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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cosmology, dark energy, high-z universe, high-z spectroscopic tracers, Lyman- α forest, intergalactic medium, machine learning

EDUCATION

The Ohio State University	2020 – present
Advisor: Paul Martini	
Ph.D., Astronomy	(expected) June 2026
M.S., Astronomy	April 2024
University of California, Los Angeles	2016-2018
Honors College	
B.S. , Physics	Dec. 2018
Honors & Awards	
Three Minute Thesis (3MT) University Finalist	2025
David J.P. Will Prize in Computational, Survey & Data Science (\$1000)	2024
Edward F. Hayes Advanced Research Forum, 2 nd place winner (\$400)	2024
Mathematical & Physical Sciences, Oral Presentations	
OSU University Fellowship (\$28,000)	2020-2021
UCLA Honors College	2017 - 2018
Conference & Seminar Presentations	
Invited Talks	
Seminar University College London	Oct. 2025
Seminar Institute of Cosmology and Gravitation (Portsmouth)	Oct. 2025
Seminar IFAE	Sept. 2025
Talk Ohio Cosmic Connections Workshop	Apr. 2025
Talk $Lyman$ -alpha $Workshop$ (OSU)	Oct. 2024
Plenary DESI Collaboration Meeting (Marseille)	July 2024
Contributed Talks	
Parallel Talk COSMO-25 (Pittsburgh)	Oct. 2025
Parallel Talks (5) DESI Collaboration Meetings	Dec. $2023 - July 2025$
Poster Astrophysical Frontiers (Portland)	June 2018

 $^{+\} several\ local\ and\ internal\ DESI\ talks$

SERVICE & OUTREACH

Activities	
DESI Education & Public Outreach Committee	Aug. 2024 – present
Co-Chair	Aug. 2025 – present
Broadening the accessibility of DESI's science and results through	
the DESI website, the development of paper guides, and	
coordinating efforts across the 700-member collaboration	
DESI Support Observer (in-person at Kitt Peak)	7 half-nights, May 2025
OSU Polaris Undergraduate Mentorship Program	Mentor, $2021 - 2025$
Mentored undergraduates in astrophysics and advised research	
projects that resulted in poster presentations.	
Polygence Mentorship Program	Mentor, $2022 - 2023$
Mentored high school students in research projects that led to	
submission to a high school journal.	
SciAccess Zenith Mentorship Program	Mentor, $2020 - 2021$
Mentored a low-vision high school student in an astronomy	
project.	
Talks & Panels	
Cesar Chavez High School (Arizona)	Jan. 2024
Virtual panel on careers in academia to a Title I high school	
Queen Elizabeth High School (Zimbabwe)	June 2023
Virtual presentation on my research to a girls' high school	
physics class in Africa (more information)	

Publications (Link to My Ads Library)

Lead Author

- 1. W. Turner, A. Cuceu, P. Martini et al., Probing the limits of cosmological information from the Lyman-α forest 2-point correlation functions (2025) | arXiv:2509.14322
- W. Turner, P. Martini, N. Karacayli et al., New Measurements of the Lyman-α Forest Continuum and Effective Optical Depth with LyCAN and DESI Y1 Data (2024), ApJ, 976, 143 | doi:10.3847/1538-4357/ad8239

Contributing Author

- 3. DESI Collaboration: M. Abdul-Karim, J. Aguilar, and 147 additional authors including W. Turner, DESI DR2 Results I: Baryon Acoustic Oscillations from the Lyman Alpha Forest (2025) | arXiv:2503.14739
- 4. DESI Collaboration: M. Abdul-Karim, J. Aguilar, and 184 additional authors including W. Turner, DESI DR2 Results II: Measurements of Baryon Acoustic Oscillations and Cosmological Constraints (2025) | arXiv:2503.14738
- 5. DESI Collaboration: M. Abdul-Karim, A. G. Adame, and 275 additional authors including W. Turner, Data Release 1 of the Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (2025) | arXiv:2503.14745
- 6. L. Casas, H. K. Herrera-Alcantar, J. Chaves-Montero, and 95 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Validation of the DESI DR2 Lyα BAO analysis using synthetic datasets (2025) | arXiv:2503.14741

7. A. Brodzeller, M. Wolfson, D. M. Santos, and 96 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Construction of the Damped Lyα Absorber Catalog for DESI DR2 Lyα BAO (2025) | arXiv:2503.14740

- 8. U. Andrade, E. Paillas, J. Mena-Fernández, and 116 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Validation of the DESI DR2 Measurements of Baryon Acoustic Oscillations from Galaxies and Quasars (2025) | arXiv:2503.14742
- 9. K. Lodha, R. Calderon, W. L. Matthewson, and 122 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Extended Dark Energy analysis using DESI DR2 BAO measurements (2025) | arXiv:2503.14743
- 10. W. Elbers, A. Aviles, H. E. Noriega, and 116 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Constraints on Neutrino Physics from DESI DR2 BAO and DR1 Full Shape (2025) | arXiv:2503.14744
- 11. E. Tsai, A. Palla, A. Norris, and 36 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Remote sensing of electron precipitation mechanisms enabled by ELFIN mission operations and ADCS (2025), AdSpR, 75, 9 | doi:10.1016/j.asr.2024.07.008
- 12. V. Angelopoulos, X. J. Zhang, A. V. Artemyev, and 83 additional authors including W. Turner, Energetic Electron Precipitation Driven by Electromagnetic Ion Cyclotron Waves from ELFIN's Low Altitude Perspective (2023), Space Sci Rev, 219, 37 | doi:10.1007/s11214-023-00984-w
- 13. V. Angelopoulos, E. Tsai, C. Wilkins, and 80 additional authors including **W. Turner**, Atmospheric scattering of energetic electrons from near-Earth space (2021) | doi:10.21203/rs.3.rs-319558/v1
- 14. V. Angelopoulos, E. Tsai, L. Bingley, and 79 additional authors including W. Turner, The ELFIN Mission (2020), Space Sci Rev, 216, 103 | doi:10.1007/s11214-020-00721-7

RESEARCH POSITIONS

Asteroid radar database technology

Graduate Student Researcher (OSU) 2020 - present Advisor: Paul Martini Lyman-alpha forest cosmology with DESI 2018 - 2020Lab Scientist (UCLA) Advisor: Vassilis Angelopoulos Electron Losses and Fields Investigation (ELFIN) science team Lab Scientist (UCLA) 2019 Advisor: Matt Malkan Extragalactic astrophysics using HSC and Keck data 2017 - 2018Research Assistant (UCLA) Advisor: Steven Furlanetto Dust extinction modeling at high-z Research Assistant (UCLA) Summers 2017; 2018 Advisor: Jean-Luc Margot

Advising & Mentoring

TIDVISING & NIENTORING	
Undergraduate Students (7)	
Deeti Patel primary advisor	May 2025 – present
Elle Moore Polaris Program	Fall 2024 – Spring 2025
Abigail Falk co-advised with Paul Martini	Summer 2024
Jane Torma Polaris Program	Fall 2023 – Spring 2024
Kwasie Bobie Polaris Program	Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
Anya Phillips <i>Polaris Program</i>	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
Hirak Basu Polaris Program	Fall 2021 – Spring 2022
High School Students (2)	
Polygence Mentorship Program	
Haarika M.	Mar. 2023 – Jan. 2023
Amir A.	Apr. 2022 – Dec. 2022
Teaching	
Graduate Teaching Associate (OSU)	
ASTR 2142: Black Holes, taught by D. Weinberg	Spring 2025
(including one guest lecture)	
ASTR 2141: Life in the Universe, taught by M. Pinsonneault	Spring 2025
ASTR 1101: From Planets to the Cosmos, Lab	Fall 2024
ASTR 1221: Astronomy Data Analysis, taught by J. Wang	Fall 2024
ASTR 5550: Adv. Astronomy Data Analysis, taught by P. Martini	Spring 2024
(including two guest lectures)	
ASTR 1143: Cosmology, taught by C. Hirata	Spring 2024
$\mathbf{Grader}\;(\mathrm{UCLA})$	Spring 2017 – Fall 2018
Collaboration & Society Memberships	
Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument (DESI)	2020 – present
American Astronomical Society (AAS)	2025 – present
Programming Languages & Skills	

Fluent: Python, LATEX, bash, GitHub

Proficient: high-performance computing, deep learning, IDL, R, SQL, Mathematica