Dr. Tiffany Kataria



Tiffany Kataria obtained her PhD in planetary sciences from the University of Arizona at Tucson in 2014. She currently works with the Exoplanet discovery and science group at JPL.

Tiffany's research focuses on the atmospheric structure and dynamics of exoplanetary atmospheres. She utilizes general circulation models to understand the dynamics of super Earths and hot Jupiters over a wide range of parameters, and particularly how these models can be used to directly interpret exoplanetary spectra from ground- and space-based facilities. Currently, she is investigating the role of clouds and hazes in the atmospheres of a sample of hot Jupiter exoplanets that have been observed with HST and Spitzer.

Dr. Jake Hartman



Jake Hartman is a software engineer and data scientist at Google. During his four years at Google, he worked in ads and is now a member of the Google Drive backend team. His work there includes user privacy protection and investigation of abuse of Drive accounts. His expertise is in petabyte-scale databases and computing.

He earned a Physics PhD at MIT with a thesis on the X-ray timing of accretion-powered millisecond pulsars. He then jumped to the opposite end of the spectrum as a staff scientist at the Long Wavelength Array, phased arrays of meter-wavelength radio antennas in New Mexico and Owens Valley. He was a postdoc at the Naval Research Lab in Washington, DC; the University of New Mexico; and finally JPL and Caltech. He liked LA enough that he decided to stay.

Prof. Farisa Y. Morales



Farisa Morales obtained her PhD in 2011 from the University of Southern California. Her research interests include planet formation, direct-imaging of exoplanets, and infrared observations towards characterization of planetary debris disks. She currently works as a scientist with JPL's Exoplanet Discovery and Science group.

Farisa has a keen interest in teaching. She has served as a part-time faculty at the California State University at Northridge, since 2011, and is a full-time faculty at the Moorpark college in Ventura county since 2014. She has also taught as adjunct faculty at the Cerritos community college and the L.A community college district.

Farisa has received the JPL Mariner award and the American Astronomical Society's Chambliss award.