

# Chris Orban

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## Education:

University of Illinois At Urbana-Champaign Physics Major, Graduated BS 12/04. GPA 3.51

Ohio State University. Physics Graduate Student- Ph.D. program, 1/06-present. GPA 3.75

## Work Experience:

Lab Assistant to Dr. Jeff White, director of the UI Materials Research Laboratory Laser Facility, 6/01-6/02. Duties included basic circuitry, programming, and machining.

Teaching assistant for mechanics (Physics 111), electromagnetism (Physics 112), or upper level mechanics (Physics 326) courses from 9/02-5/04.

Amateur research coordinator with the U of I Astronomical Society 10/01-12/04. Currently finishing work on the undergraduate observatory which will eventually be remotely operated and become a member of the Center for Backyard Astrophysics. Concrete for the observatory's foundation was laid 3/04 with my planning, back muscles and the help of Peter Byler, a civil engineering grad student.

Programmed the computer connection to a dynamic signal analyzer in National Instruments LabView for physics Professor Steve Errede's electronic musical instruments lab in fall of 2002. This has spurred many projects in the electronic musical instruments lab, and has also benefited other physics courses. Code available for public use from [www.ni.com/devzone/idnet](http://www.ni.com/devzone/idnet)

Intern at the Green Bank Telescope (GBT) advised by Dr. Glen Langston in the summer of 2002. Prepared the GBT for extra-solar planet observations

by writing the first broadband software to investigate the time domain. Results from observations of 40 extrasolar planets presented at the January 2002 meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle, WA.

Intern at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics advised by Dr. Brian Patten in the summer of 2003. Assembled satellite X-ray measurements and ground-based optical photometry and spectroscopy as well as near-infrared measurements of the star cluster NGC 2232 into a database to refine and expand the list of stars belonging to the cluster.

A research advisee of Dr. Paul Ricker for the Senior Thesis/Communications in Physics course from 1/04 to 12/04. The project involves simulating the collapse of a protogalaxy using FLASH, an astrophysical code, to compare current theoretical understanding of magnetic field structure and evolution to observations.

A summer student of Dr. Hui Li at Los Alamos National Laboratory 7/04-8/04. This project was an extension of the thesis work of Dr. Josef Koller on computer simulations investigating the migration of Extrasolar planets. Contributed significantly to reanalyzing his results with high resolution simulations.

### **Computer Skills:**

C, PERL, LabView, and Labwindows programming  
proficiency with Linux, Unix operating systems  
experience with data analysis packages IRAF, AIPS++, Matlab and IDL  
and data manipulation tools (ex. Excel/staroffice and emacs)  
familiar with L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X typesetting language and have experience with Autocad

### **Honors:**

7th place in the 2001 National Young Astronomer Award  
2001 American Astronautical Society special award winner at International Science Fair  
Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction 2001  
4th Place Undergrad Research Category Engineering Open House 2002  
University of Illinois Alumni Tampa Bay chapter scholarship winner 2002  
University Fellowship for graduate study in Physics at Ohio State University 2005.

### **References:**

Available upon request.