

# BRIAN A. CLARK

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## RESEARCH PROFILE

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Experimental astrophysics PhD and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, working with the Askaryan Radio Array (ARA). Interested in ultra-high energy neutrino astronomy, specifically the construction, simulation, and data analysis of radio-based Antarctic neutrino telescopes.

## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D in Physics, The Ohio State University</b> , Columbus, Ohio USA	2014-2019
Advisor: Prof. Amy Connolly	
<b>M.S. in Physics, The Ohio State University</b> , Columbus, Ohio USA	2014-2016
<b>B.A. in Physics, Washington University in St. Louis</b> , St. Louis, Missouri USA	2010-2014
<i>Cum Laude</i> , Advisor: Prof. Henric Krawczynski	

## AWARDS

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National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2016-2019
APS Division of Astrophysics Travel Award	2017, 2019
Bunny and Thomas Clark Graduate Scholarship Honorable Mention	2019
OSU Graduate Enrichment Fellowship	2014-2015
WUSTL Undergraduate Physics Research Fellow	Summer 2011

## EXPERIENCE

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<b>The Ohio State University</b> , Columbus, OH USA	<b>August 2014 - present</b>
<i>Ph.D. Student</i> , Ultra-High Energy Neutrino Astrophysics	

- Developed frequency and time-series analysis techniques to analyze radio emission from solar flares in the ARA prototype station; this is the first extraterrestrial emission observed by the array.
- Implemented filtering techniques to remove human-made noise from ARA data, and utilized them in a search for a diffuse flux of ultra-high energy neutrinos.
- Built and tested printed circuit boards for RF signal conditioning and power distribution, improving access to instrument dynamic range and operability in harsh environments.
- Led and directed the mechanical and electrical systems integration of three new neutrino detecting stations, including the management of a three person team of junior students.
- Deployed to Antarctica for five weeks to lead the commissioning and calibration of five neutrino detecting stations; performed rapid on site assessment of instrument performance.

<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b> , St. Louis, MO USA	<b>October 2012 - May 2014</b>
<i>Undergraduate Research Associate</i> , X-Ray Astrophysics	

- Participated in X-Calibur collaboration to detect x-rays in the upper atmosphere, including fabrication of CCDs in a cleanroom environment.
- Wrote Monte Carlo simulations to explore Stokes parameters in x-ray astronomy by using methods of Bayesian confidence intervals.

## PUBLICATIONS

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5. “NuRadioMC: Simulating the radio emission of neutrinos from interaction to detector”  
C. Glaser *et. al.* (incl. **B. A. Clark**)  
Submitted to Eur. Phys. J. C (2019). [arXiv:1906.01670]
4. “Design and Performance of an Interferometric Trigger Array for Radio Detection of High-Energy Neutrinos”  
P. Allison *et. al.* for the ARA Collaboration (incl. **B. A. Clark**)  
Nuclear Instruments and Methods A Vol 930 Pg 112-125 (2019). [arXiv:1809.04573]
3. “Observation of Reconstructable Radio Emission Coincident with an X-Class Solar Flare in the Askaryan Radio Array Prototype Station.”  
P. Allison *et. al.* for the ARA Collaboration (incl. **B. A. Clark** as corresponding author)  
Submitted to Astroparticle Physics (2018). [arXiv:1807.03335]
2. “Measurement of the real dielectric permittivity  $\epsilon_r$  of glacial ice.”  
P. Allison *et. al.* for the ARA Collaboration (incl. **B. A. Clark**)  
Astroparticle Physics Vol 108 Pg 63-73 (2019). [arXiv:1712.03301]
1. “Analyzing the Data from X-ray Polarimeters with Stokes Parameters.”  
F. Kislak, **B. Clark**, M. Bielick, H. Krawczynski.  
Astroparticle Physics Vol 68 Pg 45-51 (2015). [arXiv:1409.6214]

## SCIENTIFIC TALKS

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### National & International Conferences

4. APS April Meeting, Denver CO. 2019/04/15  
*Searching for Neutrinos & Cosmic Rays and Studying Antarctic ice with Askaryan Radio Array.*
3. APS April Meeting, Columbus OH. 2018/04/16  
*Directional Reconstruction as a Means of Lowering Thresholds for Point-Source Searches in the Askaryan Radio Array.*
2. TeV Particle Astrophysics, Columbus OH. 2017/08/11  
*The Askaryan Radio Array: Current Status and Future Plans.*
1. APS April Meeting, Washington DC. 2017/01/31  
*Observation of Reconstructable Radio Waveforms from Solar Flares with Askaryan Radio Array.*

### Colloquia, Seminars, and Other Talks

8. OSU CCAPP Seminar, Columbus OH. 2019/07/16  
*The Quest for Ultra-High Energy Neutrinos*
7. Ohio Section of the APS Fall 2018 Meeting, Toledo OH. 2018/09/29  
*Latest Results in the Search for Ultra-High Energy Neutrinos in the Askaryan Radio Array*
6. OSU Physics Summer Seminar Series, Columbus OH. 2018/06/26  
*Ultra-High Energy Neutrino Astrophysics with Radio-Based Detectors.*
5. OSU CCAPP Seminar, Columbus OH. 2018/05/22  
*The Askaryan Radio Array: Detector Status and Prospects for Using Directional Reconstruction in Point-Source Searches.*
4. Colloquium, College of Wooster Physics Department, Wooster OH. 2016/10/04  
*Ultra-High Energy Neutrino Astrophysics with Radio Detectors.*

3. Computing in High Energy Astropart. Phys. Research 2016, Columbus OH. 2016/05/26  
*Machine Learning Prospects in Trigger Thresholds for High Energy Radio Neutrino Astronomy.*
2. OSU Physics Summer Seminar Series, Columbus OH. 2016/04/23  
*Trigger Thresholds in High Energy Neutrino Astronomy.*
1. Ohio Section of the APS Spring 2016 Meeting, Dayton OH. 2016/04/09  
*Ultra-High Energy Neutrino Astrophysics with the Askaryan Radio Array (ARA).*

## RELEVANT SKILLS

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Programming/Software	C++, C, Python, BASH, Energia, Code Composer Studio, PADS
Mechanical/Electrical	Surface mount soldering, power distribution, RF signal conditioning

## TEACHING

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**The Ohio State University**, Columbus, OH

*TA Training Facilitator, University Center for the Advancement Teaching* **August 2016**

- Facilitated two-day “introduction to teaching and learning” workshop for 30 first-time Teaching Assistants across the University’s 40 STEM science programs.
- Built confidence in new TAs, guided development of teaching identities, addressed diversity in the classroom, and aided participant planning for long-term classroom success.

*Teaching Assistant–“Astronomy 1143: Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology”* **Spring 2016**

- Aided student learning by teaching review sessions and lecturing when lead faculty was absent for 80 student introductory survey course, open to students across the university
- Moderated online forum, in collaboration with lead faculty, for students to exchange questions and clarify concepts.

*Teaching Assistant–“Physics 1251: E&M, Optics, and Quantum Mechanics”* **Fall 2015**

- Guided student learning in the recitation and laboratory context for four contact hours per week.
- Facilitated quantitative laboratory experiments including team-based problem solving exercises.
- Designed rubrics for fair, efficient, and consistent grading of quiz and examination instruments.

## OUTREACH AND SERVICE

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Coordinator for ASPIRE Workshop for High School Women, OSU	July 2015-present
Physics Climate and Diversity Committee, OSU	January 2017-May 2018
Volunteer Judge, Ohio State Science Day	2015-present
Talk, Columbus Science Pub	May 2018
Talk, The Wellington School, Columbus, OH	April 2018
Officer, Physics Graduate Student Council, OSU	October 2014-May 2017

## MENTORSHIP

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- Graduate Students:** Lauren Ennesser, Keith McBride, Andrés Medina, Julie Rolla, Jorge Torres-Espinosa
- Undergraduate Students:** Ian Best, Eliot Ferstl, Suren Gourapura, Hannah Hassan, Scott Janse, Spoorthi Nagasmudram, Victoria Niu, Alex Patton, Jude Rajasekera, Cade Sbrocco, Lucas Smith, Jason Torok
- High School Students:** Addison Hartman, Natalie Keyes

## REFERENCES

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**Amy Connolly**

Professor of Physics  
The Ohio State University  
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**Dave Besson**

Professor of Physics and Astronomy  
The University of Kansas  
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**James Beatty**

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