

Simin Tong

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Protoplanetary disks, dust evolution, disk observations in multi-wavelengths, numerical simulations.

EDUCATION

University of Leicester

Ph.D., Astrophysics

Supervisor: Prof. Richard Alexander

Leicester, uk

Sept. 2022-2026 (expected)

Leiden University

M.Sc. (cum laude), Astronomy

with 1-year Pre-Master, Astronomy

Leiden, Netherlands

Sept. 2019- Aug.2022

Jilin University

B.Sc., Physics and LL.B., Law

Jilin, China

Sept. 2015 -Jun. 2019

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- **DAAD Research Grant (approx. \$10k)** *Jan.-Jun. 2026*
 - Competitive 6-month grant supporting independent research.
- **Leicester Future 100 Studentship** *2022-*
- **Leiden International Tuition Fee Waiver** *2020-2022*
- **Dean's Scholarship** *2019*
 - the highest honour for undergraduates at the Department of Physics, JLU
- **Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award** *2019*
- **Outstanding Graduate in Jilin University** *2019*
- **Chinese Academy of Sciences Undergraduate Scholarship** *2017*
- **University Scholarship** *2016-2019*

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Research visits

- **(Upcoming) Research visit to MPIA @Heidelberg, Germany** *Jan.-Jun., 2026*
- **Kavli Summer Program in Astrophysics 2025 @VA, US** *Jun.-Aug., 2025*
- **Secondment to SUNY, Stony Brook/CCA, Flatiron Institute @NY, US** *Apr.-Jul., 2024*
- **Summer Student at Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Academia Sinica @Taipei** *Jul.-Aug., 2019*
- **Internship at Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences @Beijing, China** *Jan. 2018*
- **Summer Student at Shanghai Astronomical Observatory @Shanghai, China** *Jul. 2017&2018*

Summer/Winter schools

- **EXHOST Summer School @Tartu, Estonia** *Sept., 2024*
- **DUSTBUSTERS Winter School II @Lyon, France** *Jan., 2024*
- **Disc and Planet Formation Summer School @Beijing, China (remote)** *Jul., 2022*
- **The 4th SKA Summer School @Shanghai, China** *Jul. 2018*

PUBLICATIONS

First-author:

7. **Tong**, Alexander, Rosotti. Turbulence and dust fragility in protoplanetary discs. (*submitted to MNRAS*, [arXiv: 2509.24818](#))
6. **Tong**, van der Marel et al. Disk survey in the Serpens star-forming region (2025, *manuscript ready*, *submitted soon to A&A*)
5. **Tong & Alexander** (2025) Compact protoplanetary discs can be produced by dead zones. MNRAS, 537(4), 3525 [[ADS](#)]
4. **Tong**, Alexander & Rosotti (2024) A question of personalities: evolution of viscous and wind-driven protoplanetary discs in the presence of dead zones. MNRAS, 533(2), 1211 [[ADS](#)]

First-author, in preparation:

3. **Tong**, Ren et al. Correlations between millimeter asymmetries and near-infrared spiral arms (*in prep.*)
2. **Tong**, Alexander, Armitage. Understanding disc evolution models with population synthesis (*in prep.*)
1. **Tong**, Haworth et al. Competition between tidal truncation and external photoevaporation for externally irradiated binary systems (*in prep.*)

Minor contributions:

- Anderson et al. (2022) (incl. **Tong**) Protostellar and protoplanetary disk masses in the Serpens region. ApJ, 938(1), 55. [[ADS](#)]

PRESENTATION

- UKI Discs Meeting 2025 @Hatfield, UK [[Oral](#)] Sept., 2025
- Gordon Research Conference, Origins of Solar Systems @MA, US [[Poster](#)] Jun., 2025
- Group Meeting at Queen Mary University of London @London, UK May, 2025
- Midland Discs Meeting @Warwick, UK [[Oral](#)] May, 2025
- Pebbles in Planet Formation @Tokyo, Japan [[Oral](#)] (remote) Feb., 2025
- Group Meeting at Max Planck Institute for Astronomy @Heidelberg, Germany (remote) Feb., 2025
- Seminar at Purple Mountain Observatory @Nanjing, China Dec., 2024
- Group Meeting at Zhejiang University @Hangzhou, China Dec., 2024
- Seminar at Shanghai Astronomical Observatory @Shanghai, China Dec., 2024
- PDS Seminar at Tsinghua University @Beijing, China Dec., 2024
- Kavli Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics Seminar @Beijing, China Dec., 2024
- UKI Discs Meeting @Warwick, UK [[Oral](#)] Sept., 2024
- New Heights in Planet Formation @Garching, Germany [[Poster](#)] Jul., 2024
- COST Action Kick-off Meeting @Torun, Poland [[Oral](#)] Jul., 2024
- Group Meeting at the Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute @NY, US May, 2024
- National Astronomy Meeting 2023 @Cardiff, UK [[Poster](#)] Jul., 2023
- Midland Discs Meeting @Leicester, UK [[Oral](#)] Jun., 2023
- Protostars and Planets VII @Kyoto, Japan [[Poster](#)] Apr., 2023

SKILLS& LANGUAGES

- **Programming&tools:** PYTHON, DUSTPY, CASA, RADMC-3D; basic: FORTRAN, C, HTML&CSS
- **Languages:** English (Professional); Mandarin (Native)