

Tomás Ahumada

9044 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740

✉ tahumada@astro.umd.edu

✉ tomas.f.ahumadamena@nasa.gov

📞 tahumada

📠 301-257-6402

🌐 tahumada.github.io

Education

University of Maryland at College Park

Ph.D. in Astronomy

College Park, MD

2022 (Expected)

University of Maryland at College Park (UMD)

M.Sc. in Astronomy

College Park, MD

Sept 2019

◦ Graduate Teaching assistant to: Solar System Astronomy and Stars and Stellar Systems.

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC)

B.Sc. in Astronomy

Santiago, Chile

July 2016

◦ *Senior Thesis:* Using Machine Learning to identify quasars on ATLAS fields.

◦ Teaching assistant to: Modern Physics, General Physics, Astronomy workshop and various labs.

Research Experience

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

Graduate Research Assistant

Greenbelt, MD

Mar 2018 – Present

University of Maryland at College Park

Graduate Research Assistant

College Park, MD

Mar 2018 – Present

Gemini Observatory

Intern

La Serena, Chile

Feb 2017 – Aug 2017

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Santiago, Chile

Mar 2016 – Dec 2016

Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory (CTIO)

Research Experience for Undergraduates

La Serena, Chile

Jan 2016 - Mar 2016

Talks, conferences and meetings

Discovery and confirmation of the shortest GRB from a collapsar

16th Marcel Grossmann meeting, Rome, Italy

Invited talk

June 2021

Discovery and confirmation of the shortest GRB from a collapsar

ZTF II team meeting

Virtual talk

May 2021

In the search of the optical counterpart of SGRBs

ZTF-Caltech/SVOM topical workshop on GRBs, Virtual meeting

Invited talk

May 2021

ZTF10abwysq, the shortest gamma-ray burst with a collapsar origin

ZTF team meeting, Pasadena, CA, USA

Caltech, Talk

October 2020

In search of the optical counterpart of short gamma-ray bursts

American Astronomical Society meeting, Honolulu, HI, USA

AAS, Talk

January 2020

Astrobits - The Astrobits in Spanish

American Astronomical Society meeting, Honolulu, HI, USA

AAS, Poster

January 2020

The Extended Globular Cluster System of NGC3923

GROWTH team meeting, Mumbai, India

IIT Bombay, Talk

December 2018

The Extended Globular Cluster System of NGC3923

American Astronomical Society meeting, Grapevine, TX, USA

AAS, Poster

January 2017

Using Machine Learning to identify quasars on ATLAS fields

ANILLO workshop 2016, Santiago, Chile

PUC, Talk

December 2016

The Extended Globular Cluster System of NGC3923

REU Workshop, Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, La Serena, Chile

CTIO, Talk

March 2016

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

In addition to the Teaching Assistanships I held at PUC and UMD.

Organizer

August 2021

Lead TA in the [ZTF summer school](#). I participated in the recruiting, organization and lecturing as a TA during the summer school.

Lecturer

July 2021

Lecturer in the Python modules at the [PAARC](#) Python Workshop.

Lecturer

January 2021

Lecturer in the Python modules at the [GRADMAP](#) Winter Workshop.

Mentor

January 2021

Mentor of Lenin Nolasco and Maria-Clara Heringer at the [GRADMAP](#) Winter Workshop.

Graduate Teaching Assistant

November 2020

TA at the virtual [GROWTH](#) school.

Physics Teacher

Apr 2014 – Jun 2016

Teach physics in a free online-streaming college preparation course, available on [Youtube](#)

Telescope time

Allocated time

- o Lowell Discovery Telescope (9 half nights in total) co-Investigator during 2021A, 2021B
- o Gemini North (24hr) as Principal Investigator during 2021A.
- o Las Cumbres Observatory (27hr) as co-Investigator during 2019A, 2019B, 2020A, and 2020B.
- o Dark Energy Camera (12hr) as co-Investigator during 2020A.
- o SOAR telescope (12hr) as co-Investigator during 2020A.

Observing experience

- o CTIO 0.9m
- o Kitt Peak 2.1m (KPED)
- o Keck I
- o Gemini North and Gemini South
- o Lowell Discovery Telescope

Volunteering and Community Service

NGO [TECHO](#)

Apr 2013 – Jun 2017

- o Lead the volunteering intervention in a suburban area in the Santiago Metropolitan area.
- o Tutor teenagers from low economic backgrounds in their school assignments.

Astronomy community service

- o Content writer in the astronomy science blog [Astrobites](#) since January 2018.
- o Undergraduate representative and Academic Advisor of the Astronomy Undergraduate Program, 2015.
- o Millennium Institute of Astrophysics instructor for science fairs.
- o Volunteer at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum during 2018, Washington DC.
- o Volunteer at Skype with a scientist. [Youtube link](#)

Skills

- Programming Languages: Python, C.
- OS: Linux, MacOS, Windows.
- Languages: Native in Spanish, full professional proficiency in English (TOEFL score 102), basic knowledge of Italian, Portuguese and French.

Publications

In addition to the articles listed below, I have contributed to another 80+ (20+ first author) non-referred publications, i.e. GCN, ATel. See the full list [here](#).

First to third author

1. Michael W Coughlin, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. 2900 square degree search for the optical counterpart of short gamma-ray burst grb 180523b with the zwicky transient facility. *Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific*, 131(998):048001, 2019.
2. Michael W Coughlin, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. Growth on s190425z: searching thousands of square degrees to identify an optical or infrared counterpart to a binary neutron star merger with the zwicky transient facility and palomar gattini-ir. *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, 885(1):L19, 2019.
3. Mansi M Kasliwal, Shreya Anand, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. Kilonova luminosity function constraints based on zwicky transient facility searches for 13 neutron star merger triggers during o3. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 905(2):145, 2020.
4. **Tomás Ahumada**, Leo Singer, Shreya Anand, Michael W Coughlin, Mansi M Kasliwal, et al. Discovery and confirmation of the shortest gamma ray burst from a collapsar. *Nature astronomy*, 7, 2021.

Significant contribution

6. Shreya Anand, Michael W Coughlin, Mansi M Kasliwal, Mattia Bulla, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. Optical follow-up of the neutron star–black hole mergers s200105ae and s200115j. *Nature astronomy*, 5(1):46–53, 2021.
7. Igor Andreoni, Daniel A Goldstein, Shreya Anand, Michael W Coughlin, Leo P Singer, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. Growth on s190510g: Decam observation planning and follow-up of a distant binary neutron star merger candidate. *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, 881(1):L16, 2019.
8. Igor Andreoni, Erik C Kool, Ana Sagués Carracedo, Mansi M Kasliwal, Mattia Bulla, **Tomás Ahumada**, et al. Constraining the kilonova rate with zwicky transient facility searches independent of gravitational wave and short gamma-ray burst triggers. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 904(2):155, 2020.

Contributed publications

8. Mouza Almualla and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Towards regular serendipitous detections of kilonovae by wide-field surveys. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2011.10421*, 2020.
9. Igor Andreoni, Michael W. Coughlin, and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Fast-transient Searches in Real Time with ZTFReST: Identification of Three Optically-discovered Gamma-ray Burst Afterglows and New Constraints on the Kilonova Rate. *arXiv e-prints*, page arXiv:2104.06352, April 2021.
10. Igor Andreoni and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Growth on s190814bv: Deep synoptic limits on the optical/near-infrared counterpart to a neutron star–black hole merger. *The Astrophysical Journal*, 890(2):131, 2020.

11. Bryce T Bolin and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Characterization of temporarily captured minimoon 2020 cd3 by keck time-resolved spectrophotometry. *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, 900(2):L45, 2020.
12. Michael W Coughlin and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). The kitt peak electron multiplying ccd demonstrator. *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 485(1):1412–1419, 2019.
13. Daniel A Goldstein and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Growth on s190426c: Real-time search for a counterpart to the probable neutron star–black hole merger using an automated difference imaging pipeline for decam. *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*, 881(1):L7, 2019.
14. Siddharth R. Mohite, Priyadarshini Rajkumar, Shreya Anand, and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Inferring kilonova population properties with a hierarchical Bayesian framework I : Non-detection methodology and single-event analyses. *arXiv e-prints*, page arXiv:2107.07129, July 2021.
15. Daniel A Perley and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). The fast, luminous ultraviolet transient at2018cow: extreme supernova, or disruption of a star by an intermediate-mass black hole? *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*, 484(1):1031–1049, 2019.
16. Josiah N Purdum and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). Time-series and phasecurve photometry of episodically-active asteroid (6478) gault in a quiescent state using apo, growth, p200 and ztf. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2102.13017*, 2021.
17. Robert Stein and others (includes **Tomás Ahumada**). A high-energy neutrino coincident with a tidal disruption event. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.05340*, 2020.