Thara Caba

MSc. Student, Astrophysics & Space Science

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Research profile

I am interested in high-energy astrophysics, astroparticle physics and multi-messenger astrophysics. I enjoy working in data analysis and scientific software programming.

EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant - Max Planck Institute for Physics

Jul 2024 - present

Working in the astrophysical messengers research group on a new approach for the detection of astrophysical neutrino sources. Supervision under Dr. Francesca Capel.

Research Assistant - Autonomous University of Santo Domingo

Sep 2019 - present

I do administrative and research activities for the Institute of Physics. I help write memos and reports, organize talks and activities, and participate in research exchanges. Supervision under Dr. Nelphy de la Cruz, Statistical and Computational Physics research group leader.

Remote Fellow - Office of Astronomy for Development

Jun 2023 - Oct 2023

I worked on the flagship project Astronomy for Mental Health working on the ways physics students can engage and benefit from this project. Supervision under MSW. Dominic Vertue.

Research Assistant - University of Louisville

Aug 2022 - Nov 2022

Part of the Central American - Caribbean Bridge in Astrophysics Remote research experience for undergraduate students. Study of spiral galaxies and their environment, Advisor: Dr. Benne Holwerda.

Research Assistant - University of Padova

Feb 2022 - Aug 2022

I worked on my bachelor's thesis project in multi-messenger astrophysics analyzing the data from the MAGIC telescopes. Deriving very high energy gamma-ray flux upper limits on sky maps using the SkyPrism software, Advisor: Dr. Elisa Bernardini & Dr. Konstancja Satalecka.

EDUCATION

| 2023 - present | Master's Degree at University of Rome "Tor Vergata" & University of Belgrade |
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| | Erasmus Mundus Joint Master program in Astrophysics & Space Science |

2017 - 2023 Bachelor's Degree at Autonomous University of Santo Domingo

Physics

Honors & Awards

Hanrieder Fellowship

2024 - Present

Issued by Max Planck Institute for Physics & Hanrieder Foundation to complete my internship in the Max Planck Institute for Physics.

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Scholarship

2023 - Present

Issued by Erasmus+ to complete my master's degree in Astrophysics and Space Science.

Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Scholarship 2023 - 2024

Issued by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to complete my master's degree in Astrophysics and Space Science.

International Astronomy and Astrophysics Competition National Award

2023

For achieving the nationwide highest score in the final round of the International Astronomy and Astrophysics Competition 2023. Verify-ID: FN-2023-F3E6271733C.

Idelisa Bonnelly Scholarship for Women in STEM

2021 - 2023

Issued by the Ministry of Youth of the Dominican Republic to complete my bachelor's in physics.

National Scholarship

2018 - 2021

Issued by the Ministry of Higher Education, Science & Technology of the Dominican Republic to complete my bachelor's in physics.

SELECTED POSTERS & TALKS

- Jan 2024 **Panel** Astronomy for a better world, American Astronomical Society Winter Meeting, United States.
- Jul 2023 **Poster** The Multi-messenger Astrophysics Approach and the MAGIC Telescopes, *Giambiagi* Winter School on Cosmology, Argentina.
- May 2023 Poster Study of spiral galaxies and their environment, *PLANCKS*, *Italy*.
- Jan 2023 **Talk** Study of spiral galaxies and their environment, IV International Congress of the Dominican Physical Society, Dominican Republic.
- Nov 2022 **Talk** The Multi-messenger Astrophysics Approach and the MAGIC Telescopes, VIII Student Congress of Physics and Mathematics, Guatemala.
- Sep 2022 **Talk** The Multi-messenger Astrophysics Approach and the MAGIC Telescopes, VII Student Congress of Scientific Research and Technology, Dominican Republic.
- Sep 2022 **Poster** The Multi-messenger Astrophysics Approach and the MAGIC Telescopes, *International Conference of Physics Students*, *Mexico*.
- Mar 2019 **Panel** Women in Science, Development and Innovation, Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- Oct 2019 **Panel** Building on the nexus of science and diplomacy to promote peace and security, Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Dominican Republic

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant

2021 - 2023

Modern Physics, 7th Semester, Autonomous University of Santo Domingo

Teaching Assistant

2023

Basic Physics, 1st Semester, Autonomous University of Santo Domingo

Volunteer & Outreach Work

jIAPS Editor-in-Chief

2024 - present

I am in charge of the 2025 issue of the journal of the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS). IAPS is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation run entirely for and by physics students worldwide.

Month of Astronomy in the Dominican Republic

2023 - present

I organize a series of talks and activities expanding a whole month related to astronomy to introduce high school and university students to the subject. Financed by the North American Regional Office of Astronomy for Development, the Heising-Simons Foundation and the International Association of Physics Students.

Secretary 2022 - 2023

Part of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS). I was in charge of all administrative work.

Member of Affiliated Commission 5

2022 - 2023

The Affiliated Commission 5 (IAPS) is the student branch of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP). I managed the relations between IAPS and IUPAP especially relating to communications.

PR Manager 2021 - 2022

Part of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Physics Students (IAPS). I was in charge of all social media and public relations.

MENTORED STUDENTS

- 2024 **Daniela Azucena Cardona Cuc** Binarity in young star clusters across the entire mass range, Central American-Caribbean Bridge in Astrophysics.
- 2023 **Leiany De Oleo Rodríguez** Investigating the Circumgalactic Medium, *Central American-Caribbean Bridge in Astrophysics*.

CERTIFICATIONS

- 2024 Introduction to Quantum Computing The Coding School
- 2023 Giambiagi Winter School on Cosmology International Center for Theoretical Physics and University of Buenos Aires
- 2023 Designing Effective Science Communication University of Colorado Boulder
- 2022 Introduction to Data Science Cisco Networking Academy
- 2022 Python Essentials 1 Cisco Networking Academy
- 2022 Gravitational Wave Open Data Workshop LIGO Scientific Collaboration and VIRGO Collaboration
- 2021 C for Everyone: Structured Programming University of California

SKILLS

Programming Python, C/C++, FORTRAN, Git, Bash

Academic LaTeX, Office Languages Spanish, English