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Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics
Giessenbachstrasse 1
85748 Garching, Munich, Germany

EDUCATION

PhD of Astronomy | ESO & Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich

Distant, dusty star-forming galaxies | Supervisor: Prof. Rob Ivison

Sep. 2020 – Aug. 2023

Garching, Germany

Master of Astrophysics | Nanjing University

Studying galactic feedbacks with multi-phase gas | Supervisor: Prof. Yong Shi & Prof. Zhi-Yu Zhang

Sep. 2017 – Jun. 2020

Nanjing, China

Bachelor of Physics | Lanzhou University

Sep. 2013 – May. 2017

Lanzhou, China

EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Fellow | Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics

Sep. 2023 – now

Garching, Germany

TELESCOPE PROPOSALS AND OBSERVING EXPERIENCE

PI Proposals:

- ALMA Cycle-12, 2025.1.00710.S: *Do Normal Galaxies Host Ordered Magnetic Fields at Cosmic Noon?*, **27 hrs (A priority)**.
- ALMA Cycle-12, 2025.1.00635.S: *A Magnetic Rosetta Stone: measuring magnetic fields in a distant starburst at z=2.6*, **37 hrs (B priority)**.
- VLBA VLBA/25B-191, *Probing the jet-BLR connection in an early accreting efficient SMBH*, **8+12 hrs (B priority)**.
- VLA VLA/25B-195, *Probing the jet-BLR connection in an early accreting efficient SMBH*, **7.3 hrs**
- VLT/ERIS P114, 114.271N: *What drives the quick formation of galactic magnetic fields at cosmic noon?*, **10.6 hrs (B priority)**
- NOEMA Winter 2023, W23CR: *Into the heart of darkness*, **32 hr (B priority)**.
- ALMA Cycle-10, 2023.1.00318.S: *How important are magnetic fields in early disk galaxies?*, **30.4 hrs (B priority)**.
- VLT/MUSE P111, 111.253V: *Probing unobscured star formation in a new sample of ALMA-selected proto-cluster cores at z > 3*, **16 hrs (B priority)**.
- IRAM30m Summer 2022 Delta, 095-22: *The tip of the iceberg?*, **34.4 hrs (A priority)**.
- ALMA Cycle-9, 2022.1.00495.S: *Isotopic constraints on the IMF in the most extreme star-forming environments in the Universe*, **23.7 hrs (A priority)**.
- JCMT 22A, M22AP002: *Revealing the structure around a putative new SMG proto-cluster core*, **8.5 hrs (B priority)**.
- ALMA Cycle-8, 2021.1.00458.S: *Dust polarisation in distant, star-forming galaxies: a transformative survey of the viable targets*, **25.1 hrs (B priority)**.
- NEOMA Summer 2020, S20BB: *Searching for molecular gas in HI-rich red spirals*, **2.8 hrs (B priority)**.

Selected Co-I Proposals (leading contribution):

- ALMA Cycle-12, 2025.1.00878.S: *Revealing the B-fields at 800 Myr after the Big Bang*, 14 hrs, (PI. Enrique Lopez-Rodriguez, A priority).

- **ALMA** Cycle-12, 2025.1.00878.S: *Pilot survey tracing the magnetic fields across z=1.9-4.5 using dusty star-forming galaxies*, 49 hrs, (PI. Enrique Lopez-Rodriguez).
- **ALMA** Cycle-12, 2025.1.00494.S: *The first resolved study of dust polarization in a sample of extreme starbursts*, 30.6 hrs, (PI. Kevin Harrington, A priority).
- **VLA** VLA/25A-165, *THE corona hunt in high-z lensed quasars* 8 hrs, (PI Santiago Del Palacio)
- **ALMA** Cycle-8, 2021.1.00018.S: *Exploiting a snapshot survey of the 3,083 reddest Herschel sources to reveal distant protoclusters*, 30.6 hrs, (PI. R. Ivison).
- **VLA** 2020B, 20B-180: *Off-nuclear star formation in a gas-rich low-mass S0 galaxy*, 27 hrs, (PI: Zhengyi Chen)
- **NOEMA** Summer 2020, S20CK: *Exploiting a snapshot survey of the 3,083 reddest Herschel sources to reveal distant protoclusters*, 26 hrs, (PI: Vinodiran Arumgarn)
- **IRAM30m** Summer 2020, 062-20: *Do Changing-look AGNs reside in the gas-rich environment?*, 23.5 hrs, (PI: Xiaoling Yu)

Observing Experience:

- IRAM30m, NIKA2, 6 nights, 18-25 Oct. 2022
- IRAM30m, NIKA2, 7 nights, 13-21 Oct. 2024
- Paranal, VLT/ERUS, 6 half-nights, 24-31 Aug. 2024
- Paranal, VLT/ERUS, 6 half-nights, 26-31 Aug. 2025

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Fundamentals of Deep Learning	9 Dec. 2025
Max Planck Computing and Data Facility workshop	Garching, Germany
11th NOEMA Interferometry School	21-25 Nov. 2021
Winter School	Grenoble, France
Astrophysics, Formation and Evolution of Galaxy cluster Across Cosmic Time	23 Nov.-1 Dec. 2021
Winter School	Tenerife, Spain
10th IRAM 30-meter School on Millimeter Astronomy	15-23 Nov. 2021
Winter School	Online
Astrostatistics and R training	09-13 Jul. 2018
The 2nd East Asian Astrostatistics International Conference (EAAIC2018)	Nanjing, China

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR TALKS

NOEMA3D: Resolving the molecular gas in cosmic-noon galaxies	26 Sept. 2025
Conference: The 12th Sino-German Meeting on Galaxy formation	Chengdu, China
The efficient development of coherent magnetic fields in distant galaxies	16 Sept. 2025
Mars Forum, Nanjing University	Nanjing China
Resolving the molecular gas in cosmic-noon galaxies	15 Sept. 2025
Invited talk, Purple Mountain Observatory Seminar	Nanjing, China
Resolving the inner workers of the cosmic noon galaxies with VLT, ALMA, NOEMA, and JWST	3 Sept. 2025
Thirty Minutes Talk, ESO Vitacura	Santiago, Chile
The Magnetized Universe Under Cosmic Lensing	8 May 2025
Conference: PASSAGES Annual Meeting (joined online)	Charlottesville, USA
The Inner Workings of Cosmic Noon Galaxies on Sub-kpc Scales with VLT/ERIS and JWST	16 Jun. 2025
Quo Vadis Galaxy Evolution?	Heidelberg, Germany
Signposting Proto-cluster Cores with Clusters of Sub-Millimeter Galaxies	14 May 2025
Invited talk: From fake news to real clusters	Tenerife, Spain

Mapping polarised dust emission across cosmic time	9 Dec. 2024
Conference: Dust and Gas throughout Cosmic Time	Hiroshima, Japan
A new window to reveal the magnetised early Universe	30 Nov. 2024
Invited talk: SAGI 2nd Astrophysics Workshop (joined online)	Quy Nhon, Vietnam
Witness the formation of the brightest cluster galaxies	4 Jul. 2024
Conference: EAS 2024	Padova, Italy
Early development of kpc-scale magnetic fields at Cosmic Dawn traced by the polarised dust emission	3 Jul. 2024
Conference: EAS 2024	Padova, Italy
A new window to reveal the magnetised early Universe	9 Dec. 2023
Conference: ALMA at 10 years: Past, Present, and Future	Puerto Varas, Chile
Witness the formation of the brightest cluster galaxies	11 Aug. 2023
Conference: Asia-Pacific Regional IAU Meeting 2023	Koriyama, Japan
Multi-band ALMA survey for dusty star-forming galaxies	27 Jun. 2023
Conference: Millimeter Universe 2023	Grenoble, France
Dusty, star-forming galaxies	11 Jan. 2023
Invited talk: ASIAA Colloquium	Remote
Opportunities with dusty, star-forming galaxies	9 Jan. 2023
Invited talk: MPE Seminar talk	Garching, Germany
ALMACAL IX: multi-band ALMA survey for dusty star-forming galaxies	15–23 Dec. 2022
A half-century of millimeter and submillimeter astronomy	Miyakojima, Japan
ALMACAL: Number counts and the resolved fractions of the CIB	3–4 Mar. 2022
Meeting of ALMA Young Astronomers	Online
Submillimetre number counts	5–6 Nov. 2021
12th IMPRS Symposium	Garching, Germany
The spatial extension of AGN narrow line regions	1–4 Apr. 2019
MaNGA Collaboration Meeting	Oxford, UK

POSTERS

ALMACAL: A ‘free’ submillimetre galaxy survey	3–5 May. 2022
PoSTER 2022 - Galaxy Evolution (Best poster award)	Online
ALMACAL: Hunting for regions over-dense in SMGs	23 Nov.–1 Dec. 2021
XXXII Canary Islands Winter School of Astrophysics	Tenerife, Spain

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Reviewer for Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society	2024
Review journal paper	
Scientific Assistant at ESO OPC P109 & P110	Nov. 2021 & May. 2022
Helping to organise pannel discussion for time allocation of ESO telescopes	
Organisor of student session of Munich Joint Astronomy Colloquium	Nov. 2021
Helping to coodinate the discussion between students and the speaker	
Member of LOC for the 11th IMPRS Symposium	May 2021
Helping to organise meeting schedule	
Reviewer for Publications of the Astronomical Society of Japan	2020
Review journal paper	

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP

International Max-Planck Research Scholarship (IMPRS) on Astrophysics	2020-2023
Grant for PhD study	
Excellence Scholarship	Spring 2019
Nanjing University	
Outstanding Graduates Award	Spring 2017
Lanzhou University	
National Encouragement Scholarship	2015,2016
Merit based scholarship for college students in China	
The First Prize Scholarships	Spring 2014
Lanzhou University	

SKILLS

Languages: Chinese (Native), English (C1)

Programming: Python (NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib, Astropy, Pytorch), MATLAB, Mathematica

Document Creation: HTML, LaTex, Markdown

Software: pPXF, CASA, CARTA, DS9, BBarolo, Galpak, Dysmalpy

REFERENCES

- Prof. Dr. Rob Ivison
European Southern Observatory (ESO)
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- Dr. Linda Tacconi
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LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

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FIRST & SECOND AUTHOR PAPERS:

- “SDSS-IV/MaNGA: The Size–Luminosity Relation of Extended Narrow Line Region in Low-luminosity AGNs Xu” **Chen**, et al., RAA, 25, 115016 (2025)
- “A kiloparsec-scale ordered magnetic field in a galaxy at $z = 5.6$ ” **Chen**, Lopez-Rodriguez, Ivison et al. A&A, 692A, 34 (2024).
- “ALMACAL. XI. Over-densities as signposts for proto-clusters? A cautionary tale” **Chen**, Ivison, Zwaan et al. A&A 675L, 10 (2023).
- “ALMACAL IX: multi-band ALMA survey for dusty star-forming galaxies and the resolved fractions of the cosmic infrared background” **Chen**, Ivison, Zwaan et al. MNRAS, 518, 1378 (2023)
- “The spatial extension of extended narrow line regions in MaNGA AGN” **Chen**, Shi, Dempsey et al. MNRAS, 489, 855 (2019)

PUBLICAONS IN PREPARAON AND SELECTED NON-REFEREED PUBLICAONS:

- “NOEMA3D. Spatially resolved Dust, CO, and [C I] in massive star-forming main sequence galaxies at cosmic noon” **Chen**, NOEMA3D Team (2026).
- “MUSE-ALMA Haloes XIV. The ALMA Large Programme Data Release” Péroux, **Chen**, Bollo et al.
- “Licking the plate: Dusty star-forming galaxies buried in the ALMA calibration data” **Chen**, Ivison, Zwaan et al. EPJ Web of Conferences, Volume 293, id.00011

Co-AUTHOR PAPERS:

- “Probing Infrared eXcess to Investigate Early-Universe Dust (PIXIEDust)” Bakx et al., arXiv, arXiv:2512.07964 (2025)
- “Resolving stellar populations, star formation, and ISM conditions with JWST in a large spiral galaxy at $z \sim 2$ ” Parlanti et al., arXiv, arXiv:2510.09820 (2025)
- “The ALMA-CRISTAL survey: Resolved kinematic studies of main sequence star-forming galaxies at $4 < z < 6$ ” Lee et al., A&A, 701, A260 (2025)
- “PHIBSS: Searching for Molecular Gas Outflows in Star-forming Galaxies at $z = 0.5\text{--}2.6$ ” Barfety et al., ApJ, 988, 55 (2025)
- “A Comparative Study of the Ground State Transitions of CO and C I as Molecular Gas Tracers at High Redshift” Frias Castillo et al., ApJ, 987, 158 (2025)
- “The Ultradiffuse Galaxy AGC 242019 with a Negative Metallicity Gradient” Ni et al., ApJ, 986, 112 (2025)
- “Galaxy morphologies at cosmic noon with JWST: A foundation for exploring gas transport with bars and spiral arms” Espejo Salcedo et al., A&A, 700A, 42 (2025)
- “NOEMA^{3D}: A first kpc resolution study of a $z \sim 1.5$ main sequence barred galaxy channeling gas into a growing bulge” Pastras et al., arXiv, arXiv:2505.07925 (2025)
- “ALMACAL – XIV. X-Shooter spectroscopy, infrared properties, and radio SEDs of calibrators” Weng et al., MNRAS, 539, 1977 (2025)
- “Deep kiloparsec view of the molecular gas in a massive star-forming galaxy at cosmic noon” Arriagada-Neira et al., A&A, 696, A83 (2025)
- “ALMACAL: XIII. Evolution of the CO luminosity function and the molecular gas mass density out to $z = 6$ ” Bollo et al., A&A, 695, A163 (2025)
- “Unveiling Cosmic Cold Gas: Insights from ALMACAL survey” Bollo et al., rcmi.conf, 20 (2024)

- “ALMACAL: XII. Data characterisation and products” Bollo et al., A&A, 690, A258 (2024)
- “Detailed study of a rare hyperluminous rotating disk in an Einstein ring 10 billion years ago” Liu et al., NatAs, 8, 1181 (2024)
- “Polarized thermal emission from dust in a galaxy at redshift 2.6” Geach et al. (4th co-author) Nature, 621, 483 (2023)
- “An escaping outflow in a galaxy with an intermediate-mass black hole” Zheng et al. MNRAS, 523, 3274 (2023)
- “VLA Legacy Survey of Molecular Gas in Massive Star-forming Galaxies at High Redshift” Frias Castillo et al., ApJ, 945, 128 (2023)
- “The H I gas disc thickness of the ultra-diffuse galaxy AGC 242019” Li et al. (4th co-author) MNRAS, 516, 4220 (2022)
- “ALMACAL: Surveying the Universe with ALMA Calibrator Observations” Zwaan et al. (4th co-author) The Messenger, 186, 10 (2022)
- “The major mechanism to drive turbulence in star-forming galaxies” Yu et al. MNRAS, 505, 5075 (2021)
- “Probing possible effects of circumgalactic media on the metal content of galaxies through the mass-metallicity relationship” Zhai et al. (3th co-author) MNRAS, 504, 1959 (2021)
- “A Cuspy Dark Matter Halo” Shi, Zhang, Wang et al. (4th co-author) ApJ, 909, 20 (2021)
- “The impact of merging on the origin of kinematically misaligned and counter-rotating galaxies in MaNGA” Li et al. (8th co-author) MNRAS, 501, 14 (2021)
- “Host galaxy properties of changing-look AGNs revealed in the MaNGA survey” Yu et al. (4th co-author) MNRAS, 498, 3985 (2020)
- “What drives the velocity dispersion of ionized gas in star-forming galaxies?” Yu et al. MNRAS, 486, 4463 (2019)
- “An early-type galaxy with an inner star-forming disc” Li et al. MNRAS, 480, 1705 (2018)