

# Nikhil Sarin

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## Education

### **Monash University**

**Ph.D.**, Astrophysics, Feb 2018-July 2021

Thesis: “The observational implications of neutron star post-merger remnants”  
supervised by Assoc Prof. Paul Lasky and Dr. Greg Ashton.

Fields: neutron star mergers, gamma-ray bursts, gravitational waves

**Honours** (1<sup>st</sup> class), Astrophysics, 2017.

Thesis: “Gamma-ray burst afterglows and gravitational waves” supervised by  
Dr. Paul Lasky and Dr. Letizia Sammut.

**BSc**, Major in Astrophysics and Geology, 2014-2016.

## Academic experience

### **Monash University**

**Postdoctoral Fellow**, School of Physics and Astronomy, July 2021-November 2021

### **Nordita Institute**

**Nordita Fellow**, Nordita Institute, November 2021- Current

## Awards and Fellowships

### **Research Training Scheme, Australian Postgraduate Award**

PhD Scholarship, Australian Research Council, 2018-2021

### **MoCA prize**

Best Honours student in Astrophysics, Monash University, 2017

### **J.L Williams Honours Scholarship**

Honours scholarship, 2017

### **Monash Science future leaders**

Science future leaders program (Emerald Tier), 2015

## Teaching and Supervision

### **School of Physics & Astronomy, Monash University**

Teaching Associate, 2017-2021.

Teagan Clarke - Undergraduate research project on fast radio bursts, 2019

Nico Keeghan - Undergraduate research project on millisecond pulsars, 2021

## Languages and Skills

English, Hindi

Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Git, Bash, Fortran, Mathematica, HTML, Stan

## Publications

Listed below are only publications for which I have made significant contributions. I am an author on numerous other publications as a member of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration.

### Submitted

14. **Sarin**, & Lasky. (2021), *Multimessenger astronomy with a kHz-band gravitational-wave observatory*. Submitted to PASA.
13. **Sarin**, Hamburg, Burns et al. (2021), *Low-efficiency long gamma-ray bursts: A case study with AT2020btt*. Submitted to MNRAS.
12. **Sarin**, Ashton, Lasky et al. (2021), *CDF-S XT1: The off-axis afterglow of a neutron star merger at  $z = 2.23$* . Submitted to ApJL.

### Refereed

11. Strang, Melatos, **Sarin** & Lasky (2021), *Exploring properties of neutron stars born in short gamma-ray bursts with a plerion-like X-ray plateau*. MNRAS, 507:2
10. **Sarin** & Lasky (2021), *The evolution of binary neutron star post-merger remnants: a review*. General Relativity and Gravitation 53:59. **Invited review**.
9. **Sarin**, Lasky & Ashton (2020), *Interpreting the X-ray afterglows of gamma-ray bursts with radiative losses and millisecond magnetars*. MNRAS, 499:4
8. Ackley et al. (2020), *Neutron Star Extreme Matter Observatory: A kilohertz-band gravitational-wave detector in the global network*. PASA 37:e047  
**My contribution:** As a member of OzGrav, the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for gravitational-wave discovery, I have been involved in developing the science case for a dedicated high-frequency gravitational-wave detector. In particular, focusing on the ability of such a detector to unequivocally identify the fate of a binary neutron star merger.
7. Romero-Shaw et al. (2020), *Bayesian inference for compact binary coalescences with BILBY: Validation and application to the first LIGO–Virgo gravitational-wave transient catalogue*. MNRAS, 499:3  
**My contribution:** As one of the developers for the Bilby package, I was involved in the review of core features in preparation for Bilby to become the standard inference software for the LIGO Scientific Collaboration.
6. **Sarin**, Lasky & Ashton (2020), *Gravitational waves or deconfined quarks: What causes the premature collapse of neutron stars born in short gamma-ray bursts?*, Physical Review D, 101:063021
5. **Sarin**, Lasky & Ashton (2019), *X-ray afterglows of short gamma-ray bursts: Magnetar or Fireball?*, ApJ, 872:114
4. Ashton, Hübner, Talbot, Lasky et al. (2019), *Bilby: A user-friendly Bayesian inference library for gravitational-wave astronomy*, ApJS 241:2  
**My contribution:** As one of the developers for the Bilby package, my key contributions have been to implement Monte-Carlo Gaussian noise realisations, the reduced-order quadrature likelihood for compact binary coalescence's, and unit tests.

3. **The LIGO-Virgo Scientific Collaboration**, Abbott et al. (2019), *Search for Gravitational Waves from a Long-lived Remnant of the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817*. ApJ, 875:2

**My contribution:** I was on the paper writing team, contributing significantly to the writing of the introduction and waveform sections. I contributed to the astrophysical interpretation of the results, and calculated detection thresholds for similar signals with third-generation detectors.

2. **Sarin**, Lasky, Sammut & Ashton (2018), *X-ray guided gravitational-wave search for binary neutron star merger remnants*, Physical Review D, 98:043011.

1. **The LIGO-Virgo Scientific Collaboration**, Abbott et al. (2017), *Search for post-merger gravitational waves from the remnant of the binary neutron star merger GW170817* ApJL, 851, L16.

**My contribution:** I helped develop the waveform models that were used to set the upper-limit on potential gravitational-wave emission.

## Conference Proceedings

2. **Sarin**, Lasky & Ashton (2020), *The premature collapse of neutron stars born in short gamma-ray bursts*. Conference Proceedings of the Yokohama Yamada conference.

1. Lasky, P., **Sarin** & Ashton (2019), *Neutron Star Merger Remnants: Braking Indices, Gravitational Waves, and the Equation Of State*. Conference Proceedings of the Xiamen-CUSTIPEN Workshop

## Service

I have served as a referee for The Astrophysical Journal, The Astrophysical Journal Letters and as an internal peer-reviewer in the LIGO Scientific Collaboration.

## Conferences and Talks

**Amaldi Conference, 2021** Virtual conference. June 2021

**Caltech, Pasadena, USA.** Virtual seminar. November 2020 (**Invited**)

**Flatiron Institute, New York, USA.** Virtual seminar. August 2020

**University of California, Berkeley, USA.** Virtual seminar. August 2020

**Gran Sasso Institute, L'Aquila, Italy.** Virtual seminar. July 2020

**Swinburne University, Melbourne, Australia.** Virtual seminar. July 2020

**University of Bath, Bath, U.K.** Virtual seminar. July 2020

**University of Leicester, Leicester, U.K.** Virtual seminar. July 2020 (**Invited**)

**University College London, London, U.K.** Virtual seminar. July 2020

**University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal.** Virtual seminar. June 2020 (**Invited**)

**Perimeter Institute, Waterloo, Canada.** Virtual seminar. June 2020

**Oskar Klein Centre, Stockholm, Sweden.** Virtual seminar. June 2020

**University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.** Virtual seminar. June 2020

**University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia.** Virtual seminar. June 2020 (**Invited**)

**Yokohama Yamada conference, November 2019.** Gamma-ray bursts in the gravitational-wave era in Yokohama, Japan.

**YITP, long-term workshop, September-October 2019.** Multi-messenger astrophysics in the gravitational-wave era. long-term workshop in Kyoto, Japan.

**LIGO PE F2F, February 2019.** LIGO parameter estimation group meeting to develop LIGO parameter-estimation infrastructure.

**ANITA meeting, February 2019.** Annual Australian National Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (ANITA) meeting at Swinburne University.

**OzGrav retreat, December 2018.** Australian research council centre for excellence for gravitational-wave research (OzGrav) annual retreat at Novotel Vines resort, Perth.

**ASA meeting, July 2018.** Annual Astronomical Society of Australia meeting at Swinburne University.

**ANITA meeting, February 2018.** ANITA meeting at University of Western Australia.