

## YICHEN LIU

tel: +1-(447) 902-2638 | e-mail: [yl127@illinois.edu](mailto:yl127@illinois.edu) | web: <https://cheysen.fit> |   

### EDUCATION

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** (Illinois, U.S.) | College of Liberal Arts & Sciences **Aug 2022 - Present**  
4.00/4.00

- Major in **Astrophysics** and **Mathematics**
- Minor in **Physics**, **Computer Science**, and **Chemistry**
- Enrolled in the **LAS Honors program**

**University of Macau** (Macau SAR, China) | Faculty of Science and Technology **Aug 2019 - May 2022**  
3.40/4.00 (last year: 3.81)

- Major in **Applied Physics and Chemistry**
- Enrolled in the **Honours College**

#### Summer sessions

- **University of California, Berkeley** (Online) 4.000/4.000 **Jun 2022 - Aug 2022**
- **Shanghai Jiao Tong University** (Shanghai, China) 4.00/4.00 **Jun 2021 - Jul 2021**

### PUBLICATIONS

1. Grant Merz, **Yichen Liu**, Colin J. Burke, Patrick D. Aleo, Xin Liu, Matias Carrasco Kind, Volodymyr Kindratenko, Yufeng Liu, "[Detection, Instance Segmentation, and Classification for Astronomical Surveys with Deep Learning \(DeepDISC\): Detectron2 Implementation and Demonstration with Hyper Suprime-Cam Data](#)", in ArXiv (2023)
2. **Yichen Liu**, Peixia Zheng, and Hong-Chao Liu, "[Anti-loss-compression image encryption based on computational ghost imaging using discrete cosine transform and orthogonal patterns](#)," Opt. Express 30, 14073-14087 (2022)
3. Peixia Zheng, **Yichen Liu**, and Hong-Chao Liu, "[Single-pixel imaging and metasurface imaging](#)," Infrared and Laser Engineering (红外与激光工程) 50.12, 20211058-1 (2022)

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

**Department of Astronomy** (Illinois, U.S.) - *research assistant* **Sep 2022 - Present**

- Supervisor - [Professor Xin Liu](#)
- Topic 1 - deblending in astronomical surveys using machine learning **Sep 2022 - Present**
  - Enrolled in Summer 2023 NCSA SPIN internship
  - Examined the source extraction pipelines of [DeepDISC](#) and [Astro R-CNN](#) using [Sep](#) and [Scarlet](#)
  - Conducted simulation runs of different models and configurations based on PhoSim data on Hardware - Accelerated Learning (HAL) cluster using [Detectron2](#)
  - Modified code and applied Transformer models, MViT and VitDet, into the pipeline
  - Recent work includes building neural networks for photometric redshift estimation
- Topic 2 - DES SED fitting **Feb 2023 - May 2023**
  - Performed SED fitting of the sources in the DES and WISE catalogs using [CIGALE](#)
  - Generated criteria and selected AGN candidates in the source catalogs
- Topic 3 - host galaxy properties of variable AGNs **Jun 2023 - Present**
  - Matched the dwarf AGN candidates in HSC SSP catalog to the SIMBAD database
  - Prepared batch-download code of optical spectra for SDSS, zCOSMOS, Magellan, DEIMOS, etc.
  - Compared and resolved the inconsistencies of redshifts between HSC and other databases

**National Observatory of China** (Beijing, China) - *summer research internship* **Jun 2022 - Aug 2022**

- Supervisor - [Professor Chaojian Wu](#)
- Topic - meteor slitless spectrum
  - Generated the spectrum of 2021 Gemini meteors captured by DSLR
  - Analyzed the intensities of Sodium and Magnesium lines using Python
  - Wrote machine learning code to filter and locate meteors from mass recording and perform photometry automatically

## YICHEN LIU

tel: +1-(447) 902-2638 | e-mail: [yl127@illinois.edu](mailto:yl127@illinois.edu) | web: <https://cheysen.fit> |   

### **Institute of Applied Physics & Materials Engineering (Macau SAR, China) - research assistant Aug 2019 - May 2022**

- Supervisor - [Professor Hongchao Liu](#)
- Topic 1 - ghost imaging in complex environment Aug 2019 - Aug 2021
  - Reviewed latest studies on ghost imaging & single-pixel imaging and presented research summaries at staff meetings
  - Measure ghost imaging quality based on different equipment and reconstruction algorithms in MATLAB, analyzed the data, and authored reports for project supervisors
  - Investigate light patterns reflected by distorting mirrors and compare the patterns to reflections from regular mirrors
- Topic 2 - anti-loss image encryption based on ghost imaging Sep 2021 - Feb 2022
  - Conducted experiments on ghost imaging, metamaterials and metasurfaces, and topological materials
  - Designed Python algorithms based on compressive sensing and gradient descent
  - Managed computational imaging simulations using [PyTorch](#) using high-performance graphic card
  - Published a high-impact journal article as the first author [as the first undergraduate student in the department](#)
- Topic 3 - ghost imaging using recurrent neural network Mar 2022 - May 2022
  - Operated laser devices in collaboration with postgraduate students
  - Summarized and verified existing ghost imaging methods that involve neural networks
  - Designed Python pipelines based on recurrent and convolutional neural network for ghost imaging

### **OBSERVATION EXPERIENCE**

- Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory, Blanco 4m / DECam: 3 nights observation Jan 2023 - Apr 2023

### **AWARDS**

- University of Illinois Dean's Honor List (2022-2023) Jul 2023
- Smart Star Sponsorship for studies at University of California, Berkeley Jun 2022
- University of Macau Dean's Honour List (2020 and 2022) Aug 2022
- Residential College Summer Programme Sponsorship for studies at Shanghai Jiao Tong university May 2021
- Third Prize, China Undergraduate Physics Tournament Oct 2020
- National Team Leader at the 2019 European Union Contest for Young Scientists Sep 2019
- University of Macau Full Scholarship (tuition & accommodation, 2019-2021) Aug 2019
- Bronze Medal, International Olympiad of Astronomy and Astrophysics Nov 2018
- First Prize, China Adolescents' Science and Technology Innovation Contest Aug 2018
- Second Prize, China National Astronomy Olympiad May 2018

### **OUTREACH**

#### **Youtuber in physics and mathematics (Online)** Sep 2021 - Present

- Occasionally live stream or publish videos in "Bilibili" platform, offering public education resources in Chinese
- Topics include self-learned or taught undergraduate-level mathematics and physics
- [The most popular video](#) obtained more than 160,000 watchings

#### **Seminar of Physics at the University of Macau (Macau SAR, China)** Feb 2022 - May 2022

- This was a series of unofficial lectures organized by me and my classmate, [Jiheng Duan](#), offering math and physics contents that the University of Macau's curriculum did not provide, such as classical mechanics and partial differential equations, supplementing the theoretical basis of future research and studies in physics for DPC students
- Conducted the class meetings twice a week over the semester
- Prepared and taught the lecture *SPUM 102 The tools of physical tools*, including complex variables,  $\Gamma$  functions, integral transforms,  $\delta$  functions, and Green functions [|Syllabus](#)
- The recordings of the lectures are publically available on [Youtube](#)

## YICHEN LIU

tel: +1-(447) 902-2638 | e-mail: [yl127@illinois.edu](mailto:yl127@illinois.edu) | web: <https://cheysen.fit> |   

### ACTIVITIES

---

**Department of Astronomy** (Illinois, U.S.) - *undergraduate tutor* **Jan 2023 - Present**

- Planned and facilitated collaborative tutoring sessions for Astronomy-program major students enrolled in targeted core major courses

**Personal 25-centimeter Remote Observatory** (Hebei, China) - *astrophotographer* **Jan 2018 - Jul 2022**

- Identified a suitable site in China and built a 2×2-meter storage facility with internet access and a retractable roof
- Selected, assembled, and tested the equipment, and successfully developed a remotely-operated facility
- Regularly captured emission nebulae and selected photos are listed in [my website](#)

**University of Macau Physics Society** (Macau SAR, China) - *director* **Aug 2020 - Feb 2021**

- Founded the University's physics society and promoted its activities on social media platforms
- Significantly expanded the Society's membership through effective outreach activities and university club fairs
- Organized and led a team of undergraduate students at the 2020 China Undergraduate Physics Tournament

**Department of Physics and Chemistry** (Macau SAR, China) - *student helper* **Jul 2020 - Oct 2020**

- Requested equipment quotes and negotiated contracts with suppliers for physics-related research
- Tracked the department's procurement budget and developed budgeting recommendations
- Purchased supplies for the 2020 China Undergraduate Physics Tournament

### TECHNICAL SKILLS

---

Skilled in: Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, MATLAB, Git, and Shell Bash/Zsh  
Basic Knowledge: C/C++, Mathematica, Julia, docker, SQL, and Java  
Softwares: MaxIm DL, COMSOL, Altium Designer, KiCAD, Solidworks, Cinema 4D, and SPSS  
Often-used Packages: [AstroPy](#), [Scarlet](#), [PyTorch](#), [Detectron2](#), and [CIGALE](#)  
Contributions: [DeepDISC](#): Using deep learning for classification on astronomical survey images  
[Metspec](#): Auto-detection and photometry of meteor slitless spectrum  
[DES-SED-Fitting](#): SED fitting and classification of DES sources  
[DECat-pointings](#): working repository of DECam  
[Dwarf-AGN-COSMOS](#): Spectral analysis for dwarf AGN candidates in COSMOS field