad along with Universe Science Forum (USF) organized a lunar eclipse-watching and stargazing event. The event was open for all.

Super Moon



Astronomica: Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad had organized another event on sky-gazing on 9th February 2020, which was a full moon Sunday night and also it was the fourth closest full moon of the year, so it was a big opportunity to observe the moon.





In this event, we observed the full moon, Orion nebula, Pleiades star cluster, Sirius (the brightest star in the night sky), and other celestial objects. We not just only let our visitors to see the celestial objects through our telescopes but also conducted an introductory session on how to use telescopes, where we described about different types of telescopes, mounting of telescopes, operating on a telescope and most importantly how to spot different celestial objects through it. The latter part was the most crucial part and through this activity, the sky-gazers got to learn about the mechanism of the telescope and the celestial sphere.

Vyom Webinar

Lecture 1: Twinkle Twinkle Ohh Big Stars

VYOM: Webinar on “Observational and Theoretical Astronomy.”
Jointly organized by:-
Astronomica (Astronomy Club of St. Xavier’s college, Ahmedabad),
Department of Physics and Electronics, St. Xavier’s College (Autonomous)
Ahmedabad and Essencetech.

Lecture 1:-

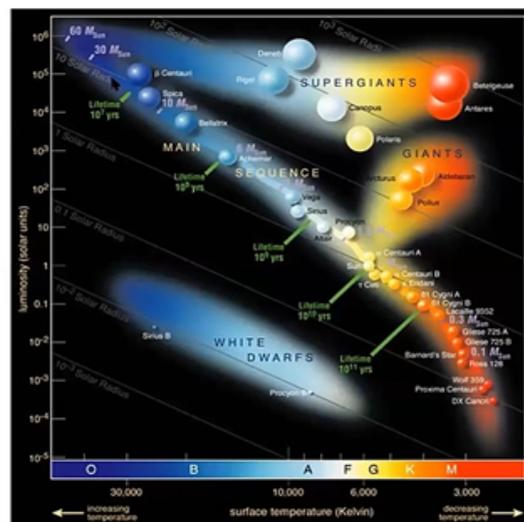
TWINKLE TWINKLE OHH BIG STARS

By:-
Dr. Vishal Joshi
Astronomy and Astrophysics Division,
Physical Research Laboratory (PRL),
Ahmedabad-380009

Date:- April 12th, 2020.

This session was conducted by **Dr. Vishal Joshi** of Astronomy and Astrophysics Division, Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad on 12th April, 2020 where he explained many things about Stars. In the beginning, he first explained the difference between Astronomy and Astrophysics. He explained that astrophysics is a sub-part of astronomy. After that, he explained the very famous and one of the most important diagrams in Astronomy i.e. Hertzsprung – Russell Diagram (HR diagram).

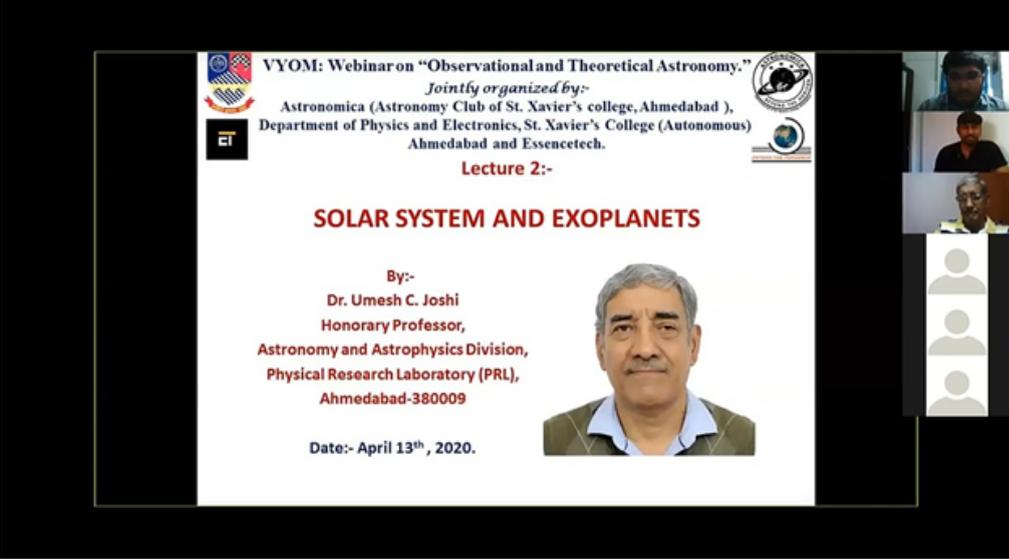
H-R Diagram



He explained the classification of stars by their temperature, luminosity, spectral type, and evolutionary stage using the HR diagram. He explained why Massive stars are blue and lighter stars are reddish. He also introduced students to the Morgan – Keenan classification for stars which categorizes stars in categories namely O, B, A, F, G, K, M, L. He talked about our star -The sun, which is a G-type star with moderate luminosity. Then he explained some of the features of the sun i.e. Sunspots and Solar corona etc. He explained how big sunspots are and how these sunspots get formed. He explained the Solar corona which is the Atmosphere of the sun. He also talked about the problem of why solar corona has a much higher temperature than the surface of the sun. Later he explained the formation of Aurora and aurora on different planets like Jupiter and Saturn etc. After that, he explained different types of stars briefly, like brown dwarfs, red dwarfs, etc, and explained how these stars evolve and what is the difference between them, and what is their average lifespan. The session was very informative and it encouraged young minds to pursue their career in

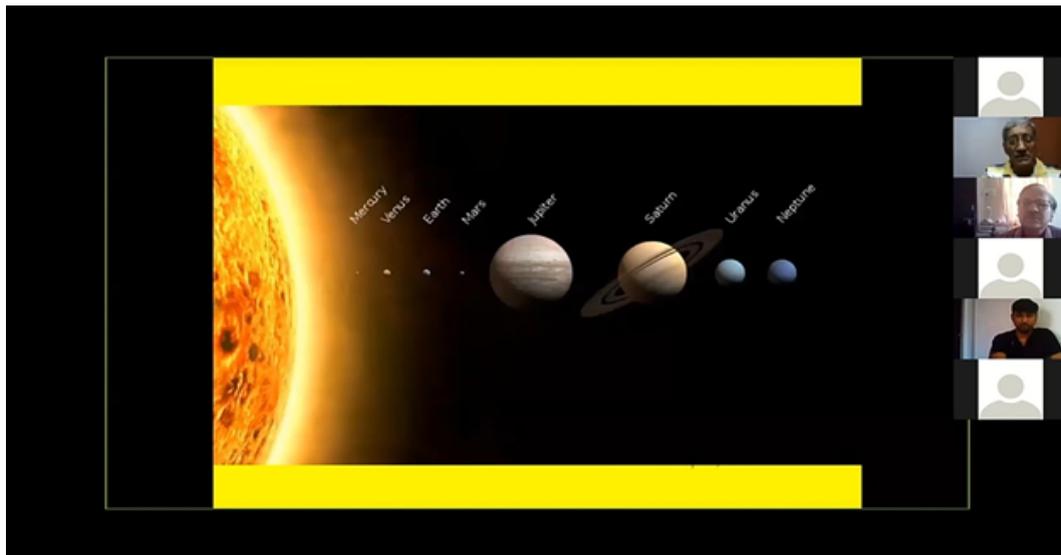
astronomy. At last, Dr. Joshi interacted with students via question and answer session and he answered the questions of students in a very easy and comprehensive manner.

Lecture 2: The Wanderers



The image shows a screenshot of a webinar slide. The slide is titled "VYOM: Webinar on 'Observational and Theoretical Astronomy.'" and is jointly organized by Astronomica (Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's college, Ahmedabad), Department of Physics and Electronics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad and Essencetech. The slide is for "Lecture 2:- SOLAR SYSTEM AND EXOPLANETS" by Dr. Umesh C. Joshi, an Honorary Professor at the Astronomy and Astrophysics Division, Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad-380009. The date is April 13th, 2020. A portrait of Dr. Joshi is shown on the right side of the slide. On the far right, there is a vertical strip containing three small video thumbnails and three grey person icons, indicating a multi-participant session.

This session was conducted by **Dr. Umesh Joshi** who is an Honorary professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics Division, Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad on 13th April, 2020. In his lecture, he first talked about how a solar system forms. He said that when a star is newly born it is covered by a disk of gases like hydrogen and helium and other dust. Slowly, these materials coalesce and small bodies are formed. These bodies become larger and larger in size by combining with each other and when this body becomes massive enough such that it can have its own strong enough gravitational field then this body becomes a planet. He then said that first it was believed that large Jupiter-like planets can only be formed at far distances from the parent sun but then observation from Hubble and other telescopes suggested that this is not true.

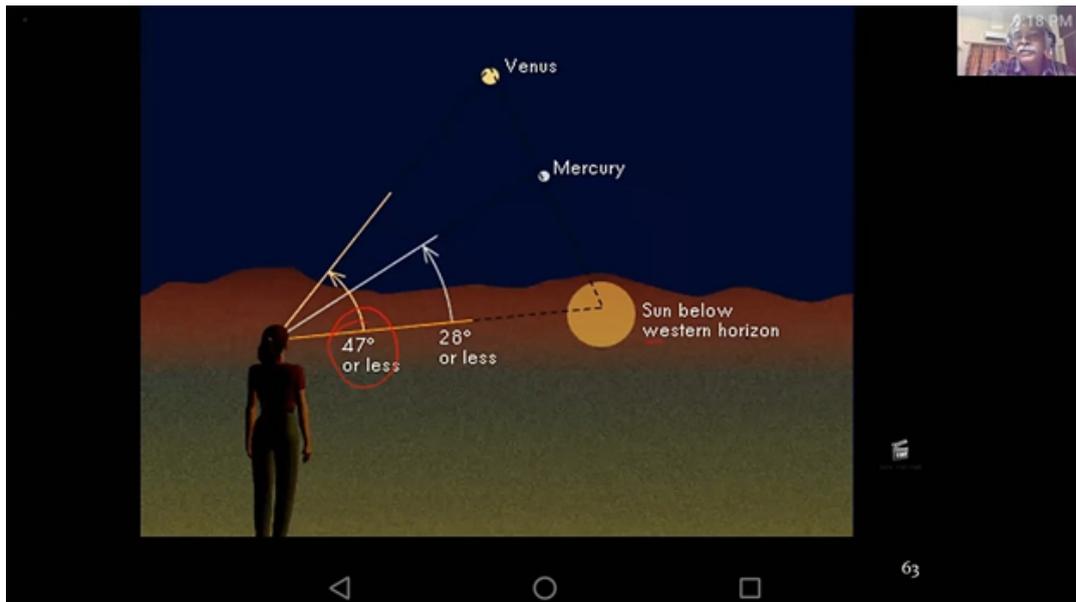


He then explained types of planets i.e rocky planets and gas giants etc.. he explained the structure of these planets and why these planets are different from each other, etc. He then explained why Mars is small, why there is an asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and also talked about the Oort cloud and Kuiper belt. After that, he explained the difference between an asteroid and a comet. He gave much information about asteroids like Ceres, Vesta, etc.. and explained how Mars' two moons are asteroids that are captured by the gravitational field of mars. Then he talked about the classification of asteroids in C, S & U categories. After this, he introduced students to exoplanets which are planets outside our solar system. He explained some of the methods to find the exoplanets i.e. wobble method, transit method, etc. The lecture was very informative and Dr. Joshi explained hardcore things in a very simple and comprehensive manner.

Lecture 3:- Observing the Sky

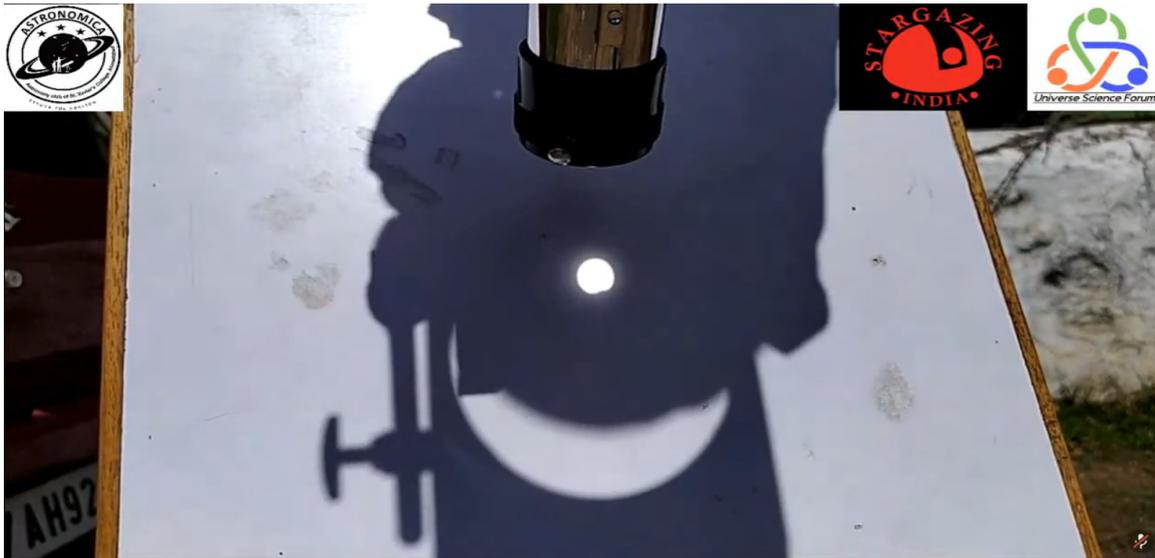
The image is a screenshot of a webinar slide. At the top, it reads "VYOM: Webinar on 'Observational and Theoretical Astronomy.'" followed by "Jointly organized by:- Astronomica (Astronomy Club of St. Xavier's college, Ahmedabad), Department of Physics and Electronics, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) Ahmedabad and Essencetech." Logos for St. Xavier's College and Essencetech are visible. The slide title is "Lecture 3:- OBSERVING THE SKY". The speaker is identified as "By:- Prof. Brijmohan Y. Thakore, Professor, Department Of Physics, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar." A portrait of Prof. Thakore is shown. The date is "Date:- April 14th, 2020." On the right side, there is a vertical strip of video thumbnails showing participants in a Zoom meeting.

This session was conducted by **Prof. Brijmohan.Y.Thakore** who is a Professor at Department of Physics, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar on 14thApril,2020., has taught us to observe the beautiful night sky with stars, planets, and other celestial objects. This topic is itself such self-attracting and vast on which narration by Prof Brijmohan Thakore makes it more interesting and easy to understand, such we can apply it very accurately. Sir started the discussion by explaining about celestial spheres and the apparent motion of stars, sir also taught us how to measure latitude. Sir taught us the difference between horizon diagram and celestial sphere, and what kind of parameter they have for measurement. Sir told about circumpolar stars in both celestial sphere and horizon diagram. Sir then explained the rise and set time of stars by the concept of the sidereal and solar day. Then they talked about the altitude-azimuth coordinate system also known as the horizon coordinate system and how to locate a point in the sky using that coordinate system. Sir then talked about how to measure the sun's moment using simple handmade models, using which we can find the shifting of point of rising and setting of the sun and when & where we can observe zero shadow day. After which sir told at which date the sun will start shifting the rise and setting point.



And how it is changing with time and due to which we observe great differences between uttarayan and Makar Sankranti. Then sir explained ecliptic coordinates and talked about the first point Aries and how it is shifting with. After which he explained the right ascension-declination coordinate. In which he taught equinox/solstice date. Then displacement of equinox date. Then sir talked about the moon and its orientation. Then he said how we defined tithi, nakshatra, and rashi. And at last, he talked about the retrograde motion of the planet. And at last, sir solved the doubts by some of the enthusiasts.

Ravigrahan 2.0

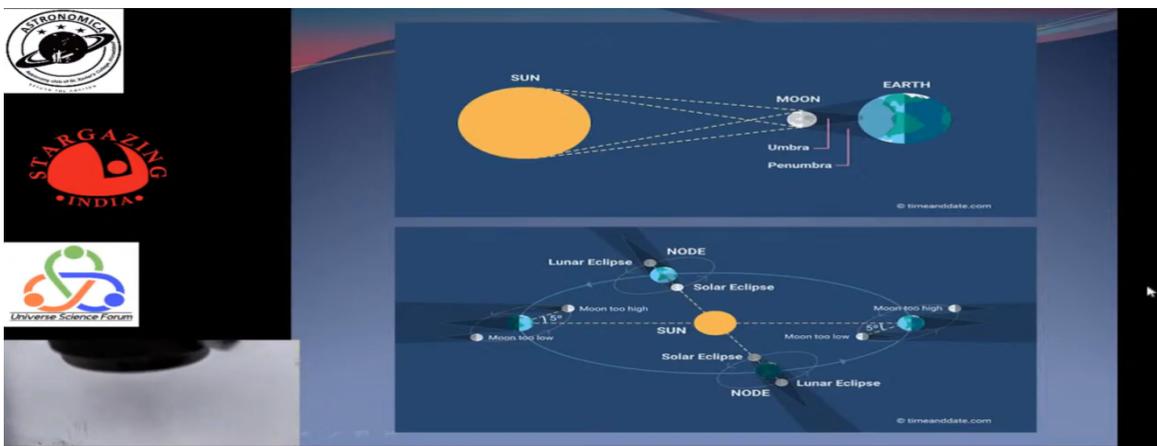


The solar eclipse is a stunning celestial event where a portion of the Earth is engulfed in the shadow cast by the Moon which blocks sunlight falling on the Earth.

On June 21, 2020, Sunday the solar eclipse started a little after 9:00 AM as the sun, the moon, and the earth came in a straight line.

The solar eclipse that took place on 21st June was an annular solar eclipse, the Moon was unable to cover the entire Sun, leaving a small surface exposed which is called the "Ring of fire". However, it was a partial solar eclipse in Gujarat.

ASTRONOMICA (Astronomy club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad) organized an event named "**Ravigrahan 2.0**"- **live streaming and sessions on solar eclipse** for observing the solar eclipse on 21st June in collaboration with **Universe Science Forum** and **Stargazing India**. **ASTRONOMICA** used a Celestron powerseeker refractor telescope of 60 mm focal length. They prepared a whole apparatus to take the projection of the eclipse on a white screen which was being telecasted live on their YouTube channel. The club not only arranged the live stream of the solar eclipse but also organized PowerPoint presentations on the solar eclipse by students along with the stream. During the live stream and student presentations, a live quiz was also arranged for all the viewers. In the end, winners of the live stream were also appreciated. The team of **ASTRONOMICA** captured different phases of the eclipse from different cities using a DSLR camera from their home.



This excellent event was held under the guidance of Dr. Tushar C. Pandya. 2 teams conducted this program.

1. Coordinating Team: - Mr. Suresh Parekh, Mr. Vaibhav Trivedi, Mr. Jahaan Thakkar, Mr. Kishan Malaviya, Mr. Bhavya Thacker, Mr. Mishil Patel, Mr. Yash Chauhan

2. Volunteer Team: - Ms. Riya Rathi, Ms. Zubiya Moriswala, Ms. Zeel Thakar, Ms. Preeti Kachhia, Mr. Mustafa Dosani, Mr. Akshat Sharma, Mr. Divya Kotia, Mr. Arnav Chaturvedi, Mr. Kerman Zaveri, Mr. Ashutosh Agrawal

Nearly 2500+ people witnessed the event live on YouTube with several comments and appreciations. The whole team of ASTRONOMICA worked day and night to make this grand event successful.

Orientation Of New Batch

In the month of October 2020, the Astronomica club had organized a virtual orientation event for the new batch of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad, and they were introduced to the goals, visions, and activities of the club.

Discussion On Nobel Prize In Physics:2020

The Nobel prize in Physics-2020 was announced on 6th October 2020 by Goran K. Hansson who is Secretary-General of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The Nobel Prize in Physics was partly given to Sir Roger Penrose for the discovery that the Blackhole formation is a robust prediction of the General Theory of Relativity and the other half was shared by Prof. Andrea Ghez and Prof. Reinhard Genzel for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of the Milky way galaxy.

The **ASTRONOMICA** Club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad had organized a youtube live stream on 25th October 2020 at 11 AM for the event namely "**Discussion on Nobel prize in Physics -2020**" in collaboration with Universe Science Forum (USF). The introduction of the session was given by **Mr. Jahaan Thakar**. The stream was then followed by **Mr. Arnav Chaturvedi** who explained the discovery by Sir **Roger Penrose** that black hole formation is a robust prediction of the General Theory of Relativity. Then **Mr. Jatin Tekani** took charge and explained the discovery by Prof. **Andrea Ghez** and Prof. **Reinhard Genzel** that there is a supermassive compact object at the center of the Milky Way Galaxy. After that, the viewers asked the doubts regarding the session which were answered by two speakers namely Mr. Arnav Chaturvedi

and Mr. Jatin Tekani. There were around 240 viewers who witnessed this live stream.

This excellent session was held under the guidance of Dr. Tushar C. Pandya and the coordinating team. The whole team of ASTRONOMICA had worked hard for this amazing talk.

New Team (2021)

It has now become the tradition of our club that after every year, a new fresh, and enthusiastic team replaces the preceding team and takes over the club. Thus the members of ASTRONOMICA, specifically those of Batch 2020, who have contributed to the growth of this club will be now taking the responsibility of the club and will take this club to new heights.

GAGAN: A GLIMPSE OF ASTRONOMY

Astronomica, the Astronomy club of Physics and Electronics Department, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad had organized a lecture series Gagan: A Glimpse of Astronomy based on basics of astronomy on 30th January 2021 and 31st January 2021. On the first day of the lecture series, Mr. Nisarg Vyas had delivered a lecture about Celestial Astronomy and why should it matter to me? It was an attempt to provide the reasons to be in touch with Astronomy through stories of the evolution of perspective ranging from Aristotle followed by Ptolemy, Brahe, Kepler, Galileo about the solar system and revolution by Newton and Einstein about the invention of calculus and understanding about cosmos. On the second day, Mr. Neel Vadodaria initiated a talk on Magnificent Mercury and when to see it. In this talk, the speaker drew

attention towards the importance of observing Mercury and the best time to do so. After the first talk, Mr. Abhishek Jhala continued with his topic Jupiter – Sun conjunction: Dance of two Giants. This talk covered the basics of planetary motion and conjunction. This lecture series was broadcasted live on YouTube from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm on the first day and from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm on the second day. More than 300 people enjoyed this series and took part in a Q & A session after the talk. The Hard work of Astronomica members was the key to making this event successful. A quiz relating to the content of the lectures was also arranged to test the knowledge gained through the lectures.

Antariksh: A Webinar for Curious Minds

Astronomica: The astronomy club of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad under the Physics and Electronics Department had organized a webinar named 'Antariksh: A Webinar for Curious Minds' from 6th March 2021 to 9th March 2021 based on the basic concepts of Astronomy. The webinar was initiated with a welcome speech by Dr. Rajesh Iyer, H.O.D of the Physics and Electronics department. He acquainted attendees with the history of the Astronomica club. Then Fr. Johnson gave his best wishes to the Astronomica Club. Mr. Neel Vadodariya introduced the speakers and had also handled the hosting of the entire webinar.

Day 1

On the first day of the webinar, Mr. Akshat Sharma introduced the first speaker of the webinar, Dr. Rajmal Jain, a former professor at Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad. He carried on the webinar with a discussion on 'Space Science and Technology. He initiated with some basic questions like what is space and where it is? Why to go into space? etc. After this, he talked about Big-Bang theory; Star formation; Earth formation, etc. Then he explained the life cycle of the sun and its location in our milky way, Titus-Bode's law, and gave some brief introduction about the objects which revolve around the sun such as planets, dwarf planets, asteroids, comets, etc. Last but not the least, he talked about the benefits of Space technology and the achievements of India in the field of space science and technology. The lecture was concluded with a vote of thanks to Dr. Rajmal Jain by Akshat Sharma.

Day 2

On the next day, Ms. Zeel Thaker briefly introduced Dr. N.M. Ashok, a former senior professor at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad who acknowledged us about the 'Amazing World of Variable Stars'. He started with the introduction of variable stars. Then he talked about measuring the universe and stellar masses; Novae and Supernovae; white dwarfs, Neutron stars and Black Hole, etc. He also gave some details about Variable Stars & their typical light curves; main classes and explained eclipsing and Spectroscopic binaries; an artist's impression of the Nova System and many amazing topics. Zeel Thaker thanked Dr. N.M Ashok on behalf of the club and concluded the 2nd day of the webinar.

Day 3

On the third day of the webinar i.e. on 7th March, Mr. Arnav Chaturvedi introduced Dr. Ramit Bhattacharyya, an associate professor at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad. He gave a lecture on the topic 'The Solar Coronal Transients-An Enigma'. He started his lecture by talking about the properties of the sun. He then discussed the topics like the solar activity cycle, flares & coronal mass ejections, the Coronal Rain, the Coronal Jets, the Solar Atmosphere in various wavelengths, Magnetohydrodynamic equations, Coronal magnetic field construction, Solar Flares, etc. He concluded his lecture by summarizing the main topics of the lecture and then Arnav Chaturvedi provided a vote of thanks to him on behalf of the club.

Day 4

On the last day of the webinar, Ms. Sakshi Trivedi gave an introduction to Dr. Vishal Joshi, a scientist at the Astronomy & Astrophysics Division, Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad. He presented a lecture on 'Evolution of the Sun: Death of the Living God. He explained the astrophysics of the Sun. He also presented the Hertzsprung-Russell Diagram for Stars' life span, temperature & other characteristics. How he explained in detail about astrophysics for the Sun & stars was amazing!

At the end of every lecture to satisfy the hunger of the audience, the associate coordinator of the club Mr. Kuldeep Purohit handled the Q&A session. In which possible answers to the questions of the audience were given in a very nice way by the invited speakers. The webinar was concluded with a vote of thanks by Sakshi Trivedi to Dr. Vishal Joshi & all the attendees of the webinar & also to the core members and volunteers of the club for organizing this webinar. At last, an average of 150 viewers on YouTube and 50 viewers on the Google Meet

were attending the lectures of the Webinar 'Antariksh'. It was one of the most wonderful events that have been organized by Team ASTRONOMICA so far.

Quiz (Astromania)

Universe Science Forum (USF) had organized an event **Astromania** based on some astronomical phenomena on 17th April 2021 in collaboration with **Astronomica**: The Astronomy club of Physics & Electronics Department, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad. The host of the event Ms. Zeel Thaker (core member of Astronomica) welcomed the audience and invited Mr. Uttam Surapati (convenor of USF) and Arnav Chaturvedi (student coordinator of Astronomica) to make people familiar with the goals, purpose, and vision of USF and Astronomica respectively.

All three speakers of the event were UG students of the St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad & core members of Astronomica. The first talk of the event was about the **Lunar Occultation of Mars** & it was delivered by Mr. Jatin Tekani. In his talk, he explained occultation and how it is different from eclipse, different types of occultation, and some facts about it. The second talk was delivered by Mr. Mustufa Dosani, about the **Asteroid Belt & Planetary Atmosphere**. He started his talk by explaining the basics of asteroids and where they are located in our solar system. Then he gave information about the atmosphere of all planets of the solar system. The last talk of the event was of Ms. Preeti Kachhia, which was about **Solar Flares & Solar wind**. In this talk, she first explained solar wind & solar flare. Then she explained about Coronal Mass Ejection and at the end, she explained how these things affect us.

After each talk there was a quiz round based on the respective talk, having 5 questions in each round, which was held on **kahoot.it**. The top performers of the quiz were announced by giving them a shout-out on the Instagram page of the Astronomica club.

At the end of the event, a Q&A session was also arranged in which the speakers nicely answered the questions asked by the audience. Around 40 - 50 people had attended this wonderful event. Lastly, Mr. Jahaan Thakkar (co-convenor of USF & alumni member of Astronomica) gave a vote of thanks to all audience, speakers, the team of Astronomica & USF.

Social Media

In order to incite curiosity and spread the knowledge of astronomy, **@sxca_astronomica** has come up with various innovative ideas to build the foundation of astronomy amongst the general public and astrogeeks via social media platforms like Instagram, youtube, and discord. We have showcased detailed information about the sun, moon, and various planets of the solar system in the form of a series of attractive posts, reels, and videos. To create awareness about the various branches of astronomy, a guide to astronomy containing a brief explanation about its branches was shared. The pictures captured during live gatherings and star-gazing sessions were made available to encourage more people into astronomy. Pictures and information regarding various events like a lunar eclipse, solar eclipse, partial solar eclipse, and comets were also shared with the Astronomica Instagram community.

The '**Ravighrahan**' event was published as the cover story in the bulletin of IAPT and various events where club Astronomica was represented by its members have been shared as moments of pride for the club. The information regarding the upcoming astronomical events as well as the upcoming club events was shared to engage the maximum number of audience. We have also covered the latest space exploration missions like NASA's Mars 2020 mission; the landing of the perseverance rover on Mars along the main aim of the mission. A number of quizzes that were based on the topics of the posts that were covered have also been arranged for people to showcase their knowledge. We have also attached few insights of our Instagram page which are as follows: Maximum views on reel: **2,026**

Average views on reel: **Around 800**

Maximum reach on our posts: **1,234**

Average reach on our posts: **500**

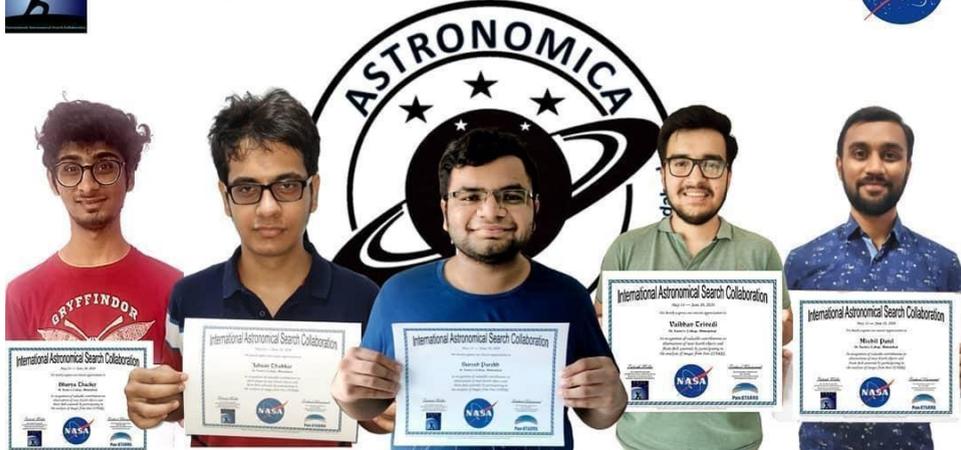
reach on IGTV: **316**

Average reach on IGTV: **268**

IASC – International Asteroid Search Collaboration



CONGRATULATIONS!!!
FOR INTERNATIONAL ASTEROID SEARCH CAMPAIGN



CONGRATULATIONS!!!
FOR INTERNATIONAL ASTEROID SEARCH CAMPAIGN



The International Asteroid Search Collaboration (IASC) is a science program that provides high-quality astronomical data to citizen scientists around the world. They organize Asteroid Search Campaigns in which teams of usually 6 members search for asteroids. The campaigns are organized monthly. Teams use the software named Astrometrica to identify asteroids. Our club has participated in many such campaigns.

In the International Asteroid Search Campaign, 7 teams had taken part and made 34 preliminary discoveries.

In the Spaceport India Asteroid Search Campaign, 3 teams had taken part and made 34 preliminary discoveries.

In the All-India Asteroid Search Campaign, 1 team had taken part and did 7 preliminary discoveries.

Suresh Parekh and Jahaan Thakkar have registered one Provisional Asteroid Discovery which was given a Provisional name of 2020 HS24.

IAAC - International Astronomy and Astrophysics Competition



International Astronomy and Astrophysics Competition is a worldwide platform to showcase an individual's talent, interest, passion, and hard work in the subjects of astronomy and Astrophysics.

The competition is conducted in 3 rounds namely:-

Qualifier

Pre-Final

Finals

Depending upon the performances of the students in these tests certificates and/or rewards are felicitated. In 2019-20 a total of 8 certificates were received by students of St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad

1 gold honor certificate

5 silver honor certificate

2 bronze honor certificate

The competition for 2020-21 is still running, a few students have participated, the final round and results are yet to come.