

Swetha Bhagwat

Postdoctoral Researcher

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Research Interests - Gravitational Wave physics, The general theory of relativity; Black-hole and neutron star physics; Testing GR with observations; Understanding fundamental interactions with neutron star observations and black-hole ringdown; Numerical relativity and its interface with the gravitational waves; Gravitational waveform source modelling, BH perturbation theory, Astrophysical interpretation with gravitational wave, LIGO data analysis; Development of waveform and analysis tools for LISA/3G gravitational wave detectors, Testing GR with LISA data.

Education and Academic Positions

- Postdoctoral researcher** **2019-ongoing**
 Department of Physics, Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy
Research Group: Member of the DarkGRA project lead by Prof. Paolo Pani
- Doctor of Philosophy in Physics (Ph.D)** **2013-2019**
 Department of Physics, Syracuse University, New York, USA
Advisor: Prof. Duncan Brown
PhD Thesis Title : Towards probing the strong field gravity using binary black-hole ringdowns
- Integrated Bachelors and Masters of Science (BS-MS)** **2008-2013**
 Indian Institute of Science Research and Education (IISER), Pune, India
 Host for Thesis: Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune, India
Advisors: Prof. Sanjeev Dhurandhar & Prof. Sanjit Mitra
Master's Thesis Title : Data analysis techniques in gravitational wave astronomy

Memberships in Scientific Collaboration

- Core member of the LISA consortium** **2019-ongoing**
Working Group: Fundamental Science with LISA
- Core member of LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC)** **2013-2018**
Key areas of contributions: Source waveform modelling and data analysis of compact binary coalescence signals
- Associated to the IndIGO consortium (Indian Gravitational Wave efforts)** **2014-ongoing**

Awards

- 2016 Special Breakthrough Prize in Fundamental Physics as a member of LIGO Scientific Collaboration for the discovery of the first gravitational wave from binary black-hole system.
- 2016 Gruber Cosmology Prize as a member of LIGO Scientific Collaboration the discovery of the first gravitational wave from binary black-hole system.

Teaching Experiences

- Astronomy-101: Our Corner of the Universe - Teaching Assistant, Syracuse University **Fall of 2013**
- Astronomy-104: Stars, Galaxies the Universe - Teaching Assistant, Syracuse University **Summer of 2014**

Publications

Short Author Publications

1. **S. Bhagwat**, V. De Luca, G. Franciolini, P. Pani and A. Riotto. *The Importance of Priors on LIGO-Virgo Parameter Estimation: the Case of Primordial Black Holes* (This manuscript has been recently submitted to Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics (JCAP)) PrePrint: arXiv:
2. X. J. Forteza, **S. Bhagwat**, P. Pani and V. Ferrari. *On the spectroscopy of binary black hole ringdown using overtones and angular modes* (This manuscript is in peer-review in Phys. Rev. D) PrePrint: arXiv:2005.03260 [Citation: 4]
3. **S. Bhagwat**, X. Forteza, P. Pani, V. Ferrari. *Ringdown overtones, black hole spectroscopy and, no-hair theorem tests* Phys.Rev.D 101 (2020) 4, 044033 [Citation: 11]
4. **S. Bhagwat**, M. Cabero, C. D. Capano, B. Krishnan, D. A. Brown. *Detectability of the subdominant mode in a binary black hole ringdown* Phys.Rev.D 102 (2020) 2, 024023 [Citation: 4]
5. E. Maggio, A. Testa, **S. Bhagwat**, P. Pani *Analytical model for gravitational-wave echoes from spinning remnants* Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 6, 064056 [Citation: 12]
6. S. Panda, **S. Bhagwat**, J. Suresh, S. Mitra *Stochastic gravitational wave background mapmaking using regularised deconvolution* Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 4, 043541
7. **S. Bhagwat**, M Okounkova, S. W. Ballmer, D. A. Brown, M Giesler, S. Sheel and S. Teukolsky. *On choosing the start time of binary black hole ringdown* Phys.Rev.D 97 (2018) 10, 104065 [Citation: 31]
8. **S. Bhagwat**, D. A. Brown, and S. W. Ballmer. *Spectroscopic analysis of stellar mass black-hole mergers in our local universe with ground-based gravitational wave detectors*. Phys.Rev.D 94 (2016) 8, 084024, Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017) 6, 069906 (erratum) [Citation: 20]
9. P. Kumar, K. Barkett, **S. Bhagwat**, N. Afshari, D. A. Brown, G. Lovelace, M. A. Scheel, and B. Szilagyi. *Accuracy and precision of gravitational-wave models of inspiraling neutron star-black hole binaries with spin: Comparison with matter-free numerical relativity in the low-frequency regime*. Phys.Rev.D 92 (2015) 10, 102001 [Citation: 35]
10. T. Dal Canton, **S. Bhagwat**, S. V. Dhurandhar, and A. Lundgren. *Effect of sine-Gaussian glitches on searches for binary coalescence*. Class.Quant.Grav. 31 (2014) 015016 [Citation: 23]

LISA Publications:

- *Prospects for Fundamental Physics with LISA* Barausse et, al., (2020) arXiv:2001.09793

LSC Collaboration Papers

Contributing to the LSC collaboration as a core member, I am a co-author of all the publication produced by the LSC collaboration from 2013 till 2018 including the first detection of Gravitational Wave from binary black holes system and from binary neutron star system. The collaboration has produced ~ 80 papers in this duration. Here is a list of seminal papers I have co-authored -

- *Observation of Gravitational Waves from a Binary Black Hole Merger* , Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 061102 (2016)
- *Tests of General Relativity with GW150914*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 221101 (2016)
- *Properties of the Binary Black Hole Merger GW150914*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 241102 (2016)
- *Astrophysical Implications of the Binary Black-Hole Merger GW150914*, Astrophys. J. Lett. 818, L22 (2016)
- *GW151226: Observation of Gravitational Waves from a 22-Solar-Mass Binary Black Hole Coalescence* , Phys. Rev. Lett. 116, 241103 (2016)
- *GW170608: Observation of a 19 Solar-mass Binary Black Hole Coalescence* , Astrophys. J. Lett. 851, L35
- *GW170817: Observation of Gravitational Waves from a Binary Neutron Star Inspiral*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 119, 161101 (2017)
- *Multi-Messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger* , Astrophys. J. Lett. 848, L12 (2017)
- *GW170104: Observation of a 50-Solar-Mass Binary Black Hole Coalescence at Redshift 0.2* , Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 221101 (2017)

Research Activities

Invited Talks and Seminars

- *Testing fundamental physics in the era of Gravitational-wave astronomy*
(Tenure Track Job Seminar)
Online, Hosted by Goethe University Frankfurt Mar 2020
- *On ringdown overtones, black hole spectroscopy and no hair theorem tests*
(Invited Talk)
Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute), Hannover Oct 2019
- *Gravitation waves from binary neutron stars*
(Invited for Panel)
Physics and Astrophysics at the Extreme (PAX), Pisa Italy May 2019
- *On the binary black hole ringdowns for testing gravity*
(Invited Seminar)
Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Pune, India Oct 2018
- *Ringdowns and strong gravity close to the event horizon*
(Invited Colloquium)
The Sapienza University of Rome Apr 2018
- *On the start time of binary black-hole ringdown*
(Invited Seminar)
Perimeter Institute Nov 2017
- *Probing the strong gravity regime with black-hole ringdowns*
(Invited Seminar)
TAPIR seminar, Caltech Sep 2017
- *Ringdown and it's data analysis - An overview*
(Invited for Panel)
Physics and Astrophysics at the Extreme (PAX) Workshop, Nikhef, Netherlands Aug 2017

Extended Academic Visits

- Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute), Germany **Oct 2019**
- The Sapienza University of Rome, Italy **Oct-Nov 2018**
- Inter-University Center of Astronomy and Astrophysics, IUCAA, India **Aug-Sep 2018**
- Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics (Albert Einstein Institute), Germany **Feb 2018**
- California Institute of Technology **Sep 2017**

Contributed Talks in Conferences

- *About the modes and tones of black hole ringdowns*
The 13th International LISA Symposium **Sep 2020**
- *On black hole spectroscopy using binary black hole ringdown*
3rd meeting of the GWVerse COST action **Jan 2019**
- *Ringdown overtones and black hole spectroscopy*
Texas 2019: Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics **Dec 2019**
- *Multimodal analysis with Binary Black hole ringdowns*
Amaldi-GR22 conference **Jul 2019**
- *Spectroscopic analysis of stellar mass black-hole mergers with ground-based gravitational wave detectors*
APS April Meeting, 2017, Washington DC **Jan 2017**
- *Prospects of Spectroscopic Analysis of Black Hole Ringdown*
Midwest Relativity Meeting, Perimeter Institute **Oct 2016**
- *Accuracy and precision of gravitational-wave models of inspiraling neutron star-black hole binaries with spin*
APS April Meeting, 2016, Salt Lake City **Apr 2016**
- *Comparison of gravitational-wave models of inspiraling neutron star-black hole binaries*
International Conference on Gravitation and Cosmology, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali **Dec 2015**

Schools, Workshops and Conference Attended

- Workshop on Compact Objects, Gravitational Waves and Deep Learning
University of Aveiro (attended remotely) **Sep 2020**
- PCCP Workshop Series : Bayesian Deep Learning for Cosmology and Gravitational Waves
APC laboratory, Université de Paris **Mar 2020**
- The Future of Gravitational-Wave Astronomy
International Centre for Theoretical Sciences **Aug 2019**
- The International School on Gravity from Earth to Space,
University of Urbino **May 2019**
- Strong Gravity & Binary Dynamics with Gravitational Wave Observations, (StronG-BaD),
Univ. of Mississippi **Feb 2017**
- Physics and Astrophysics at the Extreme (PAX) Workshop, State College, PA **Dec 2016**
- Unifying Tests of General Relativity Workshop, Caltech **Jul 2016**
- LSC-Virgo March 2016 Meeting, Pasadena, California **Mar 2016**
- Theoretical and Computational Astrophysics Networks (TCAN) Meeting, Cornell University **Sep 2015**
- *Low mass ER6 analysis and software injection study*
LSC-Virgo March 2015 Meeting, Pasadena, California **Mar 2015**
- *Accuracy and precision of gravitational-wave models of inspiraling neutron star-black hole binaries with spin*
Numerical and Analytical Relativity and Data Analysis (NRDA), Cal. State., Fullerton **Aug 2014**

- Numerical Relativity School, International Centre for Theoretical Sciences (ICTS) **Jun 2013**
- Gravitational Wave Physics and Astronomy Workshop (GWPAW), Hannover **Jun 2012**
- Lecture series on gravitational wave data analysis, Joint workshop by IISER and IUCAA **Fall 2012**

Upcoming Scheduled Academic Activities

- An invited overview talk in the *Testing gravity and black holes in the era of the Event Horizon Telescope* workshop at the Princeton University in the summer of 2021 .
- An invited talk and participation in discussions in the six-week program at the Institut Henri Poincaré (IHP) in Paris that will be held from March 1st to April 9th 2021.
- Organize the *Primordial Black Holes confront LIGO/Virgo data* workshop at the Sapienza University of Rome in early Feb,2021.
- An invited seminar on testing GR with LIGO and LISA data at Bar-Ilan University (or remotely) on January 21st 2021.

Outreach Activities

- Attended 1st and 2nd International Gravitational Waves Outreach Group Meeting (IGRAV) in 2019 and 2020 with intentions to get better involved in Art and Science outreach working group.
 - Have contributed to the organisation of Women in Physics day at the Sapienza University of Rome (2019)
 - Have participated actively in organising and conducting physics stalls during the the local Press Conference at Syracuse University held for the announcement for detection of first GW from binary neutron stars, GW170817 (2017).
 - An outreach colloquium at Hartwick College on **The discovery of GW150914**, in Oneonta NY, (Invited) (2016).
 - Presentation of **Numerical simulation of GW150914** at the local Press Conference at Syracuse University held for the announcement for detection of first GW from binary black hole system, GW150914. (2016)
 - Have been an active member of **Women in Physics group in Syracuse** and have contributed in organising the conferences for undergraduate women in Physics (CUWiP), Syracuse Chapter (2016).
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