

S. Bradley Cenko

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Gamma-Ray Bursts: Beaming-corrected energetics, nature of the central engine
Gamma-Ray Burst Host Galaxies: Connection between dust and star formation
Tidal Disruption Flares: Probes of massive black holes in distant, quiescent galaxies
Supernovae: The progenitors of core-collapse and thermonuclear (Type Ia) supernovae
Telescope Automation and Coordinated Response from Robotic Facilities
Astronomical Software

EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT

Research Astrophysicist, NASA / Goddard Space Flight Center, 2013–Present

Postdoctoral Scholar, University of California, Berkeley, 2008–2013

Project: “*Charting the Transient Sky with the Palomar Transient Factory*”

Advisor: Alex Filippenko

Ph.D. in Physics, California Institute of Technology, 2008

Dissertation: “*The Energetics and Environments of Swift Gamma-Ray Bursts*”

Advisors: Fiona Harrison and Shri Kulkarni

A.B. Magna Cum Laude in Astronomy & Astrophysics, Harvard University, 2002

Thesis: “*Multi-Layer Optics for the Next Generation of X-ray Missions*”

Advisor: Suzanne Romaine

HONORS, APPOINTMENTS, AND AWARDS

2013–Present: Deputy Project Scientist, *Swift* Gamma-Ray Burst Explorer

2013–Present: Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Astronomy, University of Maryland

2013–Present: Junior Fellow, Joint Space-Science Institute

2005–2008: NASA Graduate Student Research Fellowship

2001–2002: Harvard College Scholarship

2000: John Harvard Scholarship

TEACHING / MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, “GSFC Python Boot Camp”, Goddard Space Flight Center, Summer 2013

Lecturer, “Scientific Research Computing with Python”, University of California, Berkeley, Fall 2010, Spring 2012

Lecturer, “Python Boot Camp”, University of California, Berkeley, Summer 2010, Winter 2012

Resident Associate, Fleming House, California Institute of Technology, 2004–2008

Summer Undergraduate Research Mentor, California Institute of Technology, Summer 2005

Teaching Assistant, High-Energy Astrophysics, California Institute of Technology, Winter 2003

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

LSST Transients and Variable Stars Team Member
Lick Telescope Allocation Committee (Semesters 2012A-2013A)
Fermi Proposal Allocation Committee (Cycle 4)
Swift Proposal Allocation Committee (Cycles 5–6, 9)
Chandra Proposal Allocation Committee (Cycle 15) Referee for *ApJ*, *ApJL*, *MNRAS*, and *A&A*
Member of American Astronomical Society

COMPETITIVELY OBTAINED GRANTS / OBSERVING TIME

Fermi Cycles 3–4 (\$100k): “Discovering the Optical Afterglows of GBM Gamma-Ray Bursts with the Palomar Transient Factory” (PI)
Fermi Cycle 5 (\$80k): “Afterglows, Redshifts, and Calorimetry of *Fermi* GRBs” (PI)
Gemini (2010B-2013A): “Probing the Central Black Holes of Distant, Quiescent Galaxies with via Tidal Disruption Flares” (PI)
HST Cycle 17 (2 orbits): “Unraveling the Origin of GRB070125” (PI)
Fermi Cycles 1–4 (\$80k): “GRB Energetics in the *Fermi* Era” (Co-I; PI Harrison)
HST Cycle 14 (113 orbits): “Gamma-Ray Bursts from Start to Finish, A Legacy Approach” (Co-I; PI Kulkarni)
Swift Cycles 1, 2, 3, and 5 (\$40k): “Observing the Optical Afterglows of *Swift* Gamma-Ray Bursts with the Robotic Palomar 60 inch Telescope” (Co-I; PI Harrison)

SELECTED INVITED TALKS

Swift Science Planning Meeting, October 2013
Joint Space Sciences Institute Mini-Symposium: A nearby ordinary monster, July 2013
Joint Space Sciences Institute Symposium: Multi-Messenger Astronomy, May 2013
Goddard Space Flight Center Astrophysics Colloquium, June 2012
University of Maryland Astronomy Colloquium, March, 2012
University of Hawai'i / Institute for Astronomy Colloquium, February, 2012
University of Toronto / Dunlap Institute Colloquium, February, 2012
AAS *Fermi* Breakout Session, January, 2012
AAS SN 2011fe Breakout Session, January, 2012
Northwestern University, Astronomy Colloquium, December 6, 2011