

Boston University College of Arts & SciencesInstitute for Astrophysical Research

2022—2023 ASTROPHYSICS SEMINAR SERIES

Sgr A* across the radio band

Earlier this year, the Event Horizon Telescope collaboration revealed the first images of the shadow of our Milky Way supermassive black hole, Sagittarius A* (Sgr A*). Since its detection in the mid-70s, this bright radio source in the Galactic Center was shrouded in a veil of mystery. The Nobel-awarded stellar orbits research in the Galactic Center pinned down its mass and distance, showing evidence of an extremely compact 4 million-solar-mass object at the heart of our Galaxy. The EHT then provided the first direct evidence that this object is indeed

a black hole and resolved its shadow for the first time. In this talk, I will explain the challenges of imaging Sgr A* and how these were overcome by the EHT, and I will walk through milestones of discovery across the radio band that laid the foundation for the first image of our black hole.



Monday, November 7th 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Harvard University

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