# **Amy Yarleen Lien**

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Website: https://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/results/BATbursts/amyweb/Index.html

Positions		
Sept 2017 – Present	Assistant Research Scientist <sup>1</sup> , NASA Goddard Space Flight Center	
<u>Sept 2013 – Sept 2017</u>	Postdoctoral Research Associate <sup>1</sup> , NASA Goddard Space Flight Center	
<u>Sept 2011 – Aug 2013</u>	NASA Postdoctoral Fellow (research fellowship)	
	Education	
<u>Aug 2005 – Aug 2011</u>	Ph.D., Department of Astronomy,	
	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	
Sept 2001 – Jun 2005	B.S. Department of Physics, National Central University (Taiwan)	
	Research Interests and Relevant Experience	

# **Research Interests and Relevant Experience**

### Research Interests

Gamma-ray bursts, supernovae, gravitational waves, time-domain astrophysics, multi-messenger studies, high-energy astrophysics, stellar evolution, early universe, cosmology Professional duty

Primary data analysis scientist of the Burst Alert Telescope onboard the Neil Gehrels *Swift* Observatory, which ranked as the best NASA space science mission for the past six years. Providing data products of gamma-ray bursts (>1300 events), hard X-ray sources (>2000 events), and counterpart search of gravitational waves (>50 events) to the public. Constructing flight commands to the spacecraft to maintain and improve spacecraft operation.

### Teaching Experience

Developed and taught undergraduate courses at University of Maryland, College Park, in 2017 and 2018. Mentored student research projects (>10 students from diverse backgrounds), taught discussion sections, hosted student presentations, night and solar observing sessions for four years.

### Computer Skills

Fluent in C, Python, Shell Script. IDL, AWK, Xspec, FTOOLS. HTML. Experienced in Matlab, Mathematica, Fortran

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ~80% time for the *Swift* Burst Alert Telescope support, ~20% time for personal research. Contract affiliation: Center for Space Science and Technology/Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore County

# **Professional Experience**

# Sept 2011 – Present:

- Research (~ 20%):
  - 1. Exploring the connection between gamma-ray bursts (GRBs), supernovae, and gravitational waves via multi-messenger observations.
  - 2. Studying the observed GRB properties with the Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory (Swift).
  - 3. Chasing gravitational wave counterparts in the Burst Alert Telescope (BAT) onboard Swift
  - 4. Probing the early universe with long GRBs.
  - 5. Making forecasts for future telescopes and exploring optimal GRB detection strategies.
  - 6. Constructing the *Swift*/BAT 157-month hard X-ray survey catalog (https://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/results/bs157mon/).
- *Swift* Burst Alert Telescope (BAT) support (~80%):
  - 1. Data analysis for the BAT-detected GRB, maintaining and updating the public GRB catalog website (http://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/results/batgrbcat/).
  - 2. Maintaining the BAT hard X-ray transient monitor scripts and public webpages (http://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/results/transients/).
  - 3. Providing BAT data analysis when required, and offering help for users who have questions regarding the BAT analysis.
  - 4. Maintaining the BAT-team machines, arranging shifts for the duty scientists.
  - 5. Writing new automatic scripts for new BAT operation, including prompt data search following gravitational wave detections.
  - 6. Performing operation of the BAT. Constructing flight commands to send to the space telescope, and perform recovery process and analysis during spacecraft anomalies.

### Jan 2007 – Aug 2011

Advisor: Prof. Brian Fields, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

• Code development for detailed forecasting of core-collapse supernova detections for major future surveys in both optical and radio wavelengths, and exploration of science potentials of the detections via multi-messenger observations.

### May 2006 – Dec 2006

Advisor: Prof. Joseph Mohr, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

• Code development for mock observations for the galaxy cluster search of the Dark Energy Survey, and seeking the optimal filter for galaxy cluster detections.

# **Selected Publications**

\* See full publication list on the ADS search engine (http://adsabs.harvard.edu): 39 refereed and 1100+ non-refereed (e.g., GCN circulars or ATELs) articles.

### **Major publications:**

1. Using gamma ray monitoring to avoid missing the next Milky Way Type Ia supernova Xilu Wang, Brian D. Fields, **Amy Lien** 

MNRAS, Volume 486, Issue 2, p.2910-2918 (2019)

2. The Third Swift Burst Alert Telescope Gamma-Ray Burst Catalog

Amy Lien, Takanori Sakamoto, Scott D. Barthelmy et al.,

The Astrophysical Journal, Vol. 829, Issue 1, article id 7, 47 pp. (2016)

arXiv:1606.01956

3. Modeling the Swift BAT Trigger Algorithm with Machine Learning

Philip B. Graff, Amy Lien, John G. Baker et al.,

The Astrophysical Journal, Vol. 818, Issue 1, article id. 55, 10 pp. (2016)

arXiv:1509.01228

4. Swift Observations of Gamma-Ray Burst Pulse Shapes: GRB Pulse Spectral Evolution Clarified Jon Hakkila, Amy Lien, Takanori Sakamoto et al.,

The Astrophysical Journal, Vol. 815, Issue 2, article id. 134, 16 pp. (2015)

5. Probing the Cosmic Gamma-ray Bursts Rate

with Trigger Simulations for the Swift Burst Alert Telescope

Amy Lien, Takanori Sakamoto, Neil Gehrels, et al.

The Astrophysical Journal, vol. 783, Issue 1, article id. 24, 22 pp. (2014)

arXiv:1311.4567

6. The Diffuse Gamma-ray Background from Type Ia Supernovae

Amy Lien, Brian D. Fields

The Astrophysical Journal, vol. 747, Issue 2, article id. 120, 12 pp. (2012)

arXiv:1201.3447

7. Radio Supernovae in the Great Survey Era

Amy Lien, Nachiketa Chakraborty, Brian D. Fields, and Athol Kemball

Astrophysical Journal, vol. 740, Issue 1, id. 23 (2011)

arXiv:1107.0775

8. Synoptic Sky Surveys and the Diffuse Supernova Neutrino Background:

Removing Astrophysical Uncertainties and Revealing Invisible Supernovae

**Amy Lien**, Brian D. Fields, and John F. Beacom

Physical Review D, vol. 81, Issue 8, id. 083001 (2010)

arXiv:1001.3678

9. Cosmic Core-Collapse Supernovae from Upcoming Sky Surveys

Amy Lien and Brian D. Fields

Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics, Issue 01, pp. 047 (2009)

arXiv:0902.0979

# Other selected publications:

10. Study of the variable broadband emission of Markarian 501 during the most extreme Swift X-ray activity

MAGIC Collaboration et al., A&A, Volume 637, idA86, 27 pp. (2020)

11. Short gamma-ray bursts within 200 Mpc

Dichiara et al., MNRAS, Volume 492, Issue 4, p.5011-5022 (2020)

12. Observations of a GX 301-2 Apastron Flare with the X-Calibur Hard X-Ray Polarimeter Supported by NICER, the Swift XRT and BAT, and Fermi GBM Abarr et al., ApJ, Volume 891, Issue 1, id 70, 15 pp. (2020)

13. Probing the extragalactic fast transient sky at minute time-scales with DECam Andreoni et al., MNRAS, Volume 491, Issue 4, p.5852-5866 (2020)

14. Fermi and Swift Observations of GRB 190114C: Tracing the Evolution of High-energy Emission from Prompt to Afterglow

Ajello et al., ApJ, Volume 890, Issue 1, id.9, 19 pp. (2020)

15. Swift-XRT Follow-up of Gravitational-wave Triggers in the Second Advanced LIGO/Virgo Observing Run

Klingler et al. ApJS, Volume 245, Issue 1, article id. 15, 14 pp. (2019)

16. The afterglow and kilonova of the short GRB 160821B

Troja et al. MNRAS, Volume 489, Issue 2, p.2104-2116 (2019)

17. Swift spectra of AT2018cow: A White Dwarf Tidal Disruption Event?

Kuin et al. MNRAS, Volume 487, Issue 2, p.2505-2521 (2019)

18. A Search for High-energy Counterparts to Fast Radio Bursts
Cunningham et al. ApJ, Volume 879, Issue 1, article id. 40, 13 pp. (2019)

19. GRB 171205A/SN 2017iuk: A local low-luminosity gamma-ray burst D'Elia et al., A&A, Volume 619, id.A66, 14 pp. (2018)

20. Multi-wavelength characterization of the blazar S5 0716+714 during an unprecedented outburst phase

MAGIC Collaboration et al., A&A, Volume 619, id.A45, 18 pp. (2018)

21. The largest glitch observed in the Crab pulsar

Shaw et al. MNRAS, Volume 478, Issue 3, p.3832-3840 (2018)

22. The 105-Month Swift-BAT All-sky Hard X-Ray Survey

Oh et al. The ApJ Supplement, Volume 235, Issue 1, article id. 4, 14 (2018)

- 23. Swift and NuSTAR Observations of GW170817: Detection of a Blue Kilonova Evans et al. Science, Volume 358, Issue 6370, pp. 1565-1570 (2017)
- 24. *The X-ray Counterpart to the Gravitational-wave Event GW170817* Troja et al. Nature, Volume 551, Issue 7678, pp. 71-74 (2017)
- 25. The Environment of the Binary Neutron Star Merger GW170817 Leven et al. ApJ Letters Vol 848, Issue 2, L28, 9 (2017)
- 26. *Multi-messenger Observations of a Binary Neutron Star Merger*Abbott et al. The ApJ Letters, Volume 848, Issue 2, article id. L12, 59 (2017)
- 27. Swift Follow-up of Gravitational Wave Triggers: Results from the First aLIGO run and Optimization for the Future
  - Evans et al., MNRAS, Vol. 462, Issue 2, p.1591-1602 (2016)
- 28. Do the Fermi Gamma-Ray Burst Monitor and Swift Burst Alert Telescope see the Same Short Gamma-Ray Bursts?
  - Burns et al. ApJ. Vol. 818, Issue 2, article id. 110, 10 (2016)
- 29. The Central Engine of GRB 130831A and the Energy Breakdown of a Relativistic Explosion De Pasquale et al., MNRAS, Vol. 455, Issue 1, p. 1027-1042 (2016)
- 30. Happy Birthday Swift: Ultra-long GRB 141121A and Its Broadband Afterglow Cucchiara et al. ApJ, Vol. 812, Issue 2, article id. 122, 13 (2015)
- 31. iPTF14yb: The First Discovery of a Gamma-Ray Burst Afterglow Independent of a High-energy Trigger
  - Cenko et al., ApJ Letters, Vol 803, Issue 2, L24, 6 (2015)
- 32. GRB 130925A: an ultralong gamma ray burst with a dust-echo afterglow, and implications for the origin of the ultralong GRBs
  - Evans et al., MNRAS, Vol. 444, Issue 1, p.250-267 (2014)
- 33. The Swift/BAT Hard X-Ray Transient Monitor
  Krimm et al., ApJS, Volum 209, Issue 1, article id. 14, 33 pp. (2013)

# \*Funding was used to support student research. • Quantifying the Instrumental Effects and Systematic Uncertainties in the Durations of \*Swift/BAT Gamma-ray Bursts - Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 13): \$40K • Chasing Short Gamma-Ray Bursts with Swift and Fermi - Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 10): \$39K • High Redshift Gamma-Ray Bursts from Swift - Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 9): \$33.5K

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Selected/Recent Approved Co-Investigator Research Projects		
*No funding support was requested from Co-I proposals because I am fully funded	by Swift	
• Improving the localization of Fermi/GBM GRBs with Swift/BAT event data	2020-2021	
PI: Jamie Kennea (Penn State University)		
Program: Fermi Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 13)		
Rapid Swift follow-up of fast radio bursts		
PI: Jamie Kennea (Penn State University)		
Program: Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 16)	2020-2021	
Key project: The detection and monitoring of	2020-2021	
electromagnetic counterparts of gravitational wave sources with Swift		
PI: Jamie Kennea (Penn State University)		
• Gamma-ray Bursts Similar to GRB 170817A:	2019-2022	
Comprehensive Search in the BATSE and Swift Data		
PI: Peter Veres (University of Alabama, Huntsville)		
Program: Astrophysics Data Analysis Program (ADAP)		
• ToO Spectroscopy of Gravitational Wave Counterparts: Constraining the	2019-2019	
Origin of r-process Elements		
PI: Brad Cenko (NASA Goddard Space Flight Center)		
Program: Keck observatory		
A missing population of short duration gamma-ray bursts	2018-2021	
PI: Eleonora Troja (University of Maryland, College Park)		
Program: Astrophysics Data Analysis Program (ADAP)		
• Key project: The detection and monitoring of electromagnetic counterparts	2018-2019	
of gravitational wave sources with Swift in O3		
PI: Jamie Kennea (Penn State University)		
Program: Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 14)		
• Deeper, Wider, Faster:	2017-2018	
High Energy Counterparts to the Fastest Bursts in the Sky		
PI: Tyler Pritchard (Swinburne University of Technology, Australia)		
Program: Swift Guest Investigator Program (Cycle 13)		
• Unveiling the elusive progenitors of short duration gamma-ray bursts		
PI: Eleonora Troja (University of Maryland, College Park)		
Program: Keck Observatory		
• Swift alert, localization, and first look at a Type Ia supernova in the Milky Way	2016-2017	
PI: Brian Fields (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)		
Program: Swift Guest Investigator Problem (Cycle 12)		

• Identify the signature of neutron star mergers through rapid Chandra/Hubble observations of a short GRB

PI: Eleonora Troja (University of Maryland, College Park)

Program: Chandra Cycle 17

	Invited Talks
Oct. 2020	Seminar, Caltech X-ray Club, meeting hosted virtually online
	Title: Swift Burst Alert Telescope
Feb. 2020	Seminar, Goddard tour for Japanese STEM students, Goddard visitor center
	Title: Exploring the Universe with gamma-ray bursts and the Swift Burst Alert
	Telescope
Sep. 2019	Ioffe Workshop on GRBs and other transient sources, St. Petersburg, Russia
	Title: Observing the transient sky with the Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory
Jul. 2019	Seminar at the National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan
	Title: Gamma-Ray Bursts, the Swift Burst Alert Telescope,
	and the Era of Gravitational Waves
Mar. 2019	Seminar, Astronomy Club (AstroTerps), University of Maryland, College Park
	Title: Exploring the Universe with GRBs and the Swift Burst Alert Telescope
Feb. 2019	Seminar, Goddard tour for Japanese STEM students, Goddard visitor center
	Title: Exploring the Universe with gamma-ray bursts and the Swift Burst Alert
	Telescope
Jan. 2019	AAS Press Panel on the AT2018cow, Seattle, WA
	Title: AT2018cow: A White Dwarf Torn Apart by a Black Hole?
Oct. 2018	Student Colloquium at Tamkang University, Tamsui, Taiwan
	Title: Gamma-ray bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope
Oct. 2018	Taipei Gravitational Wave Group Conference, Tamkang University, Tamsui, Taiwan
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts in the Era of Multi-Messenger Astronomy (talk #1)
	Catching Electromagnetic Counterparts for Gravitational Waves Events (talk #2)
Oct 2017	CTC seminar, University of Maryland, College Park
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope
Mar 2017	Seminar, Nagoya University, Japan
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope
Mar 2017	Suzaku/WAM team meeting, Nagoya University, Japan
	Title: Swift Status & WAM-BAT joint-fit spectral analysis
<u>Dec 2016</u>	Astroparticle Physic Workshop at Yachay Tech, Quito, Ecuador
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope

Oct 2016	The Eighth Huntsville Gamma-Ray Burst Symposium, Huntsville, Alabama Title: The Third Swift Burst Alert Telescope Gamma-Ray Burst Catalog:
	Instrumental Sensitivity and Implication on the High-Redshift GRBs
Dec 2015	The Fourth AMON workshop, Penn State University, Pennsylvania
	Title: Swift-BAT as a Triggering Facility
<u>Sept 2015</u>	Special Seminars, CEA Saclay, France
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope:
	Probing Intrinsic Distributions with Trigger Simulations
<u>Apr 2015</u>	Astronomical Sciences Seminars, Virginia Tech, Virginia
	Title: Probing the Star-Formation History with Core-Collapse Supernovae,
	Gamma-Ray Bursts, and Neutrinos in the Great Survey Era
<u>Apr 2015</u>	ITC Seminar, CfA, Harvard University, Boston
	Title: Gamma-ray Bursts from the Swift Burst Alert Telescope: Probing
	Intrinsic Distributions with Trigger Simulations
<u>Jan 2015</u>	Seminar, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
	Title: Ten Years of Swift: The Third Swift Burst Alert Telescope Gamma-Ray
	Burst Catalog
<u>July 2013</u>	Seminar, Academia Sinica, Taiwan
	Title: Connecting Core-Collapse Supernovae and Gamma-Ray Bursts in the
	Great Survey Era
<u>July 2013</u>	Seminar, National Central University, Taiwan
	Title: Connecting Core-Collapse Supernovae and Gamma-Ray Bursts in the
	Great Survey Era
Feb 2012	Seminar, Naval Research Laboratory
	Title: Core-Collapse Supernovae in the Great Survey Era
Aug 2011	Seminar, National Tsing-Hua University, Taiwan
	Title: Core-Collapse Supernovae in the Great Survey Era
July 2011	Seminar, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
	Title: Revealing Optically Invisible Core-Collapse Supernovae in the Great
	Survey Era
<u>Apr 2011</u>	The Second Annual CCAPP Symposium, Ohio State University
	Title: Core-Collapse Supernovae in the Great Survey Era:
	Impact on Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology
Feb 2011	Triangle Nuclear Theory Colloquium, North Carolina State University
	Title: Core-Collapse Supernovae in the Great Survey Era:
	Impact on Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology

	Teaching Experience: instructor
Fall 2018	Special Projects in Astronomy: Astronomy Research Techniques
	(ASTR288C), University of Maryland, College Park
	Team-teaching with Sean Griffin (University of Maryland, College Park)
	https://swift.gsfc.nasa.gov/results/BATbursts/ASTR_288C/Index.html
Fall 2017	Special Projects in Astronomy: Astronomy Research Techniques
	(ASTR288C), University of Maryland, College Park
	https://userpages.umbc.edu/~alien/ASTR_288C_2017/Index.html
	Mentoring Experience
2018 - Present	Quantifying uncertainties in the durations of Swift/BAT Gamma-ray Bursts
	Grad Student: Mike Moss, George Washington University
Summer 2018	Study of GRB pulses and X-ray flares (co-mentor)
	Student: Fatima Hussein, University of the Virgin Islands
<u>Summer 2017</u>	GRB pulse-shape study
	Student: Juan-Carlos Martinez, University of the Virgin Islands
Fall 2016	Spectral joint-fit analysis for GRBs from Swift/BAT and Suzaku/WAM
	Student: Austin Kim, University of Maryland at College Park
Fall 2016	Probing star-formation rate with Baysian analysis of Swift GRBs (co-mentor)
	Student: Anjali Mittu, University of Maryland at College Park
<u>Summer 2016</u>	GRB pulse-shape study
	Student: Jared Hanley, University of the Virgin Islands
<u>Summer 2015</u>	Chasing short GRBs with Swift and Fermi
	Student: Charles Law, Harvard University
<u>Summer 2015</u>	Study of GRB pulses and X-ray flares (co-mentor)
	Student: Jason Baron, University of the Virgin Islands
Summer 2014	High redshift GRBs from Swift
	Student: Kevin Chen, University of California, Berkeley
<u>Summer 2014</u>	Chasing short GRBs with Swift and Fermi (co-mentor)
	Student: John Kerin, Georgetown University
	Teaching Experience: teaching assistant
Fall 2010	TA for Phys 598 (Topics in Computational Physics and Astrophysics)
	Instructor: Prof. Stuart Shapiro
Summer 2009	TA for Astro100 (Perspectives to Astronomy)
	Instructor: Dr. Ashley Ross

Spring 2009 TA for Astro330 (Extraterrestrial Life) with discussion sections

Instructor: Prof. Leslie Looney

Fall 2008 TA for Astro121\* (The Solar System) with discussion sections

Instructor: Prof. Edmund Sutton

Summer 2008 TA for Astro100 (Perspectives in Astronomy)

Instructor: Dr. Ashley Ross

Spring 2008 TA for Astro596 (Physical Cosmology)

Instructor: Prof. Brian Fields

Fall 2007 TA for Astro502 (Theory Diffuse Matter Dynamics)

Instructor: Prof. Charles Gammie

TA for Astro330 (Extraterrestrial Life)

Instructor: Prof. Leslie Looney

Spring 2007 TA for Astro405 (Solar System and Interstellar Medium)

Instructor: Prof. Ronald Webbink

Spring 2006 TA for Astro100\* (Perspectives to Astronomy)

Instructor: Prof. Thomasanna Hail

Fall 2005 TA for Astro100\* (Perspectives in Astronomy)

Instructor: Prof. Laird Thompson

# **Community Service and Outreach**

• 2019 AAS Press Panel on the event AT2018cow https://aasnova.org/2019/01/13/aas-233-day-4/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8VhpMRxNW4

- Representing the *Swift* telescope at the NASA Science Jamborees, the American Astronomical Society (AAS) meetings, and the NASA Goddard Open House
- Serving as a referee for academic journals (ApJ, MNRAS)
- Serving as a reviewer for grant proposals (*Swift*, *Fermi*, *Hubble*, *NuSTAR*, NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship)
- Participating in the volunteer mentor program for Generation Hope (http://supportgenerationhope.org/generation-hope-19)
- Participating in AAAS STEM volunteer program to support high school science classes/activities (https://www.aaas.org/programs/STEM-volunteers)
- Women in astrophysics panel discussions for students at Montgomery College.

<sup>\*</sup> Classes including night observing sections and solar observing sections.

	References
Dr. Brad Cenko	NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 661
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CV Amy Lien