

# Marc Favata

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EDUCATION	Ph.D., Astrophysics, August 2006 M.S., Astrophysics, May 2004 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY Thesis Advisor: Eanna É. Flanagan	B.S., Physics, with honors, June 2000 California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA Research Advisor: Kip S. Thorne
PROFILE SUMMARY	<p>My primary research interests involve the detection of gravitational waves and how those detections allow us to observe the universe in new and unique ways. I work in a range of areas related to general relativity and the physics of black holes and neutron stars, especially in the context of the gravitational two-body problem.</p> <p>I am a member of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC) and founding PI of the Montclair State LSC group (consisting of three faculty members plus students). I developed improved waveform models and parameterization schemes for gravitational wave detection, quantified issues related to measurement error and bias, and performed early investigations into novel effects in general relativity that helped initiate further investigations by others (black hole kicks, gravitomagnetic tidal couplings, binary eccentricity, memory effects, kick Doppler shifts). I am active in communicating the excitement of LIGO science to the physics community and general public, including via management of <a href="http://ligo.org">ligo.org</a> and the development of <a href="http://soundsofspacetime.org">soundsofspacetime.org</a>.</p> <p>As department chair I strive to create a supportive environment that fosters faculty and student success. I teach a range of courses using active-learning methods and other teaching best-practices. I have extensive experience in curriculum development and service in multiple areas of the university.</p>	
PRIMARY ACADEMIC POSITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Department Chairperson, Dept. of Physics &amp; Astronomy, Montclair State University, 07/2019 - present</li><li>• Professor of Physics, Dept. of Physics &amp; Astronomy, Montclair State University, 09/2022 - present;</li><li>• Associate Professor of Physics, Dept. of Physics &amp; Astronomy, Montclair State University, 09/2017 - present (Dept. of Mathematical Sciences prior to July 2018)</li><li>• Assistant Professor of Physics, Dept. of Mathematical Sciences, Montclair State University, 09/2012 - 08/2017</li><li>• Postdoctoral Research Associate, LIGO Group, Center for Gravitation &amp; Cosmology, Univ. of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, 09/2011 - 08/2012</li><li>• NASA Postdoctoral Fellow, Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, 08/2009 - 09/2011</li><li>• Postdoctoral Fellow, Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, UCSB, 09/2006 - 08/2009</li></ul>	
VISITING/TEMPORARY POSITIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Simons Fellow in Theoretical Physics, August 2018 - August 2019</li><li>• Visiting Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics, Potsdam, Germany, 04/2019 - 07/2019</li><li>• Visiting Associate in Theoretical Physics, Caltech, 01/2019 - 04/2019</li><li>• KITP Scholar, Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, UCSB, 2014 - 2017</li><li>• Visiting Scientist, Theoretical Astrophysics Group, Caltech, 2009 - 2016</li><li>• Graduate Fellow, Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, UCSB, 09/2002 - 12/2002</li></ul>	

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KEY RESEARCH (See end of CV for a full publication list.)  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Performed the first calculation of the gravitational-wave memory effect for the merger of two black holes and resulting sensitivity estimates for ground and space-based detectors. Explored various aspects of the linear and nonlinear memory effects, exposing subject to wider investigation by the gravity community.
- Prior to the numerical relativity era, computed first estimate of the black hole recoil (kick) velocities from binary black hole mergers; involved in the first study of the astrophysical implications of those black hole kicks. Studied retention of black holes by star clusters and effects of kicks on black hole formation via hierarchical mergers.
- First to consider the imprint of black hole merger kicks on gravitational-wave signals (via Doppler shift and memory) and estimate their magnitudes.
- Developed the  $(\Lambda, \delta\Lambda)$  parameterization used to quantify the imprint of neutron star tidal deformability on a gravitational-wave signal. This parameterization is widely used by the LSC and the gravitational-physics community.
- Developed a fast and simple-to-use waveform template to search for and measure gravitational-waves from compact binaries with small eccentricity (**TaylorF2Ecc**). Estimated constraints LIGO could place on orbital eccentricity. This waveform template has been adopted in studies by several other groups.
- Performed one of the earliest studies to investigate the impact of systematic (as opposed to statistical) errors on gravitational wave measurements. Applied techniques to consider bias on tests of general relativity.
- Applied formalism of gravitomagnetism to neutron star tidal effects; developed concept of gravitomagnetic Love number to characterize tidally induced matter currents.
- Performed detailed studies of the last stable orbit around black holes, including comparison of multiple analytic formalisms that predict non-dissipative corrections to this orbit beyond the test-particle limit.
- Founding PI of the Montclair State LIGO research group; developed group to include three faculty members and multiple undergraduate and graduate students.
- Over \$640,000 in external research grants, including NSF CAREER and Simons Foundation grants. Offered a Fulbright fellowship (declined).
- Co-author on all LIGO discovery papers and co-recipient of prizes shared by all collaboration members.
- Published in field's highest impact journals, including Physical Review Letters, Physical Review D, and Astrophysical Journal Letters. Multiple high-citation articles, including > 20 papers with > 1000 citations & > 90 papers with > 100 citations (Google Scholar). Multiple high-citation short-author papers, with ~ 6 having > 100 citations.
- Research or commentary featured in multiple media outlets. Authored articles in the popular media.
- Active speaker, presenting > 100 technical or outreach talks, with > 30 invited talks.
- Developed popular website on the sonification of gravitational-wave signals with involvement of Montclair State students ([soundsofspacetime.org](http://soundsofspacetime.org)).
- Leadership role in LIGO's Education and Public Outreach group. Primary content manager for [ligo.org](http://ligo.org); responsible for communicating LSC discoveries on that site.

KEY SERVICE  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- First elected chairperson of Physics & Astronomy department at Montclair State University. (Physics program was previously housed in Mathematical Sciences department.) Key successes include growing department's reputation, creating conditions for faculty to achieve success in research and teaching, curriculum modernization, developing new concentrations and degree programs, and improving student retention, enrollment, and graduation rates.
- Author of foundational department documents (strategic plan, bylaws, website, personnel action process, budgets, recruiting fliers, ...). Actively documented and shared with faculty all internal processes and policies to foster transparency, efficient operation, and future leadership transitions. Authored self-study report and organized first external department review.
- Led faculty search committees and successfully recruited three research-active faculty to build department of 5 full-time faculty.
- Served on numerous department-level committees, including personnel action, budget, and scholarship committees. Regularly organize department seminars and recruiting efforts. Responsible for department budget and staff hiring. Served as Physics Club mentor or co-mentor.
- Led department efforts to plan major renovation of lab and teaching spaces. Frequent troubleshooting of all manner of building facility issues.
- Service on multiple University or College-level committees, including committees on General Education reform, curriculum process revisions, development of a General Science degree, curriculum review, internal research grants, and university effectiveness.
- Regularly engage with all levels of university leadership to promote the best interests of department faculty and students.
- Initiated MSU's involvement in the NJ Space Grant Consortium and the Physics Teacher Education Coalition (PhysTEC), providing access to new funding sources.
- Grew revenue by increasing course offerings in summer/winter sessions; initiated regular online course offerings.
- Reviewer for numerous research articles and grant applications. Reviewed multiple books for major academic publishers. Served on NSF panel review, external thesis committee, and two external tenure review committees.
- Occasional scientific consultant for the TV/movie/video game industry.

KEY TEACHING  
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Taught  $\sim 8$  regular courses at all levels. Developed three fully online (primarily asynchronous) courses.
- Utilize multiple best-practices approaches in teaching, including: introduced clickers to promote active learning, frequent low-stakes assessments, modeling proper problem-solving techniques, in-class group problem solving (in both introductory and junior/senior level courses), exam and homework honor statements (to reduce cheating), customized student evaluations for each course, and detailed visual syllabi. Nearly all homework and exam problems are custom made, designed with multipart questions that lead students toward the correct solution and connect with popular culture or interesting applications.
- Led complete revision of physics curriculum. Developed 6 new courses. Switched curriculum to alternating-year course cycle (maximizing enrollment); added emphasis on laboratory instruction. Developed two seminar courses to teach "soft skills," including college and post-college preparation. Implemented changes to nearly all courses in the physics department catalog.
- Developed five combined bachelors + masters 5-year dual-degree programs, spanning multiple departments, college divisions, and universities.

- Significant efforts to promote student retention, including a summer orientation program, and the introduction of recitation sections and supplemental instructors for intro physics classes.
- Act as advisor to all students in physics program, regularly reviewing all student course schedules. Active student advising has helped lead to multiple years with the highest graduation rates in the history of the MSU physics program and among the best 4-year graduation rates at the university.
- Assisted department faculty with transition to online teaching. Organized meetings and developed documents to review strategies and collect new teaching tools; organized outdoor lectures/labs and developed ideas for at-home labs and lab kits.
- Perform regular teaching observation and mentoring of faculty and adjuncts. Actively work to recruit and retain high-performing teaching staff; provide regular feedback and discussions on teaching strategies. Development of program learning goals and assessment instruments.
- Research mentor for multiple undergraduates and three Montclair State masters degree students. Five students have pursued PhDs in physics or related fields.

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

- Approximately \$642,000 in awarded grant funds as PI, 2012-2024.
- PI, Simons Fellow in Theoretical Physics, *Gravitational-wave science for 3rd generation detectors*, Simons Foundation #554674, 1 August 2018 - 31 July 2019, \$108,000.
- Fulbright Global Scholar Award, 2018 (declined offer to accept Simons Fellowship).
- PI, NSF CAREER Award, *CAREER: Research and Education in Gravitational-Wave Science*, NSF PHY-1653374, \$400,000; 2016-2022
- PI, NSF RUI Award, *RUI: Issues in modeling gravitational-wave sources*, NSF PHY-1308527, FY2013-2017, \$126,000.
- KITP Scholar Award; funds three visits to the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, 2014-2017 ( $\sim$  \$8000).

#### OTHER AWARDS, HONORS, OR FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Special Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics (shared with 1015 scientists and engineers contributing to the detection of gravitational waves).
- 2016 Gruber Cosmology Prize, (recognizing Ronald Drever, Kip Thorne, Rai Weiss, and the entire LIGO discovery team).
- 2017 Group Achievement Award of the Royal Astronomical Society (recognizing the entire LIGO Team).
- 2017 Princess of Asturias Award for Technical & Scientific Research (to Rai Weiss, Kip Thorne, Barry Barish and the LIGO Scientific Collaboration)
- NASA Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2009-2011.
- Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics (KITP) Postdoctoral Fellow.
- KITP program participant, Physics of Galactic Nuclei, 2006.
- NASA Space Grant Fellow, 2002, 2004-2005.
- KITP Graduate Fellow, Fall 2002.
- Cornell Sage Fellow, 2000-2001.
- Multiple travel grants to attend APS and international conferences, 2000-2012.
- Sons of Italy *National Education & Leadership Award*, 2000.
- Perpall Speaking Award finalist, Caltech SURF program, 1999.
- Caltech SURF Program, 1997 & 1999.

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE  
MONTCLAIR STATE

PHYS 191 & 192 – University Physics I & II: calculus-based introductory physics course sequence. [Fall 2012–2017 (191); spring 2013, 2015 – 2018 (192).]

PHYS 180/280 – Astronomy for Everyone/Physicists: introductory astronomy course with lab, at the level of *Universe* by Geller, Freedman, & Kaufmann. (Fall 2013, 2015; spring 2020, 2022; winter 2021, 2022, 2023; summer 2021, 2022, 2023.) Developed as a fully online (primarily asynchronous) course during summer/winter sessions. Course revised and added as a general education course (PHYS 180) in fall 2021.

PHYS 198 – New Physics Student Seminar: Newly created seminar course for freshmen. Reviews skills for success in college and the physics major. Texts include *Revolutions in 20th Century Physics* by Griffiths, *Mathematics for Physics with Calculus* by Biman Das, and *The Elements of Style* by Strunk & White. (spring 2020, 2022; fall 2021.)

PHYS 210–Intermediate Mechanics: mechanics at the level of *Classical Mechanics* by Taylor. (Fall 2021, 2022.) Developed as an online (partly asynch) course for fall 2021.

PHYS 300 – Junior/Senior Seminar: Newly created seminar course for juniors/seniors. Focuses on post-college success, guest speakers, and advanced topics; (spring 2020, fall 2022.)

PHYS 461/MATH 461/MATH 562–Special and General Relativity: introduction to relativity at the level of *Gravity* by Hartle. Co-seated with graduate MATH course. Taught spring 2014; fall 2016, 2019, 2021, 2023.

PHYS 480–Astrophysics: stellar astrophysics at the level of *Modern Astrophysics* by Carroll & Ostlie; (fall 2014, 2017, spring 2021/online, 2023).

PHYS 495 & MATH 497 – Independent Study Course: supervised multiple undergraduate students on research projects in general relativity, gravitational waves, & astrophysics; also an independent study course for quantum mechanics or relativity. (Multiple semesters since 2015.)

MATH 690 – Grad. Indep. Study & MATH 698 – Master’s Thesis: supervised research for 3 master’s degree students (AY 2014-2015, 2017-2018, & 2021-2022 AY),

OTHER TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

Ph 79: Senior Thesis, Theoretical (Caltech): Senior thesis advisor for undergraduate Gary Binder. Project involved spin-effects and gravitational waves from inspiraling binaries (2010–2011 AY).

Ph 171: Reading and Independent Study Course (Caltech): Organized readings and homework problems related to gravitational waves & post-Newtonian theory; discussed with student in weekly meetings (spring 2010).

Guest Lecture on fluid mechanics in rotating frames, for Lars Bildsten’s USCB course *Phys 120: The Physics of California: Waves, Weather, Quakes & Fires* (spring 2008).

Head Teaching Assistant for Cornell’s *Astro 102: Our Solar System*: Led 2 or 3 recitation section lectures per week; developed and graded problem sets, held office hours, maintained course webpage, & organized TA meetings and responsibilities for one of Cornell’s largest courses (spring 2003, 2004, & 2006).

Head Teaching Assistant for Cornell’s *Astro 101: The Nature of the Universe*: same responsibilities as Astro 102 above (fall 2003 & 2005).

Teaching Assistant for Caltech’s *Astronomy 1: The Evolving Universe*. Led section lectures on introductory general relativity and evaluated student term papers (spring 2000).

## RESEARCH STUDENTS

### Graduate students:

Advisor for Kevin Johansmeyer, Montclair State; gravitational wave sonification web app development (2021-2022).

Master's thesis advisor for Matthew Karlson, Montclair State; *Gravitational-wave memory from black hole and neutron star mergers*, May 2018. Currently PhD student in Applied Math at Pittsburgh U.

Master's thesis advisor for Goran Dojcinovski, Montclair State; *Nonlinear gravitational-wave memory from merging binary black holes*, May 2015. Currently adjunct at Bergen Community College.

### Undergraduate Students/Montclair:

Michael Giarrantana, 2022. Project on developing waveform for inspiralling test particles into Kerr black holes; sonification of waveform data. Lita de la Cruz, 2015–2018. Project on supernova memory waveforms. Princeton University Bridge Program; currently PhD student in astrophysics at Rutgers.

Kevin Chen, 2016 - 2018. Project on nonlinear memory waveform comparisons; modeling sounds from stochastic backgrounds. Winner of outstanding graduating physics major award. Currently working in industry.

Nicholas Provost, 2017 - 2018, CS student/indep. study. Developed iOS/Android app on Sounds of Spacetime. Currently employed in industry (programming/web development).

Blake Moore, 2013–2016. Project on eccentric waveforms. Winner of Dalton Astronomy Fellowship and Outstanding Graduating Senior Research Award. PhD in gravitational physics from Montana State University. Currently senior systems engineer at Raytheon.

Nicholas Drywa, 2014–2015. Project on gravitational lensing; modeling Schwarzschild geodesics. MS Physics Stevens Institute of Technology. Currently high school teacher (River Dell, NJ) and adjunct at Montclair State.

### Undergraduate Students/Caltech:

Xinyi Guo, SURF student from Pomona College. Project regarding spin effects and non-linear memory in merging black hole binaries; Summer 2011. PhD from Harvard/CfA. Currently at D.E. Shaw.

Gary Binder, SURF student from Caltech. Project on spin-effects in extreme mass ratio inspirals; Summer 2010. PhD UC Berkeley in neutrino physics. Currently researcher at Lawrence Berkeley National.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Referee for *Astrophys. J. Lett.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, *Phys. Rev. D*, *Mon. Not. Royal Astron. Soc.*, *Intern. J. Mod. Phys. A*.
- Regular proposal reviewer for National Science Foundation's Gravitational Physics Division; also panel reviewer.
- Proposal reviewer for NASA, 2022.
- Proposal reviewer for Oak Ridge Associated Universities
- Book reviewer for Cambridge University Press and CRC Press.
- Science consultant for the Science and Entertainment Exchange; consulted on TV shows (Syfy Channel & MTV), film projects, and video games (Cloud Imperium Games).

- External member of PhD thesis committee for Dr. Shilpa Kastha, Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Chennai
- External reviewer for two tenure applications.
- Physics lab requirements consultant, Caldwell College
- Contributor to the *LISA Science Requirements Document*, v5.x, 2010.
- LIGO Service
  - Montclair State group founder & PI (2013- )
  - LSC Council (2013-2019)
  - Web Committee (chair, 2016-)
  - Education & Public Outreach (EPO) Committee (2016 - )

#### DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

- Department Chairperson, Physics & Astronomy (2019- )
- Physics faculty search committee (chair, 2018-2020)
- Physics Department Personnel Action Committee (2018 - 2019)
- Physics Club, faculty mentor or comentor (2019 - )
- North Jersey Astronomical Group, faculty advisor (2012 - )
- Dalton Astronomy Scholarship Committee (chair, 2016-)
- Department Scholarship Committee
- Department website manager
- Department seminar organizer
- Author of department bylaws and strategic plan
- Committees while in Mathematical Sciences Department:
  - Physics group chair (under Math Dept., 2016-2018)
  - Math Department Budget Committee (2017 - 2018)
  - Math Department Personnel Action Committee (2017 - 2018)
  - Math Department Website Committee (chair, 2012-2018)
  - Math Department Social Media Committee (2014-2016)
  - Math Department Faculty Search Committee (2015-2016; chair 2016-2017)
  - Math Department Scholarship Committee (2015- 2017)
  - Math Department “Space” & Renovation Committee (2015-2018)

#### UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE SERVICE

- Blue Ribbon Task Force on General Education Reform (2019-2020)
- Committee on University Effectiveness (2021)
- University Curriculum Process committee (2022 - )
- University Academic Appeals Committee (alternate; 2015 - 2017)
- NJ Space Grant Consortium, MSU Affiliate representative and initiated MSU membership
- PhysTEC (Physics Teacher Education Coalition); MSU representative and initiated MSU membership
- College Curriculum Committee (2020 - )
- College General Science Degree development committee (2021 - 2022 )
- College Research Committee (2015 - 2018)
- College Facilities Committee (2015 - 2018)

## MEMBERSHIPS

- LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC) member.
- American Physical Society, life member.
- Einstein Telescope Collaboration member.
- Anacapa Society (theoretical physics at undergrad institutions), member.
- Caltech Athenaeum faculty club, member.
- Caltech Alumni Association, member

## CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

2023 Annual Spring Meeting of the North Jersey Space Grant Consortium, Montclair State (04/28/2023)

10<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in Southern California (TASC) Meeting, Caltech, co-organized with Christian Ott and Chris Hirata, (10/29/2010).

2<sup>nd</sup> Santa Barbara Astrophysics Meeting, KITP, co-organized with Lars Bildsten, Marusa Bradac, and Marton Hidas (05/02/2008).

1<sup>st</sup> Santa Barbara Astrophysics Meeting, KITP, co-organized with Lars Bildsten, Nairn Baliber, and Phil Marshall (05/04/2007).

6<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in Southern California (TASC) Meeting, KITP, co-organized with Lars Bildsten and Eric Pfahl (October 20, 2006).

## PUBLIC LECTURES & OUTREACH (\* = INVITED)

- Creator and developer of [soundsofspacetime.org](https://soundsofspacetime.org), an interactive website to explore the sonification of gravitational-wave signals.
  - Creator of GW Resources website, an online list of resources for students and researchers in relativity; [hosting.astro.cornell.edu/favata/gwresources.html](https://hosting.astro.cornell.edu/favata/gwresources.html).
1. “Science and *Linoleum*: Building a rocket in your garage,” talk for screening of the movie *Linoleum* with Montclair Film, March 2023\*
  2. “[Cosmic Clues from Gravitational Waves](#)” Space Talk series at the Liberty Science Center planetarium, March 2023\*
  3. “Observing the Universe with Gravitational Waves” Science Fiction Association of Bergen County, May 2022\*
  4. “Observing the Universe with Gravitational Waves” Weston Science Scholars Program, Montclair State, July 2021
  5. “Observing the Universe with Gravitational Waves” Dunworkin Club, Montclair, May 2021\*
  6. “The Scientific Legacy of Apollo,” first lecture in MSU’s *Journey to the Moon* series, September 2019\*
  7. “Listening to the Universe: detecting ripples in spacetime,” Keynote lecture at River Dell HS STEM Symposium, May 2018\*
  8. “Listening to the Universe: detecting ripples in spacetime,” Dunworkin Club, Montclair, February 2018\*
  9. “The first detection of gravitational waves by LIGO,” lecture & exhibit booth, CSAM Discovery Day, April 2016
  10. “The first detection of gravitational waves by LIGO,” Brookdale Community College, April 2016\*
  11. “The first detection of gravitational waves by LIGO,” MSU Physics Club, April 2016
  12. “The first detection of gravitational waves by LIGO,” North Jersey Astronomical Group, April 2016



13. “The first detection of gravitational waves by LIGO,” Provost’s Cross Disciplinary Discourse Lunchtime Series, April 2016\*
14. Assisted with LIGO outreach exhibit at the World Science Festival, New York City (May 2015, June 2016)
15. Organized LIGO outreach exhibit at the North East Astronomy Forum (NEAF), Rockland Community College (April 2015, 2016)
16. “An update on LIGO and the search for gravitational waves,” North Jersey Astronomical Group, (November 2013).
17. “The search for black holes & gravitational waves,” Rockland Astronomy Club, (October 2013)\*
18. “The search for black holes & gravitational waves,” Amateur Astronomers, Inc., Union Co. College, NJ (October 2013)\*
19. Lecture on the Solar System to Bradford School 1st grade class, Montclair, (March 2013)\*
20. “The search for black holes & gravitational waves,” Rockland Astronomy Club annual dinner, (February 2013)\*
21. “Gravitational wave astronomy” to North Jersey Astronomical Group, Montclair, (October 2012)
22. “Gravitational wave astronomy” to visiting Univ. of Leiden physics students, KITP, (May 2008)
23. “Black holes and gravitational waves,” Dos Pueblos High School, Santa Barbara, (May 2007)
24. “Black holes and gravitational waves,” Rio Mesa High School, Oxnard (January 2007)
25. “Black holes and gravitational waves,” Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, (November 2006)\*
26. “Relativity: an introduction to space, time, and gravity,” 4-H Focus for Teens Program, Cornell, (June 2002).

CONFERENCE  
TALKS,  
SEMINARS, &  
COLLOQUIA  
(\* = INVITED)

1. “Gravitational waves: a tool for astrophysical discovery,” talk to College faculty, Montclair State, October 2022\*
2. Workshop talk, Holography and Gravitational Waves, Institute for Fundamental Physics of the Universe, Trieste, Italy, July 2022\*
3. Department seminar, Physics Department, Stevens Institute of Technology, April 2022\*
4. Department seminar/SIAM club talk, Montclair State, September 2021\*
5. LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Meeting, short talk in EPO session (virtual), September 2021
6. LIGO R&D telecon seminar on research results, August 2021
7. Attended APS Department Chairs conference (virtual), June 2021
8. Attended APS Department Chairs conference (virtual), June 2020
9. Attended PICUP (Partnership for Integration of Computation into Undergraduate Physics) summer conference, July 2020
10. Extreme Gravity session chair/talk, Physics & Astronomy at the Extreme (PAX), Cascina/Virgo, May 2019\*
11. Astronomy Colloquium, Seoul National University, September 2018\*
12. Physics Colloquium, Ewha Womans University, September 2018\*
13. April APS Meeting, Columbus, Ohio (April 2018)
14. Talk to MSU Physics Club on LIGO results (December 2017)

15. Astrophysics Seminar, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (November 2017)\*
16. 12<sup>th</sup> Amaldi Conference on Gravitational Waves, Pasadena, CA (July 2017)\*
17. LIGO-Virgo Collaboration meeting (March 2017)
18. Strong Gravity and Binary Dynamics with Gravitational Wave Observations, Ole Miss, MS (February 2017)\*
19. “April” APS Meeting, Washington DC (January 2017)
20. 21st International Conference on General Relativity and Gravitation, Columbia Univ., NY (July 2016)
21. Gravitational-Wave Physics and Astronomy Workshop, Hyannis, MA (June 2016)
22. April APS Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT (April 2016)
23. LIGO-Virgo Collaboration Meeting, Pasadena, CA (March 2016)
24. 11<sup>th</sup> Amaldi Conference on Gravitational Waves, Gwangju, S. Korea (June 2015)
25. Meeting of the American Astronomical Society’s Division on Dynamical Astronomy, Caltech (May 2015)\*
26. April APS Meeting, Baltimore, MD (April 2015)
27. LIGO-Virgo Collaboration Meeting, Stanford, poster (August 2014)
28. Numerical & Analytical Relativity & Data Analysis (NARDA), Cal State, Fullerton (August 2014)\*
29. Frontiers of Neutron Star Astrophysics, Cornell (May 2014)
30. April APS Meeting, Savannah, GA (April 2014)
31. Seminar, International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bangalore (July 2013)\*
32. Colloquium, International Centre for Theoretical Sciences, Bangalore (July 2013)\*
33. Astronomy Dept. Colloquium, Seoul National University (June 2013)\*
34. April APS Meeting, Denver, CO (April 2013)
35. LIGO-Virgo Collaboration Meeting, new group presentation (March 2013)
36. Rattle and Shine: Gravitational Wave and Electromagnetic Studies of Compact Binary Mergers, KITP, poster (August 2012)
37. Gravitational Wave Bursts Workshop, Tobermory, Scotland (May 2012)
38. MIT Lincoln Laboratory, group seminar (March 2012)\*
39. Mathematical Sciences Dept., Montclair State U. (March 2012)\*
40. Physics Dept., Cal State Fullerton (January 2012)\*
41. Center for Gravitation & Cosmology Seminar, UW–Milwaukee (November 2011)\*
42. 21<sup>st</sup> Midwest Relativity Meeting, Univ. of Illinois (November 2011)
43. Astrophysics Luncheon Seminar, JPL (June 2011)
44. April APS Meeting, Anaheim, CA (April 2011)
45. 27<sup>th</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, Caltech (March 2011)
46. Applied mathematics colloquium, Northwestern Univ. (November 2010)\*
47. The Inns and Outs of Black Holes, Annapolis (November 2010)
48. 10<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in S. California Meeting, Caltech (October 2010)
49. JPL Postdoc Research Day, poster, JPL (August 2010)
50. 8<sup>th</sup> International LISA Symposium, SLAC/Stanford (June 2010)
51. Theory Meets Data Analysis (Capra/NRDA), Perimeter Institute (June 2010)
52. 26<sup>th</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, UC San Diego (March 2010)
53. 8<sup>th</sup> Amaldi Conference on Gravitational Waves, Columbia Univ. (June 2009)
54. 12<sup>th</sup> Eastern Gravity Meeting, RIT (June 2009)

55. CITA Seminar, Univ. of Toronto (June 2009)\*
56. UCSB Astrophysics Lunch Seminar (April 2009)
57. Physics Department Seminar, Univ. of Mississippi (March 2009)\*
58. 24<sup>th</sup> Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics, Vancouver (December 2008)
59. Theoretical Astrophysics and Relativity seminar, Caltech (December 2008)\*
60. 8<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in S. California Meeting, UC Irvine (November 2008)
61. 7<sup>th</sup> International LISA Symposium, Barcelona (June 2008)
62. 2<sup>nd</sup> Santa Barbara Astrophysics Meeting, KITP (May 2008)
63. 24<sup>th</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, UCSB (March 2008)
64. 7<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in S. California Meeting, UCLA (Nov 2007)
65. UCSB Astrophysics Lunch Seminar (October 2007)
66. 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Gen. Relativity & Gravitation, Sydney (July 2007)
67. 1<sup>st</sup> Santa Barbara Astrophysics Meeting, KITP (May 2007)
68. 23<sup>rd</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, Caltech (March 2007)
69. UCSB Gravity Lunch Seminar (November 2006)\*
70. KITP Program: Physics of Galactic Nuclei, Discussion Talk (July 2006)\*
71. Meeting of the American Physical Society, Dallas (April 2006), Session Chair
72. 9<sup>th</sup> East Coast Gravity Meeting, MIT (March 2006)
73. Center for Gravitational Wave Physics Seminar, Penn State (February 2006)\*
74. Meeting of the American Physical Society, Tampa (April 2005)
75. 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Gen. Relativity & Gravitation, Dublin (July 2004)
76. Meeting of the American Physical Society, Denver (May 2004)
77. 20<sup>th</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, Caltech (March 2004)
78. Gravitation: A Decennial Perspective, Penn State (June 2003)
79. Astrophysics of Gravitational Wave Sources, poster, Univ. of Maryland (April 2003)
80. Meeting of the American Physical Society, Philadelphia, (April 2003)
81. 2<sup>nd</sup> Theoretical Astrophysics in Southern California Meeting, UCSB (October 2002)
82. Meeting of the American Physical Society, Albuquerque (April 2002)
83. 3<sup>rd</sup> Capra Ranch Meeting on Radiation Reaction, Caltech (June 2000)
84. 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Univ. of Montana (April 2000)
85. 16<sup>th</sup> Pacific Coast Gravity Meeting, Caltech (March 2000)
86. SURF Seminar Day, Caltech (October 1999)
87. SURF Seminar Day, Caltech (October 1997)

MEDIA COVERAGE  
(LINKS IN PDF)

1. [Listening for Cosmic Clues](#), MSU news release, March 2023.
2. Research featured in AAS Nova (research highlights from the American Astronomical Society): [How Often Do Black Holes Get Kicked Out of Star Clusters?](#), by Kerry Hensley, November 2021
3. Research featured in The Hindu, the second highest circulation English-language Indian newspaper: [Mergers of black holes and ‘kicks’ that hold a key to puzzles](#), by Shubashree Desikan, October 2021.
4. [Scientists Observe Collisions of Neutron Stars with Black Holes](#), MSU news release, June 2021.
5. [Experts Weight in on Current Job Market Trends](#), Zippia.com, November 2020.
6. [What Happens When Black Holes Collide?](#), by David Eicher, Astronomy Magazine, July 2019.
7. [Montclair State Faculty Member Marc Favata Earns Prestigious Simons Fellowship](#), MSU new release, March 2018; [also on Patch.com](#)
8. [Shooting for the Stars](#), Crusader Magazine (Bergen Catholic H. S.), Winter 2018 issue.
9. [Montclair State physicists part of team that detected distant stars colliding](#), by J. M. O’Neill, Bergen Record, Montclair Times, NorthJersey.com, other local papers; October 2017.
10. [Neutron Star Collision](#), video interview for Jersey Matters, October 2017.
11. [NJ scientists among team that discovered star collision](#), News12 NJ interview, Oct. 2017.
12. [Groundbreaking Discovery by LIGO/Virgo Solves Cosmic Mystery](#), MSU news release, October 2017.
13. [Solving Cosmic Mysteries](#) by Amy Wagner, Montclair Magazine, Fall 2017.
14. [Neutron Stars Collide](#), Forward Thinking (MSU research newsletter), Fall 2017.
15. [Listening to the Universe](#), CSAM Insights (MSU research magazine), Fall 2017 Issue.
16. [LIGO could detect gravitational waves’ permanent space-time warp](#), quoted in New Scientist article, May 2017.
17. [Gravitational Waves May Permanently Alter Spacetime](#), quote in NovaNext, October 2016.
18. [Professor honored with NSF CAREER Award](#), Montclair Magazine, Spring 2017.
19. [Tales from the Dark Side of the Universe](#), Forward Thinking, Spring 2017.
20. [Montclair State Professor Earns Grant To Study Waves Of Universe](#), Daily Voice, Feb. 2017.
21. [Professor Receives Prestigious NSF CAREER Award](#), MSU news release, January 2017.
22. [Professor Assists in Proving Einstein’s Theory Again](#), MSU news release, June 2016. See related story in *Innovation New Jersey*, August 2016.
23. [A Window into the Cosmos: University scientists among team confirming Einstein’s theory of relativity](#), Montclair Magazine, Spring 2016.
24. [The Revealing Sounds of the Cosmos](#), Forward Thinking, Spring 2016.
25. [Montclair State University astrophysicist member of group to detect ripple in gravity](#), Bergen Record, Montclair Times, NorthJersey.com; February 2016.
26. [Scientists find gravitational waves, say Einstein was right](#), quote in The Press of Atlantic City, February 2016.
27. [LISTEN: Black holes collide, MSU Professor Involved in Scientific Breakthrough](#), Patch.com, February 2016.
28. [Listening to the Universe: Montclair State professor and students are coauthors on gravitational waves detection paper](#), MSU news release, February 2016.

29. [Listening to the Universe](#), Forward Thinking, Fall 2013.
30. [When black holes collide](#), by Steve Nadis, research featured in cover story for Astronomy Magazine, May 2006.
31. [New study shows how black holes get their kicks](#) RIT press release, February 2004.
32. [Caltech comes out on top](#), by Ben Wildavsky, interview and photo for cover story in US News and World Report College Rankings Issue, August 1999.
33. *A facility for physics, and just about everything else*, by David P. Biggy, interview for Scholar of the Week column, Bergen Record, 2-Jan-1996.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH      Showed that tidal work in binary systems is invariant under change in how gravitational energy is localized. (Summer 1999, Caltech, advisor: Kip S. Thorne)

Processed scans of photographic plates from Digitized Palomar Observatory Sky Survey. Worked on search for high-redshift quasars. Participated in observing runs at the Palomar 200-inch and 60-inch telescopes. (Summer 1998, Caltech, advisor: S. George Djorgovski)

Studied correlations between accretion torque and flux changes in low-mass x-ray binaries. (Summer 1997, Caltech, advisor: Thomas Prince)

COMPUTER SKILLS      Proficiency in Maple, LaTeX, HTML; Windows, Mac, Linux OS; MS Office. Knowledgeable in Mathematica, Matlab, C, CSS.

PUBLICATION  
LINKS  
& METRICS

The links below provide multiple ways to view all published or submitted papers, along with various citation metrics. Although checked periodically, these publication listings are automatically curated, have differences, and may contain errors.

[UPDATED  
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- [Google Scholar](#), [tinyurl.com/marc-favata](https://tinyurl.com/marc-favata)
- [NASA Astrophysics Data Service](#), [tinyurl.com/y58nvm9n](https://tinyurl.com/y58nvm9n)
- [arXiv](#), [tinyurl.com/y43klabk](https://tinyurl.com/y43klabk)
- [INSPIRE](#), [inspirehep.net/authors/1010291](https://inspirehep.net/authors/1010291)
- [Semantic Scholar](#), [semanticscholar.org/author/M.-Favata/118468635](https://semanticscholar.org/author/M.-Favata/118468635)
- [ORCID iD](#): 0000-0001-8270-9512, [orcid.org/0000-0001-8270-9512](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8270-9512)
- [Web of Science ResearcherID](#): [webofscience.com/wos/author/rid/AAA-6755-2022](https://webofscience.com/wos/author/rid/AAA-6755-2022)
- [Scopus Identifier](#): 6701628208, [scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6701628208](https://scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6701628208)

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2. P. Mahapatra, A. Gupta, M. Favata, K. G. Arun, & B. S. Sathyaprakash, *Black hole hierarchical growth efficiency and mass spectrum predictions*, (submitted); arXiv:2209.05766 [astro-ph.HE]
3. S. A. Bhat, P. Saini, M. Favata, & K. G. Arun, *Systematic bias on the inspiral-merger-ringdown consistency test due to neglect of orbital eccentricity*, Phys. Rev. D 107, 024009 (2023); arXiv:2207.13761 [gr-qc]
4. P. Saini, M. Favata, & K. G. Arun, *Systematic bias on parameterized tests of general relativity due to neglect of orbital eccentricity*, Phys. Rev. D 106, 084031 (2022); arXiv:2203.04634 [gr-qc]
5. M. Favata, C. L. Kim, K. G. Arun, J. C. Kim, & H. W. Lee, *Constraining the orbital eccentricity of inspiralling compact binary systems with Advanced LIGO*, Phys. Rev. D, 105, 023003 (2022); arXiv:2108.05861 [gr-qc]
6. P. Mahapatra, A. Gupta, M. Favata, K. G. Arun, & B. S. Sathyaprakash, *Remnant black hole kicks and implications for hierarchical mergers*, Astrophys. J. Lett., 918, L31 (2021); arXiv:2106.07179 [astro-ph.HE]
7. B. Moore, M. Favata, K. G. Arun, & C. K. Mishra, *Gravitational-wave phasing for low-eccentricity inspiralling compact binaries to 3PN order*, Phys. Rev. D, 93, 124061 (2016); arXiv:1605.00304 [gr-qc]
8. M. Favata, *Systematic parameter errors in inspiraling neutron star binaries*, Phys. Rev. Lett., 112, 101101 (2014); arXiv:1310.8288 [gr-qc]
9. N. Andersson et al., *The transient gravitational-wave sky*, Classical Quantum Gravity 30, 193002 (2013); arXiv:1305.0816
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11. M. Favata, *The gravitational-wave memory for eccentric binaries*, Phys. Rev. D, 84, 124013 (2011); arXiv:1108.3121 [gr-qc]
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13. M. Favata, *Conservative self-force correction to the innermost stable circular orbit: comparison with multiple post-Newtonian-based methods*, Phys. Rev. D, 83, 024027 (2011); arXiv:1008.4622 [gr-qc]

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  15. M. Favata, *Nonlinear gravitational-wave memory from binary black hole mergers*, Astrophys. J. Letters, 696, L159, (2009); arXiv:0902.3660 [astro-ph.SR]
  16. M. Favata, *Post-Newtonian corrections to the gravitational-wave memory for quasicircular, inspiralling compact binaries*, Phys. Rev. D 80, 024002, (2009); arXiv:0812.0069 [gr-qc]
  17. M. Favata, *Gravitational-wave memory revisited: memory from the merger and recoil of binary black holes*, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 154, 012043, (2009) arXiv:0811.3451 [astro-ph]
  18. M. Favata, *Are neutron stars crushed? Gravitomagnetic tidal forces as a mechanism for binary-induced collapse*, Phys. Rev. D, 73, 104005, (2006); astro-ph/0510668
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25. M. Favata, *What Happens When Black Holes Collide*, All About Space Magazine, Issue 116, pg. 75 (2021).
  26. M. Favata, *A roar, a crash and a major scientific tool that was a piece of New Jersey’s roots is gone*, The Star Ledger, opinion section guest-columnist, 04 Dec. 2020.
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27. M. Favata, *Kicking Black Holes, Crushing Neutron Stars, and the Validity of the Adiabatic Approximation for Extreme-Mass-Ratio Inspirals*, Ph.D. thesis, Cornell Univ. (Aug. 2006)
- LIGO COLLABORATION PAPERS
- LSC publications on which I am a co-author. For an updated list, see [Publications of the LIGO and Virgo Collaborations](https://pnp.ligo.org/ppcomm/Papers.html), <https://pnp.ligo.org/ppcomm/Papers.html> .
28. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *Search for gravitational-lensing signatures in the full third observing run of the LIGO-Virgo network*, (submitted to Astrophys. J. 2023); arXiv:2304.08393; LIGO-P2200031
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37. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *All-sky search for continuous gravitational waves from isolated neutron stars using Advanced LIGO and Advanced Virgo O3 data*, *Phys. Rev. D* 106, 102008 (2022); arXiv:2201.00697; LIGO-P2100367
38. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, et al., *Narrowband searches for continuous and long-duration transient gravitational waves from known pulsars in the LIGO-Virgo third observing run*, *Astrophys. J.* 932, 133 (2022); arXiv:2112.10990; LIGO-P2100267.
39. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *Tests of General Relativity using the third LIGO-Virgo Gravitational-Wave Transient Catalog*, (submitted to *PRD*, 2021); arXiv:2112.06861; LIGO-P2100275.
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41. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *All-sky search for gravitational wave emission from scalar boson clouds around spinning black holes in LIGO O3 data*, *Phys. Rev. D* 105, 102001 (2022); arXiv:2111.15507; LIGO-P2100343.
42. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *Searches for Gravitational Waves from Known Pulsars at Two Harmonics in the Second and Third LIGO-Virgo Observing Runs*, *Astrophys. J.* 935, 1, (2022); arXiv:2111.13106; LIGO-P2100049.
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44. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *GWTC-3: Compact Binary Coalescences Observed by LIGO and Virgo During the Second Part of the Third Observing Run*, (submitted to *PRX*, 2021); arXiv:2111.03606; LIGO-P2000318.
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48. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, et al., *Search for subsolar-mass binaries in the first half of Advanced LIGO and Virgo's third observing run*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 129, 061104 (2022); arXiv:2109.12197; LIGO-P2100163.



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53. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *All-sky Search for Continuous Gravitational Waves in the Early O3 LIGO Data*, Phys. Rev. D 104, 082004 (2021); arXiv:2107.00600; LIGO-P2000334.
54. The LIGO-Virgo-KAGRA Collaboration, *Observation of gravitational waves from two neutron star-black hole coalescences*, Astrophys. J. Lett. 915, L5 (2021); arXiv:2106.15163; LIGO-P2000357.
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