Jay Baptista (he/him)

Github: github.com/jaybaptista

EDUCATION

Yale University

New Haven, CT

Bachelor of Science - Astrophysics; GPA: 3.94 (as of Sep. 2022)

June 2019 - May 2023

Email: jay.baptista@yale.edu

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Research Fellow

Santa Cruz, CA

Prochaska Group

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May 2022 - Aug 2022

Explored fast radio bursts as an independent measure of cosmic feedback by using synthetic FRB surveys. We find that implementing galactic feedback as a free parameter causes loss of constraining power on the cosmological constant.

Undergraduate Research Fellow

Mānoa, HI

Sanderson Group

May 2021 - Jul 2021

Comprehensively analyzed the evolution of dark matter halo symmetry axes in FIRE-2 galaxies over time and as a function of satellite galaxy interaction. Research is supervised and directed in collaboration with the Galaxy Dynamics lab at the University of Pennsylvania/Flatiron Institute's Center for Computational Astrophysics under Professor Robyn Sanderson.

Undergraduate Research Fellow

New Haven, CT

Geha Group

 $May\ 2020$ - $July\ 2020$

Evaluated the efficacy of stellar selection methods for determining star membership probabilities of ultra-faint Milky Way satellite galaxies using data from the Keck DEIMOS instrument. We find that color-magnitude and stellar position probabilities are insufficient in determining dispersion-based bound masses of ultra-faint galaxies.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Peer Tutor

New Haven, CT

ASTR 310

February 2021 - May 2021

Taught a foundational understanding of galactic dynamics, chemistry, and substructure in one-on-one tutoring sessions. Additionally, I taught and reinforced theoretical concepts on black holes and active galactic nuclei.

Undergraduate Learning Assistant

New Haven, CT

ASTR 160

March 2022 - May 2022

Graded quizzes and provided feedback to students to assist in their understanding of introductory astronomy topics (i.e., orbital mechanics, rocket science, exoplanets, and black hole science). I also collaborated with instructors to develop a curriculum that helps build practical scientific intuitions for humanities and non-physical science majors.

Talks

- American Astronomical Society 53rd Division on Dynamics Astronomy (April 2022): Orientations of Dark Matter Symmetry Axes in Latte Galaxies
- University of Hawaii Mānoa (July 2021): Orientations of Dark Matter Symmetry Axes in Latte Galaxies
- Yale University (July 2020): Determining Membership Probabilities of Ultra-faint Dwarf Galaxies

PUBLICATIONS

- Orientations of DM Halos in FIRE-2 Milky Way-mass Galaxies (2022): Baptista, J.; Sanderson, R.; Huber, D.; Wetzel, A; Sameie, O.; Chakrabarti, S.; Vargya, D.; Panithanpaisal, N.; Arora, A.; Cunningham, E. Submitted to ApJ. arXiv:2211.16382.
- TOI-4010: A System of Three Large Short-Period Planets With a Massive Long-Period Companion (2022): Kunimoto, M.; Vanderburg, A.; Huang, C.; et al. incl. Baptista, J. Submitted to ApJ.
- Constraining the Tilt of the Milky Way's Dark Matter Halo with the Sagittarius Stream (2022): Panithanpaisal, N.; Sanderson, R.; Arora, A.; Cunningham, E.; Baptista, J. arXiv:2210.14983.

SKILLS SUMMARY

• Languages: Python, C#, JavaScript, ADQL, Bash, Java

Observing Experience

- Keck I Telescope (1 night); PI: Daniel Huber
- Palomar Telescope (2 nights); PI: Marla Geha
- Keck II Telescope (3 nights); PI: X. Prochaska, Sunil Simha

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Yale Science Technology and Research Scholar Summer Fellow May, 2020
- University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy: REU Fellow June 2021
- Yale Science Technology and Research Scholar II Fellow August, 2021
- University of California Santa Cruz: Lamat REU Fellow June, 2022