MEIR ELIYAHU SCHOCHET

East Lansing, MI — meir@msu.edu — m-schochet.github.io —

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Observational and theoretical studies stars; magnetic activity cycles of young stars; stellar rotation, evolution, and activity; large data and archival science; open-source software development

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA 6/2025 -
Ph.D Student (Astrophysics)
Advisor: Dr. Adina Feinstein
Optical and infrared photometry and spectroscopy, studying young stellar activity

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA 8/2021 - 5/2025
B.S. in Astrophysics (Philosophy Minor)
Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.71/4.00)
Honors Thesis: "Stellar Rotation, Binaries, and Deep Learning", Advisor Dr. Jamie Tayar

HONORS & AWARDS

NSF GRFP (Honorable Mention), U.S. National Science Foundation 2025
Astronomy Student Scholarship, Alachua Astronomy Club ($250) 2025
Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Student Award, American Astronomical Society 2025
University Scholars Program, University of Florida ($1,750) 2023-2024
Dean's List, University of Florida Spring 2023, Fall 2024
Discovery Fellowship in Special Collections, University of Florida Libraries ($500) 2022
Honors Program Wentworth Travel Scholarship, University of Florida ($1000) 2022
Florida Academic Scholar, FL Bright Futures Scholarship Program ($\sim$\$23,000 over 4y) 2021-2025

PUBLICATIONS

Schochet, M.E., Planet, P., Claytor, Z.C., Tayar, J., & Feinstein A.D. (submitted to ApJS), *200,000+ Deep Learning Inferred Periods of Stellar Variability from The All-Sky Automated Survey for Supernovae*

Schochet, M.E., Tayar, J., & Andrews, J. J. (2024), *A Lack of Mass-gap Compact Object Binaries in APOGEE*. Research Notes of the American Astronomical Society, 8, 166, doi:10.3847/2515-5172/ad5964

PRESENTATIONS

Using Rotation to Explore Stellar Binarity and Period Prediction Techniques 1/15/25
The 245th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, iPoster Sessions
Neutron Star Maximum Mass Constraints from the Equation of State 11/12/24
University of Florida, AST4930 Neutron Stars & Black Holes
Survivability Distances from Type Ia Supernovae, an Order of Magnitude Approach 4/15/24
University of Florida, PHY4905 Astrophysics for Physicists
"Where Are the Smallest Black Holes?": Probing the mass gap with APOGEE 4/1/24
University of Florida, Spring Undergraduate Research Symposium
End of life behavior of O-Type Stars 12/7/22
University of Florida, AST3018 Introduction to Astrophysics I (Honors)

COMPETETIVE TELESCOPE TIME AWARDED

Gemini

33.2 hours on IGRINS-2, 2025 (GN-2025B-Q-314, PI: Feinstein)

NOIRLAB

NASA Infrared Telescope

54 hours on SpeX (2025B, PI: Feinstein)

Southern Astrophysical Research (SOAR) Telescope, awarded through Michigan State University

6 nights + 10 hours awarded through AEON queue (SOAR-2025B-020, PI: Feinstein)

University of Florida Observatories

Rosemary Hill Observatory

15 nights (2024A), 10 nights (2024B), 5 nights (2025B)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visions of the Universe (Lab), ISP205L, Michigan State University — Fall 2025

Lead & Secondary Instructor (Course Coordinator: Dr. Laura Chomiuk)

- Led one lecture/lab to a class of ∼100 students each week

Astrophysics for People in a Hurry, IDH2930, University of Florida — Spring 2025

Lead Peer Instructor (Faculty Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Lada)

- Proposed, designed, and co-lead instructor for a 1-credit course to ∼15 students

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Languages: Python, Java, MATLAB, LaTeX

Systems: Windows, MacOS, Linux/Unix, Git

Software: astropy, SciPy, pandas, PyTorch, butterpy, kīauhōkū, SAOImageDS9, Lightkurve

Applications: time series, convolutional neural networks, image processing, cluster & multiparallel computing