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18 Years of Science with the Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory's Ultra-Violet/Optical Telescope

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory's Ultra-Violet/Optical Telescope (UVOT) began collecting science data in late 2004. Since that time, it has become a workhorse ultraviolet instrument in the international astrophysics community. Although the primary purpose of UVOT is time-domain astronomy (TDA), its utility as an ultraviolet instrument outside of TDA science has been abundantly demonstrated. This Special Issue reviews the range of TDA (e.g., supernovae, active galactic nuclei, gamma-ray bursts, novae) and non-TDA (e.g., dust extinction, comets, galaxy evolution) science accomplished with the UVOT. It also examines potential research directions and the necessary tools required to pursue these new exploration paths. The scope of this Issue is to review the work accomplished with the UVOT in different areas of astrophysics (Type Ia and core-collapse SNe, quasars/blazars, long and short GRBs, kilonovae, dust extinction, comets, tidal disruption events, science with UV grisms, galaxy evolution, and novae) and to detail the importance of the UV in advancing the respective science area.



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Special Issue



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Editor-in-Chief

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The multidisciplinary journal *Universe* is aiming to follow and, hopefully, to lead to the largest extent as possible the ever-self renovating threads which weave mathematical theories with our understanding of the magnificent natural world. On behalf of all the distinguished members of the Advisory and Editorial Boards, I extend my welcome to this journal and look forward to hearing from the interested contributors and learning about their valuable research.

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