

Cristina Andrade:

Specializing in multi-messenger astronomy, this role combines gravitational wave searches with LIGO, VIRGO, KAGRA and optical transient studies to investigate astrophysical events such as binary neutron-star mergers and white dwarf binaries. Responsibilities include analyzing gravitational wave and optical data, leading the Kilonova Catcher (KNC) citizen science project, and managing a global network of 130+ amateur astronomers to conduct transient follow-up observations. As a core team member of GRANDMA (Grand Rapid Advanced Network Dedicated to Multi-messenger Astronomy), the role involves coordinating follow-up observations and leading operations of a global telescope network and contributing to international research efforts. Additional work includes analyzing long-duration gravitational wave alerts, developing targeted search pipelines, and creating metrics for transient detectability for the Vera C. Rubin Observatory. Key achievements include developing tools to streamline data analysis, revitalizing KNC through strategic engagement plans, and representing the project at NASA Citizen Science meetings to enhance its visibility and impact.