MEIR ELIYAHU SCHOCHET

East Lansing, MI — schoche4@msu.edu — ⬤ — ⌥

EDUCATION

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA   6/2025 -
Ph.D Student (Astrophysics)
Advisor: Dr. Adina Feinstein
Optical and infrared photometry and spectroscopy, studying young stellar activity

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA   8/2021 - 5/2025
B.S. in Astrophysics (Philosophy Minor)
Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.71/4.00)
Honors Thesis: "Stellar Rotation, Binaries, and Deep Learning", Advisor Dr. Jamie Tayar

PUBLICATIONS

Schochet, M.E. & Feinstein A.D. (in prep.), *Exploring the Dependencies of the Dimensionless Stellar Rossby Number in F5 through K1 Stars from The All-Sky Automated Survey for Supernovae*

Schochet, M.E., Planet, P., Claytor, Z.C., Tayar, J., & Feinstein A.D. (in prep.), *200,000+ Deep Learning Inferred Periods of Stellar Variability from The All-Sky Automated Survey for Supernovae*

Schochet, M.E., Tayar, J., & Andrews, J. J. (2024), *A Lack of Mass-gap Compact Object Binaries in APOGEE.* Research Notes of the American Astronomical Society, 8, 166, doi:10.3847/2515-5172/ad5964

PRESENTATIONS

Using Rotation to Explore Stellar Binarity and Period Prediction Techniques[*]   1/15/25
 The 245th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society, iPoster Sessions
Neutron Star Maximum Mass Constraints from the Equation of State   11/12/24
 University of Florida, AST4930 Neutron Stars & Black Holes
Survivability Distances from Type Ia Supernovae, an Order of Magnitude Approach 4/15/24
 University of Florida, PHY4905 Astrophysics for Physicists
"Where Are the Smallest Black Holes?": Probing the mass gap with APOGEE   4/1/24
 University of Florida, Spring Undergraduate Research Symposium
End of life behavior of O-Type Stars   12/7/22
 University of Florida, AST3018 Introduction to Astrophysics I (Honors)

HONORS & AWARDS

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (HM), U.S. National Science Foundation   2025
Astronomy Student Scholarship, Alachua Astronomy Club ($250)   2025
Chambliss Astronomy Achievement Student Award, American Astronomical Society[*]   2025
University Scholars Program, University of Florida ($1,750)   2023-2024
Dean's List, University of Florida   Spring 2023, Fall 2024
Discovery Fellowship in Special Collections, Smathers Libraries, University of Florida ($500) 2022
Honors Program Wentworth Travel Scholarship, University of Florida ($1000)   2022
Florida Academic Scholar, FL Bright Futures Scholarship Program ($\sim$$23,000$ over 4y)   2021-2025

TELESCOPE AND INSTRUMENT EXPERIENCE

NASA Infrared Telescope
SpeX Spectrograph $\sim$ 2 nights

Rosemary Hill Observatory
14 Inch Meade Reflector $\sim$ 15 nights
SBIG ST-8300 CCD Camera $\sim$ 15 nights

University of Florida Campus Teaching Observatory and Department of Astronomy
14 Inch Meade Reflector $\sim$ 5 nights
12 Inch Meade Reflector $\sim$ 3 nights
8 Inch Clark Refractor $\sim$ 2 nights
8 Inch Meade Reflector (equatorial) $\sim$ 30 nights
ZWO ASI294MM Pro CMOS Camera $\sim$ 15 nights
SBIG-402 CCD Camera $\sim$ 3 nights
LHIRES-III Spectrograph $\sim$ 3 nights
8 Inch "Traveling" Meade Reflector (azimuthal) $\sim$ 3 nights

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visions of the Universe (Lab), ISP205L, Michigan State University — Fall 2025
Lead & Secondary Instructor (Course Coordinator: Dr. Laura Chomiuk)
 - Led one lecture/lab to a class of $\sim$100 students each week
Astrophysics for People in a Hurry, IDH2930, University of Florida — Spring 2025
Lead Peer Instructor (Faculty Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Lada)
 - Proposed, designed, and co-lead instructor for a 1-credit course to $\sim$15 students

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Languages: Python, Java, MATLAB, LaTeX
Systems: Windows OS, MacOS, Linux/Unix, Git
Software: astropy, SciPy, pandas, PyTorch, `butterpy`, kīauhōkū, SAOImageDS9, Lightkurve
Applications: time series, convolutional neural networks, image processing, cluster & multiparallel computing