

Education

- Ph.D. in Astronomy, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, 2001
- MSc. in Astrophysics, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas Espaciais, Brazil, 1997
- BSc. in Physics, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Peru, 1994

Current Position

- Permanent Professor. Univ. São Paulo, Astronomy Department Since 07/2010

Previous Positions

- Research Associate. Universidade de Porto 02/2008 - 06/2010
- Research Fellow. The Australian National University, RSAA 09/2005 - 01/2008
- Postdoctoral Scholar. Caltech, Astronomy Department 09/2003 - 08/2005
- Visiting Researcher. Univ. São Paulo, Astronomy Department 12/2002 - 03/2003
- Visiting Lecturer. Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos 09/2002 - 08/2003
- Postdoc. Univ. São Paulo, Astronomy Department 04/2001 - 03/2002

Awards/Honors

- Included in the list of the most influential scientists, based on career-long impact (until 2019), PLoS Biol 18(10): e3000918 2020
- Prize for supervising the best PhD in Astronomy at IAG/USP in 2019, student Henrique Reggiani, and best MSc in Astronomy at IAG/USP in 2017, student Leonardo dos Santos 2020
2018
- Honorable mention for supervising the PhD of Marcelo Tucci Maia, Awards ‘Tese Destaque USP 2018’ & ‘CAPES 2017’ 2018, 2017
- Nominated for “Make a Difference” prize, to acknowledge Brazilian researchers that inspired Brazil and the world in 2016 2016
- Best Astronomy Undergraduate Research at IAG/USP: my students Lucas Schirbel (2014) and Gabriela C. Silva (2019) 2014, 2019
- CNPq productivity fellowship, level 1, awarded to the most productive scientists in Brazil 3/2020 – present
3/2011 – 2/2020 (level 2)
- Research Merit Award, Univ. Nacional Mayor de San Marcos 2003 and 2007

Research Experience

- Physical Properties of Stars. Magnetic Stellar Activity. Chemical Abundances. Stellar Spectroscopy. Exoplanets. Galactic Archaeology. Observational Astronomy (ESO, Magellan, Gemini, Keck, Subaru, Kitt Peak, Palomar, Siding Spring, OPD)
- Over 300 observing nights allocated in different observing facilities; more than half of them as PI, including 100 nights for a HARPS Large Program to seek planets around solar twins

Publications

- 143 refereed publications (lead author on 28). Over 8800 citations, h-index: 53, m-index: 2.5

Student supervision and mentoring

- 6 postdoctoral scholars, 5 PhD, 5 MSc, 19 undergrads

Teaching Experience

- *Graduate*: Observational Astrophysics (2011 to 2013, 2016 to 2018)
- *Undergraduate*: Stellar Astrophysics (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021), Astronomy Outreach (2014, 2015, 2018, 2019), Observational Methods in Astrophysics (2014), Astronomy for Meteorology (2010- 2013)

Selected Achievements

- First homogeneous chemical abundance analysis of disk, halo and bulge stars in the Milky Way
- First analysis achieving a precision of 0.01 dex, discovering likely signatures of planets in the chemical composition of stars, abundance variations in open clusters, and chemical clocks
- Survey of bright metal-poor stars, discovering the brightest ultra metal-poor ($[Fe/H] < -4$) star
- Survey of planets around solar twins: discovery of Jupiter twin, super-Earth and super-Neptune
- The Sun as a star: evolution of the Sun studied through solar twins

Talks

- More than 150 talks at conferences, colloquia, advanced schools and outreach events

Committee Service

- Organizer of the Workshops “Precision Spectroscopy” in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2021
- Time allocation committees in Australia and Brazil
- Portuguese representative for the ESO users committee (2009 – 2010)
- Referee for papers in astronomical journals. External advisor for grants and observing proposals

Outreach

- Research featured in several press releases in Australia, Brazil, USA and Germany
- Hundreds of research highlights at national and international media, including Nature News, Discovery News, Cosmos, Universe Today, New Scientist, Sky & Telescope, Astronomy
- Regularly speaks to journalists about his own research and also to comment major discoveries
- Public talks in Brazil, Sweden, Peru, Portugal and Australia.
- Developed and offered first Science Outreach course at Univ. São Paulo, Brazil.
- Twitter: @DrJorgeMelendez (> 9600 followers with over 600 000 impressions/month) and outreach account @AstroUSP (> 26000 followers with over 1,5 million impressions/month)

Languages

- English (fluent), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (fluent)