

KENNETH W. CAVAGNOLO

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education **Michigan State University** 2005 - Present
 Ph.D. Astrophysics, Expected August 2008
 Thesis Title: "Virialization, Entropy, and Feedback in Clusters of Galaxies"
 Thesis Advisors: Dr. Megan Donahue & Dr. G. Mark Voit

Michigan State University 2002 - 2005
 M.S. Astrophysics

Georgia Institute of Technology 1998 - 2002
 B.S. Physics *Cum Laude*

Research **Graduate Research Assistant** 2003 - Present
Experience Supervisor: Dr. Megan Donahue, *Mich. St. Univ.*
 Studying clusters of galaxies via their X-ray properties to
 investigate feedback mechanisms, galaxy evolution, and the process
 of cluster virialization.

Graduate Research Assistant 2002 - 2003
 Supervisor: Dr. Jack Baldwin, *Mich. St. Univ.*
 Analyzing echelle spectra for use in studies of *s*-process abundances
 in planetary nebulae.

Undergraduate Research Assistant 2000 - 2002
 Supervisor: Dr. James Sowell, *Georgia Tech*
 Obtaining orbital solution for the eclipsing Algol binary ET Tau via
 UBV light curves and spectroscopic radial velocity curves.

Research • GALAXY CLUSTER EVOLUTION
Interests • GALAXY FORMATION
 • FEEDBACK MECHANISMS IN GALAXY CLUSTERS
 • LARGE SCALE STRUCTURE FORMATION AND COSMOLOGY

Teaching **Substitute Instructor** Fall 2006
Experience Course: "Visions of the Universe"
 Gave lectures covering stellar evolution, supernovae, white dwarves,
 neutron stars, and black holes.

Physics Tutor

Summer 2003

Course: “Introductory Honors Physics I & II”

Tutored physics students taking introductory physics courses such as classical mechanics, optics, and electromagnetism.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

2002 - 2003

Course: “Visions of the Universe”

Directed and supervised laboratories for non-calculus based astronomy course.

Honors

- College of Natural Science Dissertation Fellow 2007 - Present
- American Astronomical Society Member 2002 - Present
- American Physical Society Member 2002 - Present
- Sigma Pi Sigma National Honor Society 2001 - Present
- NASA Center for Astronomy Education Participant 2007
- Dean’s List, Georgia Tech 1998-2002

Scientific Skills

- Profound skills in reducing and analyzing data taken with *Chandra* X-ray Telescope.
- Extensive experience with customizing and debugging CIAO and CALDB.
- Familiarity with multiwavelength analysis packages: AIPS, IRAF, and PyRAF.
- Fluent in Perl, IDL, L^AT_EX and HTML.
- Working knowledge of Bash, C, csh, Flash, Fortran, MySQL, Supermongo, and Tcl.
- Mastery of multiple computing architectures: DOS, Linux, Macintosh, and Windows.
- Expert of computer troubleshooting, maintenance, and system construction.

References

DR. MEGAN DONAHUE
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DR. G. MARK VOIT
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DR. JACK BALDWIN
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 Michigan State University
 East Lansing, MI 48823
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Personal Interests

- Academic: environmental sciences, “Cradle2Cradle” design, and urban planning.
- Athletics: triathlons, baseball, and everything Georgia Tech.
- Hobbies: reading, building model airplanes, and raising bonsai trees.