
Joseph N. Burchett
Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Ph.D. in Astronomy	Summer 2017
Institution: University of Massachusetts	
Dissertation advisor: Prof. Todd M. Tripp	
M.S. in Physics and Astronomy	Spring 2011 (begun Fall 2009)
Institution: University of Louisville	
Thesis advisor: Dr. James T. Lauroesch	
B.S. in Mathematics	Spring 2005
Institution: University of Louisville	
Concentration: Computational and Applied Mathematics	

Grants as PI

Hubble Space Telescope General Observer Grant (2017)	\$250,000
Hubble Space Telescope Archival Research Grant (2017)	\$150,000
UMass Dissertation Research Grant (2015)	\$1000
Massachusetts Space Grant (2015)	\$1800
Hubble Space Telescope Archival Research Grant (2014)	\$117,695
UMass Dissertation Research Grant (2014)	\$1000
Sigma Xi Grants-In-Aid of Research (2014)	\$1200
Massachusetts Space Grant (2013)	\$5500
NASA Space Science Student Ambassador (2010-2011)	\$2600
Graduate Student Council Travel Award (2010)	\$300
Graduate Research and Creative Activities Grant (2010)	\$500
Graduate Student Council Travel Award (2009)	\$300

Telescope Proposals and Observing

Keck II – Instrument: Keck Cosmic Web Imager	2018A, 2018B
- Integral field spectroscopy of outflows from star-forming galaxies and Ly α nebulae	
Hubble Space Telescope (PI) – Instrument: COS	2017
- Spectroscopy of QSOs probing the halos of very nearby dwarf galaxies	
Hubble Space Telescope (PI) – Instrument: COS	2017
- Archival study of QSOs probing large-scale structure	
Hubble Space Telescope (PI) – Instrument: COS	2014
- Extensive analysis of archival far-ultraviolet QSO spectra	
MMT (Co-I) - Instrument: <i>Hectospec</i>	2014A, 2014B, 2016A

- Designed surveys for two separate multi-object spectroscopy observing campaigns:
 - galaxies associated with C IV absorbers
 - spectroscopic follow-up of X-ray observed galaxy clusters
- Karl G. Jansky Very Large Array (PI) 2016A
- H I emission mapping of environments around C IV absorbers
- WIYN 0.9-m (PI) - Instrument: *Half-degree Imager* 2015A, 2016A
- Broadband imaging of galaxies around QSO sightlines
- WIYN 3.5-m (PI) - Instrument: *Hydra* 2014A
- Designed survey and conducted multi-object spectroscopy of galaxies associated with QSO absorbers
- Gemini North (Co-I) - Instrument: *GMOS* 2015A
- Conducted multi-object spectroscopy of galaxies in QSO fields
- Bok 90-inch – Instrument: 90 Prime* 2014B, 2010B
- Broadband imaging of galaxies around QSO sightlines
 - Medium-band imaging of the Clowes-Campusano Large Quasar Group
- Green Bank Telescope (Co-I) 2011B, 2012A
- Onsite and remote L-band observations of H I in galaxies for the RESOLVE survey
- SOAR - Instrument: *Goodman Spectrograph* 2011B, 2012A
- Optical spectroscopy (long-slit and using image slicer) for the RESOLVE survey

Research/Teaching Positions

Postdoctoral fellow (UC – Santa Cruz) 2017-present

As the Inter[stellar and galactic] Medium Program of Studies Fellow, I am leading a number of research projects involving the gaseous halos of galaxies, or circumgalactic medium. To study these gas reservoirs and their host galaxies, I use a wide array of data from across the electromagnetic spectrum: ultraviolet spectroscopy of QSOs, multi-object optical spectroscopy, integral field spectroscopy, optical imaging, and x-ray imaging/spectroscopy.

Research Assistant (UMass - Amherst) 2012-2017

For my doctoral work, I conducted a survey of metal-enriched gaseous environments in and around nearby galaxies using data from the Cosmic Origins Spectrograph aboard the Hubble Space Telescope, my own observations from various ground-based facilities, and public galaxy survey archives such as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.

Lecturer: Modern Astronomy Summer College Course (UMass - Amherst) 2016

This summer program provides an immersive experience for high school students and features lectures, labs, and observing opportunities at the UMass educational observatory. To enhance student-student and student-instructor interactivity as well as cater to varied learning styles, my lectures leveraged team-based learning classroom technologies and active learning strategies.

Graduate Teaching Assistant (UNC – Chapel Hill) 2011-2012

I supported and led sessions in introductory as well as advanced undergraduate treatment of “Stars, Galaxies, and Cosmology”. This course extensively employed collaborative learning education models. Also, I led astronomy laboratory sessions using remote observations via the PROMPT telescope array in Chile.

Graduate Teaching Assistant (U. of Louisville) 2009-2011

Position included instruction of undergraduate laboratories and recitation sections in general physics, kinematics and sound, electricity and magnetism, and general astronomy. Additional responsibilities: tutoring for all undergraduate physics courses, grading of exams and homework for large lecture sections.

Consultant: Modern Physics for Scientists and Engineers

2010

I composed both instructor and student editions of a solutions manual for this undergraduate sophomore-level text published by Elsevier. I provided descriptive, worked-out solutions to all end-of-chapter problems for Dr. John C. Morrison, the primary author.

Students Mentored

Marijana Smailagic – A graduate student at UCSC, Marijana is analyzing low-resolution QSO spectra. In addition assisting her with the technical matters in spectroscopy, I counsel her in communicating her scientific methods and results.

Michael Moshinsky – I served as Michael’s primary research advisor for his Summer 2014 REU project and through his senior thesis research. His training included accompanying me on observing runs, taking and reducing imaging data, and measuring galaxy spectral lines.

Alexandra Burkott – Beginning in Summer 2016, I served as Alexandra’s graduate student career mentor, advising on graduate entrance exams, navigating the application process, etc.

Awards/Honors

Astronomy Graduate Program Fellowship (UMass 2017)

Merzbacher Summer Research Fellowship (Univ. of North Carolina 2011)

Manuel Schwartz Award for Outstanding Graduate Student (UofL 2011)

William Marshall Bullitt Award for the Best Student Paper (UofL 2010) –
“Enhanced Public Outreach with Asteroseismology”

NASA Space Science Student Ambassador (2010)

Academic Service and Membership

UCSC Postdoc Representative 2017-Present

Astrophysical Journal Referee 2017-Present

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society Referee 2017-Present

Hubble Space Telescope Mid-Cycle Reviewer 2017-2018

UMass Astronomy Department Colloquium Committee 2014-2016

Sigma Xi Professional Research Society 2014-Present

American Astronomical Society 2013-Present

Organizer of morning coffee and arXiv discussion hour 2012-Present

Selected Talks and Posters

- Contributed talk: *Santa Cruz Galaxy Evolution Workshop*, August 2018
- Invited talk: Northwestern U. CGM Workshop, July 2018

- Colloquium: San Diego State Univ., June 2018
- Invited seminar: Astrophysics Seminar, U. Notre Dame, April 2018
- Contributed talk: *WHIM and Galaxy Cluster Outskirts*, Guntersville, AL, June 2018
- Contributed talk: AAS Winter Meeting, National Harbor, MD, January 2018
- Invited seminar: University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, April 2017
- Dissertation talk: AAS Winter Meeting, Grapevine, TX, January 2017
- Invited talk: FLASH, UC - Santa Cruz, November 2016
- Invited seminar: UW - Seattle, November 2016
- Seminar: Tea Talk, Caltech, November 2016
- Seminar: Galaxy Lunch, Yale University, October 2016
- Seminar: GalRead, Princeton University, October 2016
- Seminar: Journal Club, Space Telescope Science Institute, October 2016
- Invited talk: CASA/JILA Seminar, University of Colorado – Boulder, October 2016
- Contributed talk: *Crossing the Rubicon*, Santarcangelo di Romagna, September 2016
- Contributed talk: *Chandra Science for the Next Decade*, Cambridge, MA, August 2016
- Invited talk: Large Scale Seminar, Harvard University, March 2016
- Contributed talk: AAS Winter Meeting, Kissimmee, FL, January 2016
- Invited talk: IMPS Seminar, UC - Santa Cruz, December 2015
- Contributed poster: *IGM@50*, Spineto, Italy, July 2015
- Public outreach talk: Astronomical Society of Greater Hartford, November 2014
- Invited talk: *The CGM at Notre Dame*, Notre Dame University, January 2014
- Contributed poster: *Intergalactic Interactions*, Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, Scotland, June 2013
- Public outreach talk (NASA Ambassador): Rauch Planetarium, Louisville, KY, March 2011

Software/Programming Languages

Python, IDL, IRAF, C, C++, CASA, SQL, QT, Javascript

Charity

Founding board member of Star Duck Charities, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk orphan children. Fundraising efforts have raised over \$100,000 for local youth.

Public Outreach

Co-founder of *Astronomy on Tap: Santa Cruz*

- Modeled after the popular national Astronomy on Tap series (astronomyontap.org), I was an original co-founder of the Santa Cruz edition and continue to produce each monthly event acting as sound engineer and local media promoter.

“Ask an astronomer” – Springfield Charter Prep School

- Program where 1st-grade students may ask a ‘real astronomer’ any questions about space. Students first formulated their questions in several categories, and I attended their class to answer them in person.

“Stars: Sound and Science” - NASA Space Science Student Ambassador

- My project focused on turning asteroseismology data into audio and involved building an audio-visual installation depicting the ‘sounds’ of different variable stars and their places on the H-R diagram, a public performance of musical compositions made entirely from asteroseismology data, and a public talk explaining the science behind the sounds.

Public talk at monthly meeting - Astronomical Society of Greater Hartford

- My talk “The gaseous halos of galaxies: hidden tempestuous lifelines on large cosmic scales” illustrated how the gas flows in and out of galaxies drive their evolution.

Publications

1. “The COS Absorption Survey of Baryon Harbors (CASBaH): Warm-hot Circumgalactic Gas Reservoirs Traced by Ne VIII Absorption”
Burchett, J. N., Tripp, T. M., Prochaska, J. X., Werk, J. K., Tumlinson, J., Howk, J. C., Willmer, C. N. A., Lehner, N., Meiring, J. D., Bowen, D. V., Bordoloi, R., Peebles, M. S., Jenkins, E. B., O’Meara, J. M., Tejos, N., and Katz, N.
Submitted to ApJL; arXiv:1810.06560 (2018)
2. “Warm-hot gas in X-ray bright galaxy clusters and the depleted circumgalactic medium in dense environments”
Burchett, J. N., Tripp, T. M., Wang, Q. D., Willmer, C. N. A., Bowen, D. V., Jenkins, E. B.
MNRAS, v. 475, p. 2067 (2018)
3. “A Deep Search for Faint Galaxies Associated with Very Low-redshift C IV Absorbers. III. The Mass- and Environment-dependent Circumgalactic Medium”
Burchett, J. N., Tripp, T. M., Bordoloi, R., Werk, J. K., Prochaska, J. X., Tumlinson, J., Willmer, C. N. A., O’Meara, J. M., and Katz, N.
Astrophysical Journal, v. 832, p. 124 (2016)
4. “A Deep Search for Faint Galaxies Associated with Very Low-redshift C IV Absorbers. II. Program Design, Absorption-line Measurements, and Absorber Statistics”
Burchett, J. N., Tripp, T. M., Prochaska, J. X., Werk, J. K., Tumlinson, J., O’Meara, J. M., Bordoloi, R., Katz, N., and Willmer, C. N. A.
Astrophysical Journal, v. 815, p. 2 (2015)
5. “A Deep Search for Faint Galaxies Associated with Very Low-redshift C IV Absorbers: A Case with Cold-accretion Characteristics”
Burchett, J. N., Tripp, T. M., Werk, J. K., Howk, J. C., Prochaska, J. X., Ford, A. B., Davé, R.
Astrophysical Journal Letters, v. 779, p. L17 (2013)
6. “Probing the dynamical state, baryon content, and multiphase nature of galaxy clusters with bright background QSOs”

- Ge, C., Wang, Q. D., **Burchett, J. N.**, Tripp, T. M., Sun, M., Li, Z., Gu, Q., Ji, L.
MNRAS, v. 481, p. 4111 (2018)
7. “The COS Absorption Survey of Baryon Harbors: The Galaxy Database and Cross-correlation Analysis of O VI Systems”
Prochaska, J. X., **Burchett, J. N.**, Tripp, T. M., Werk, J. K., Willmer, C. N. A., Howk, J. C., Lange, S., Tejos, N., Meiring, J. D., Tumlinson, J., Lehner, N., Ford, A.B., Davé, R.
Submitted to ApJS (2018)
8. “Extreme circumgalactic H I and C III absorption around the most massive, quenched galaxies”
Smailagić, M., Prochaska, J. X., **Burchett, J. N.**, Zhu, G., Ménard, B.
ApJ, in press; *arXiv:1809.09777* (2018)
9. “Quasar Sightline and Galaxy Evolution (QSAGE) Survey - I. The Galaxy Environment of OVI Absorbers up to $z=1.4$ around PKS 0232-04”
Bielby, R. M., Stott, J. P., Cullen, F., Tripp, T. M., **Burchett, J.N.**, Fumagalli, M., Morris, S. L., Tejos, N., Crain, R. A., Bower, R. G., Prochaska, J. X.
Submitted to MNRAS, *arXiv:1809.05544*
10. “On the CGM Fundamental Plane: The Halo Mass Dependency of Circumgalactic H I”
Bordoloi, R., Prochaska, J. X., Tumlinson, J., Werk, J. K., Tripp, T. M., **Burchett, J. N.**
Astrophysical Journal, v. 864, article 132
11. “The Power Spectrum of the Lyman-alpha Forest at $z < 0.5$ ”
Khaire, V., Walther, M., Hennawi, J. F., Oñorbe, J., Lukić, Z., Prochaska, J. X., Tripp, T. M., **Burchett, J. N.**, Rodriguez, Christian
Submitted to MNRAS, *arXiv:1808.05605*
12. “The COS-Halos Survey: Metallicities in the Low-Redshift Circumgalactic Medium”
Prochaska, J. X., Werk, J. K., Worseck, G., Tripp, T. M., Tumlinson, J., **Burchett, J. N.**, Fox, A. J., Fumagalli, M., Lehner, N., Peebles, M. S., Tejos, N.
Astrophysical Journal, v. 837, p. 169 (2017)
13. “The RESOLVE Survey Atomic Gas Census and Environmental Influences on Galaxy Gas Reservoirs”
Stark, D. V., Kannappan, S. J., Eckert, K. D., Florez, J., Hall, K. R., Watson, L. C., Hoverstein, E. a., **Burchett, J. N.**, Guynn, D. T., Baker, A. D., and 10 coauthors
Astrophysical Journal, v. 832, p. 126 (2016)
14. “The COS-Dwarfs Survey: The Carbon Reservoir around Sub- L^* Galaxies”
Bordoloi, R., Tumlinson, J., Werk, J. K., Oppenheimer, B. D., Peebles, M. S., Prochaska, J. X., Tripp, T. M., Katz, N., Davé, R., Fox, A. J., Thom, C., Ford, A. B., Weinberg, D. H., **Burchett, J. N.**, and Kollmeier, J. A.

Astrophysical Journal, v. 796, p. 136 (2014)

15. Instructor Solutions Manual for *Modern Physics for Scientists and Engineers*,
Burchett, J. N.
Elsevier (2010)