# Emily M. Silich

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#### Education

## California Institute of Technology (Caltech)

2021 -

Astrophysics, second-year PhD student

NSF Graduate Research Fellow (2023 - 2026)

Wallace L. W. Sargent Graduate Fellow (2021 - 2022)

## University of Iowa

2017 - 2021

Astronomy, BS Physics, BS Mathematics, minor Major GPA: 4.0 with University Honors, High Distinction, Honors in Astronomy, Phi Beta Kappa

#### Research

#### **Graduate Research Assistant**

2021 -

Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy, Caltech

## **Undergraduate Research Assistant**

2017 - 2021

Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Iowa

Research Intern

Summer 2020

X-ray Astrophysics Laboratory, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

**Student Researcher** 

Winter 2019

Canada-Norway Student Sounding Rocket Program (CaNoRock)

### **Publications (selected)**

- 1. **E.M. Silich**, K. Jahoda, L. Angelini, P. Kaaret, A. Zajczyk, D.M. LaRocca, R. Ringuette, and J. Richardson, "A Search for the 3.5 keV Line from the Milky Way's Dark Matter Halo with HaloSat", 2021, The Astrophysical Journal, 916, 2.
- 2. A. Zajczyk, P. Kaaret, D. LaRocca, W. Fuelberth, H.C. Gulick, K. Jahoda, D.L. Kirchner, R. McCurdy, W.T. Robison, and **E. Silich**, "On-ground calibration of the HaloSat science instrument", J. Astron. Telesc. Instrum. Syst. 6(4), 044005 (2020).
- 3. **E.M. Silich**, P. Kaaret, A. Zajczyk, D.M. LaRocca, J. Bluem, R. Ringuette, K. Jahoda, and K.D. Kuntz, *"Global X-Ray Properties of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants"*, 2020, The Astronomical Journal, 160, 1.
- 4. P. Kaaret, A. Zajczyk, D.M. LaRocca, R. Ringuette, J. Bluem, W. Fuelberth, H. Gulick, K. Jahoda, T.E. Johnson, D.L. Kirchner, D. Koutroumpa, K.D. Kuntz, R. McCurdy, D.M. Miles, W.T. Robison, and **E.M. Silich**, "HaloSat A CubeSat to Study the Hot Galactic Halo", 2019, The Astrophysical Journal, 884, 2.

#### **Teaching**

Ay 105: Optical Astronomy Instrumentation Lab	Graduate TA //	Spring 2023
Ay 122c: High Energy Astronomical Measurements & Instrumentation	Graduate TA //	Winter 2022
Ay 127: Astrophysical Cosmology	Graduate TA //	Fall 2022
PHYS 1611: Introductory Physics I	Undergraduate TA //	Spring 2020
PHYS 1512: College Physics II	Undergraduate TA //	Spring 2020

## Fellowships & Awards (selected)

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP) Wallace L. W. Sargent Graduate Fellowship (Caltech) Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Student Awards - Honorable Mention University of Iowa Dare to Discover Barry Goldwater Scholar James A. Van Allen Award (Ulowa) John Mather Nobel Scholar (NASA/GSFC) Western Dubuque High School Young Accomplished Alumni ARS Division of Astrophysics (DAR) Travel Great	2023 - 2026 2021 - 2022 2021 2021 2020 2020 2020 2020
APS Division of Astrophysics (DAP) Travel Grant Manuel Paul & Abraham Chinitz Liberal Arts & Sciences Scholarship (Ulowa) NASA Iowa Space Grant Consortium Research Fellowship Myrtle K. Maier Scholarship (Ulowa) Rhodes Dunlap Award for Excellence in the First/Second Year (Ulowa) ICRU Academic Year Research Fellowship Charles A. Wert Summer Research Fund (Ulowa) UI Department of Physics & Astronomy Poster Prize ICRU Summer Research Fellowship UI Old Gold Scholarship UI Top Scholars Award UI Academic Success Scholarship CLAS Undergraduate Scholarship (Ulowa)	2020 2019 - 2020, 2020 - 2021 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020 2019 - 2020 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020 2018 - 2019, 2019 - 2020 2018 2018, 2019 2018, 2019 2017 - 2021 2017 - 2021 2017 - 2021 2018 - 2019
Stanley Merit-Based Study Abroad Scholarship (Ulowa) Ann Morse Study Abroad Grant (Ulowa) Iowa Abroad Scholarship President's List, University of Iowa Dean's List, University of Iowa	2018 - 2019 2019 2019 2019 2020 - 2021 2017 - 2021

# **Academic Presentations (selected)**

Invited talks & papers presented at scientific meetings:

- 1. Galaxy Cluster Discussion Group Meeting Center for Astrophysics, Harvard & Smithsonian "Characterizing the dynamics of galaxy cluster mergers with multi-wavelength observations and hydrodynamical simulations", Virtual. November 2022.
- 2. 240th American Astronomical Society (AAS) Meeting, "Characterizing the dynamics of galaxy cluster mergers with multi-wavelength observations and hydrodynamical simulations", Pasadena, CA. June 2022.
- 3. University of Iowa Department of Physics & Astronomy Awards Colloquium, "A Search for the 3.5 keV Line from the Milky Way's Dark Matter Halo with HaloSat", Virtual. April 2021.
- 4. University of Iowa Department of Physics & Astronomy Colloquium, "A Search for Dark Matter with HaloSat", Virtual. October 2020.
- 5. Gulf Coast Undergraduate Research Symposium, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Virtual. October 2020.
- 6. NASA/GSFC Code 660 Intern Presentation Symposium, "A Search for Dark Matter with HaloSat", Virtual. August 2020.
- 7. Iowa Space Grant Consortium Student Research Symposium, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Virtual. April 2020.
- 8. Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physical Sciences, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Lincoln, NE. November 2019.

- 9. HaloSat Science Meeting, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Iowa City, IA. November 2019.
- 10. University of Iowa Astrophysics & Space Physics Seminar, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Iowa City, IA. October 2019.

### Poster presentations:

- 1. STScl Galaxy Clusters 2022: Challenging Our Cosmological Perspectives, "Characterizing the dynamics of galaxy cluster mergers with multi-wavelength observations and hydrodynamical simulations", Virtual. April 2022.
- 2. 237th American Astronomical Society (AAS) Meeting, "A Search for Dark Matter with HaloSat", Virtual. January 2021.
- 3. American Physical Society (APS) April Meeting, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Virtual. April 2020.
- 4. Iowa Space Grant Consortium Student Research Symposium, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Virtual. April 2020.
- 5. APS Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physics, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Minneapolis, MN. January 2020.
- 6. ICRU Fall Undergraduate Research Festival, "HaloSat Observations of the Vela and Puppis A Supernova Remnants", Iowa City, IA. November 2019.
- 7. ICRU Fall Undergraduate Research Festival, "HaloSat: a CubeSat Mission in Search of Missing Baryons", lowa City, IA. November 2018.
- 8. Conference for Undergraduate Women in Physical Sciences, "HaloSat: a CubeSat Mission in Search of Missing Baryons", Lincoln, NE. October 2018.

## **Computer Skills**

**Languages** Python, R, HTML

**Applications** Xspec/PyXspec, LATEX, CIAO/Sherpa, IRAF/dsimulator, SLURM, Keck Remote

Observing Software (DEIMOS, LRIS), SpecPro, Pypelt, CASA

Operating Systems macOS, Linux, Windows

#### Outreach

Astronomy on Tap – Los Angeles Caltech stargazing lectures & public observing Gabrielino High School physics classrooms Death Valley NP Dark Sky Festival Astrobites Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates Society of Physics Students Van Allen Observatory public observing	Guest lab assistant & speaker Panelist & telescope operator Guest author Research ambassador Vice president & secretary	// // // //	2021 - 2022, 2023 2021 2020 - 2021 2017 - 2021
Van Allen Observatory public observing Drexler Middle School FIRST Lego League	Volunteer & telescope operator Team mentor	//	