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O23 - Accessible Astronomy Education with 3D-Printed Models: The iw3D Studio Project

Tuesday, 24 November 2026 11:30 (15 minutes)

Hands-on activities can significantly improve engagement and understanding in astronomy education, yet many educational resources remain expensive, difficult to obtain, or lack the level of scientific accuracy required for effective astronomy education.

I will introduce iw3D Studio, a project focused on developing open and customizable 3D-printable models for astronomy and STEM education. The project includes tactile learning materials, planetary models, lunar phase and telescope kits, and other interactive resources designed for classrooms, outreach events, and informal learning environments.

The talk will present the design philosophy behind the project, examples of educational applications, and experiences gained through science communication and astronomy outreach activities in Croatia. The presentation will also discuss how 3D printing can support accessible, low-cost, and locally available resources for astronomy communication worldwide.

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