Qian Hu

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Glasgow

2024 - Present

Postdoctoral Researcher

EDUCATION

University of Glasgow

2021 - 2024

PhD in gravitational-wave astronomy

Thesis: Towards high-precision gravitational wave astronomy: robust and efficient data analysis for ground-based detectors. (Link)

Advisor: Dr. John Veitch

University of Western Australia

2019 - 2021

Undergraduate Research Intern. Research topic: Gravitational wave source localization.

Advisor: Prof. Linqing Wen

University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)

2017 - 2021

B.S. (Honor) in astrophysics, GPA: 3.90/4.30.

Thesis: Rapid Sky Localization of Gravitational Waves from Compact Binary Coalescences

Advisors: Prof. Wen Zhao & Prof. Linqing Wen

REASEARCH INTERESTS

o Gravitational-Wave (GW) Astrophysics

- Higher-order characteristics from compact binaries: precession, eccentricity, higher modes etc, and their astrophysical implications.
- Tests of GR with GWs: methods and robustness.
- Properties of compact objects: spins, equations of state, etc.
- Data-driven GW waveform modelling: surrogate models and models with uncertainties.

GW Data Analysis Techniques

- Waveform systematics in parameter estimation and ways of mitigating it.
- Difficult sources in the next-generation detectors: overlapping signals, long signals, etc.
- Fast parameter estimation (including fast localization) of CBC sources.
- Application of machine learning to GW data analysis: detection, parameter estimation, and followup sciences.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Full publication list including collaboration papers can be found at: Inspire-HEP, Google Scholar.

- o Qian Hu, John Veitch, Costs of Bayesian Parameter Estimation in Third-Generation Gravitational Wave Detectors: a Review of Acceleration Methods. Submitting to PRD. ET-0666A-24.
- Qian Hu, Jessica Irwin, Qi Sun, Chris Messenger, Lami Suleiman, Ik Siong Heng, John Veitch, Decoding long-duration GW from BNS with machine learning: Parameter estimation and equations of state. Submitting to PRL. LIGO-P2400567.

- o Qian Hu, John Veitch, Rapid pre-merger localization of binary neutron stars in third generation gravitational wave detectors. ApJ Lett. 958 (2023) 2, L43.
- o Qianyun Yun, Wen-Biao Han, **Qian Hu**, Haiguang Xu, Precessing Binary Black Holes as Better Dark Sirens. MNRAS Lett. 527 (1), L60-L65 (2023).
- Qian Hu, John Veitch, Accumulating errors in tests of general relativity with gravitational waves: overlapping signals and inaccurate waveforms. ApJ 945 (2023) 2, 103.
- Qian Hu, John Veitch, Assessing the model waveform accuracy of gravitational waves. PRD 106, 044042 (2022).
- o Qian Hu, Cong Zhou, Jhao-Hong Peng, Linqing Wen, Qi Chu, Manoj Kovalam, Semianalytical Approach for Sky Localization of Gravitational Waves. PRD 104, 104008 (2021).
- Qian Hu, Mingzheng Li, Rui Niu, and Wen Zhao. Joint Observations of Space-based Gravitational-wave Detectors: Source Localization and Implication for Parity-violating Gravity. PRD 103, 064057 (2021).
- o Wen Zhao, Tan Liu, Linqing Wen, Tao Zhu, Anzhong Wang, **Qian Hu**, and Cong Zhou. Model-independent test of the parity symmetry of gravity with gravitational waves, EPJC, 80(7), Jul 2020.

SELECTED TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

- o (Forthcoming) Seminar at the University of Science and Technology of China. Dec 24 2024
- (Forthcoming) Seminar at the Kavli Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics at Peking University.
 Dec 11 2024
- o Decoding Long-duration Gravitational Waves from Binary Neutron Stars with Machine Learning: Parameter Estimation and Equations of State, ET 3rd annual meeting, Nov 2024, Warsaw, Poland.
- Realtime pre-merger localization of BNS in 3G GW detectors (poster), ET 3rd annual meeting, Nov 2024, Warsaw, Poland.
- Decoding Long-duration Gravitational Waves from Binary Neutron Stars with Machine Learning: Parameter Estimation and Equations of State (poster), 2024 September LVK Meeting, Sept 2024, Barcelona, Spain.
- o Realtime pre-merger localization of BNS in 3G GW detectors (poster), GWNext, Mar 2024, Beijing.
- o Realtime pre-merger localization of BNS in 3G GW detectors, National Astronomy Meeting 2023 (NAM23), July 2023, Cardiff, UK.
- Systematic error accumulation in testing GR: Overlapping signals and waveform systematics, XIII ET Symposium, May 2023, Cagliari, Italy.
- Assessing the model waveform accuracy of gravitational waves, invited talk for TianQin group at Sun Yat-Sen University (online), June 2022.
- o On the model waveform accuracy of gravitational waves, BritGrav 2022 (online), Apr 2022.
- Quantitative measurement of model differences for CBCs, 2022 March LVK Collaboration Meeting (online), Mar 2022.

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

- o SealGW: A Python package for fast source localization. Implemented in the SPIIR online detection pipeline.
- WaveCheck: Waveform accuracy check pipeline for online parameter estimation runs, currently running for LVK O4.
- o river: A Python package for gravitational wave source parameter estimation with normalizing flows.

TEACHING

Gravitational Wave Detection

2024 @UofGlasgow

Co-Lecturer

Astronomy 1

2022-2024 @UofGlasgow

Teaching assistant

2021-2022 @UofGlasgow

Physics 1
Teaching assistant

Physics experiment software development

July 2020 - Dec 2020 @USTC

National virtual experiment teaching project

2020 Fall @USTC

Classical Mechanics & Electrodynamics Teaching assistant

OUTREACH

o Research Outreach Volunteer, WorldCon Glasgow, Aug 2024.

o Research Outreach Volunteer, Glasgow Science Festival, June 2024.

HONORS & AWARDS

o Poster prize (1st place), GWNext Beijing, 2024.

- o Lord Kelvin / Charles Lindie Mitchell Bequest Postgraduate Scholarship, University of Glasgow, 2023
- o Honorary Undergraduate, USTC, 2021
- o National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of the PRC, 2020
- o National Astronomical Observatory Scholarship, National Astronomical Observatories of China, 2020
- o CGN Scholarship (Gold), USTC, 2019
- Outstanding Student Scholarship, USTC, 2018 & 2019

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Programming: Python, C, Cython, Matlab, Mathematica.
- High-performance computing: Linux systems, HTCondor, Slurm.
- o Research-relevant software: Bilby, PyCBC, LALSuite, PyTorch.