

Matthew E. Quenneville

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Research Interests

Galactic dynamics; orbit modelling; supermassive black holes; galaxy formation and evolution

Education

Ph.D. Physics, UC Berkeley *Expected May 2022*
Advisor: Chung-Pei Ma
Thesis: Dynamics and Shapes of Galaxies:
Orbit Modelling of Triaxial Galaxies Hosting Supermassive Black Holes

B.Sc. Honours Mathematical Physics, Simon Fraser University Jun. 2016
Advisor: David Sivak
Thesis: Energy Dissipation and Information Flow in Coupled Markovian Systems

Research Positions

Graduate Student Researcher, UC Berkeley 2018-present
Advisor: Chung-Pei Ma
Topic: Dynamics and Shapes of Massive Elliptical Galaxies

Honours Thesis, Simon Fraser University 2015-2016
Advisor: David Sivak
Topic: Energy Dissipation and Information Flow in Coupled Markovian Systems

Undergraduate Researcher, Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (CITA) Summer 2015
NSERC USRA
Advisor: Ue-Li Pen
Topic: Using pulsar scintillation and VLBI to study the Crab Pulsar

Institute of Particle Physics Summer Student Fellowship, CERN Summer 2014
SFU Vice-president Research USRA
Advisor: Dugan O'Neil
Topic: Measuring the Higgs boson mass in decays to tau leptons with machine learning

Undergraduate Researcher, Simon Fraser University Summer 2013
SFU Vice-president Research USRA
Advisor: Dugan O'Neil
Topic: Reconstructing decay products of tau leptons with machine learning

Advising Experience

Shaunak Modak

2020-2021

Testing Schwarzschild Orbit Models for Black Hole Mass Determination with Mock Datasets

Undergraduate Honors Thesis

Co-supervised with Chung-Pei Ma

Teaching Experience

Graduate Student Instructor, UC Berkeley

Fall 2016

Physics 7B: Physics for Scientists and Engineers

Spring 2017

Fall 2017

Spring 2018

Telescope and Computing Allocations

As Co-Investigator:

- **Keck Observatory** (PI: Chung-Pei Ma) 2019A-2021B

6.5 nights

- **XSEDE San Diego Supercomputer Center** (PI: Chung-Pei Ma) 2019-2021

3,702,490 SUs

(+1,872,000 pending)

Research Skills and Experience

Observational:

Photometry: Data reduction; processing (ARCHANGEL); fitting (Imfit, GALFIT, MGE)

Galactic Kinematics: Voronoi binning, spectrum fitting (pPXF)

Catalogs: 2MASS XSC, WISE, 2MASS PSC

Observing: Keck Observatory, Algonquin Radio Observatory

Technical:

Programming: Python; Bash; Fortran

Code Development: Git; supercomputing clusters (SLURM and Torque schedulers)

Software: LaTeX; Mathematica

Statistics: MCMC sampling; Bayesian statistics; information theory; machine learning

Talks

- NRC Herzberg DAO Colloquium *Upcoming Nov. 2021*
- CITA Cosmology Group Meeting *Upcoming Nov. 2021*
- UC Berkeley Graduate Student Postdoc Seminar Oct. 2021
- UC Berkeley Astro 250 Special Topics - Guest Lecture Sept. 2021
- UC Berkeley Physics Graduate Student Seminar Dec. 2018
- SFU Honours Thesis Presentation Apr. 2016