

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Even now that I'm writing the acknowledgements of this thesis, it doesn't seem to quite feel real just yet. In any case, I want to take the time to reflect back on my not-quite-so-straight path that eventually led to this cohesive set of writings on the research I've done with David Miller and the UChicago ATLAS group over the past 5 years. I still recall when I sat in David's office in the old HEP building wondering if he would be crazy enough to let me work for him. I started with the hardware project, using what I've learned from Rai Weiss and Sam Waldman at LIGO. Funnily enough, this is the second "David Miller" I've had the pleasure to work with, the first at Caltech when I was an undergrad working on the submillimeter wave observatory. Altogether, it's been a lot of fun, and hopefully we'll still be able to keep working together even after I leave UChicago for a post-doc.

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