## Michael S. Petersen

University of Massachusetts at Amherst Department of Astronomy 710 N. Pleasant St. Amherst, MA 01003 mpete0@astro.umass.edu

EDUCATION &	Doctor of Philosophy, Astronomy	2018
Awards	The non-linear dynamics of barred galaxy evolution	on in $\Lambda CDM$
	Advisors: Martin D. Weinberg, Neal Katz	
	Master of Science, Astronomy	2012
	UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA	
	Mary Dailey Irvine Travel Grant	2016, 2017, 2018
	Massachusetts Space Grant	2010, 2011, 2015
	Bachelor of Arts, Astronomy & Physics, Music	2010
	Colgate University, Hamilton, NY	
	Astronomy & Physics Honors	

RESEARCH

Design, implement, execute, and analyze precision numerical models to understand dynamical evolution in disk galaxies.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

## Refereed Publications

**Petersen, M.S.**, Katz, N., & Weinberg, M.D. *The Dynamical Response of Dark Matter to Galaxy Evolution Affects Direct-Detection Experiments*, Phys Rev D, 2016

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Dark matter trapping by stellar bars: the shadow bar* MNRAS, 463:19521967.

Bary, Jeffrey S. & **Petersen, M. S.** *Anomalous Accretion Activity and the Spotted Nature of the DQ Tau Binary System* MNRAS, 463:19521967.

## Publications In Preparation

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Using commensurabilities and orbit structure to understand barred galaxy evolution* 

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Using angular momentum and torque to understand barred galaxy evolution* 

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Using harmonic decomposition to understand barred galaxy evolution* 

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Understanding trends in bar formation and evolution in varied n-body models* 

**Petersen, M. S.**, Weinberg, M. D., and Katz, N. *Using the bar to drive radial mixing and bulge formation in a Milky Way-like galaxy* 

SELECTED AAS 231, January 2018, Washington, D.C.

MEETINGS & Dissertation: A Modern Picture of Barred Galaxy Dynamics

CONFERENCES APS April Meeting, January 2017, Washington, D.C.

Contributed Talk: The Dynamical Response of Dark Matter to Galaxy Evolu-

tion Affects Direct-Detection Experiments

What Shapes Galaxies?, April 2016, STScI, Baltimore, MD

Contributed Poster: Dark Matter Trapping by Stellar Bars: The Shadow Bar

SELECTED Large Millimeter Telescope, PI (Early Science 2,3,4 2014-2016), 60 hours

OBSERVATIONAL Circumstellar Disk Masses in IC 348 EXPERIENCE Using AzTEC, a 1.1 mm camera.

**KPNO 0.9m**, PI (2016-2017), 5 nights; Co-I (2014-2018), 30 nights

Deep Imaging of Nearby Low Surface Brightness Disks

Ionization States of Green Pea Galaxies Using the Half-Degree Imager (HDI).

TEACHING, Five College Astronomy Teaching Assistant, 2014-2018

MENTORING, & OUTREACH

Assisted Professor James Lowenthal, Dr. Anne Jaskot, and Dr. Kim Ward-Duong in Observational Techniques I/II, a two-semester observing course involving a yearly observational component at Kitt Peak National Observatory.

**Continuing Education Head Instructor, 2013-2018** 

Developed a two-week intensive continuing education class for the University of Massachusetts, then reshaped the class into a program involving many graduate students.

Research Mentor, 2016-2017

Mentored and advised Amelia Vinciguerra (UMass 2017) in her senior undergraduate research project in collaboration with Martin Weinberg.

**Python Instructor, 2014-present** 

Provided Python instruction and support to the undergraduate Five College summer undergraduate researchers.

Professional Links Research Webpage https://people.umass.edu/mpete0/

Github Code Repository https://github.com/michael-petersen

REFERENCES Martin D. Weinberg

Primary dissertation advisor.

**Neal Katz** 

Co-dissertation advisor.