

Huanqing Chen

Position

Augustana Faculty, University of Alberta

Assistant Professor

Camrose

Sep. 2024 - now

Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics (CITA), University of Toronto

Postdoctoral Fellow

Toronto

Sep. 2022 - Aug. 2024

University of Chicago

Graduate Research Fellow

Chicago

Sep. 2016 - Aug. 2022

Education

University of Chicago

PhD in Astronomy and Astrophysics

Thesis: The Role of Quasar Radiative Feedback on Galaxy Formation during Cosmic Reionization

Chicago

Aug. 2016 - Aug. 2022

Nanjing University

BS in Astronomy

Nanjing

Sep. 2011 - Jul. 2016

Publications

Publication list available at [ADS](#)

Grants and Awards

Grant: Department of Science seed fund (CA\$2,000 research grant)

Canada

Grant: 2025 NSERC Discovery Grant (CA\$217,500 research grant)

Canada

Grant: Research start-up grant (CA\$35,000 research grant)

Canada

Fellowship: 2022 CITA Postdoctoral Fellowship (CA\$246,000 research grant)

Canada

Fellowship: 2019 Future Investigators in NASA Earth and Space Science and Technology (\$135,000 research grant)

USA

Supervising/mentoring Experience

University of Chicago

Mentor

Chicago

2020- 2021

Mentored Sydney Jenkins on graduate program application (4th-year physics undergrad → MIT PhD program).

Phillips Exeter Academy

Supervisor

Chicago

2021-2022

Supervised Aavik Wadivkar (high school student) on project “3D visualization of reionization simulations”.

Carnegie Mellon University

Supervisor

Chicago

2022 – 2023

Supervising Yihao Zhou (1st-year grad student) on project “modeling quasar proximity zone with realistic quasar light curves”.

University of Toronto

Mentor

Toronto

2023 – 2024

Mentoring Harlin Toor (1st-year undergrad).

University of Toronto

Supervisor

Toronto

2023 – 2024

Supervising Affan Khadir (2nd-year undergrad) on project “The evolution of Lyman Limit Systems around flickering quasars”.

University of Michigan

Supervisor

Supervising Jiawen Fan (post-grad) on project "the evolution of mean free path at the end of cosmic reionization".

Toronto

2023 – 2025

Professional Services

Chair of Science Selection Committee

Departmental representative

Reviewed applications and served in the interview panel.

UofA Augustana

Oct 2024 - Dec 2024

Hesje Observatory

Director

Provide educational resources and hands-on experiences for students.

UofA Augustana

Sep 2024 - now

CITA cosmology discussion

Organizer

Organizing weekly cosmology discussion. Running cosmo-discussion mailing list.

CITA

May 2023 - May 2024

Pan-Canada Reionization Focus Group

Co-organizer

Co-organizing reionization focus group monthly meetings and the annual meetings.

CITA

Oct 2022 - now

Reionisation in the Summer conference

Discussion Session Lead

Led the discussion session on machine learning at conference Reionisation in the Summer.

MPIA Heidelberg

June 28, 2023

First Light conference

Session chair

Managed questions from audience.

MIT

June 2023

MNRAS, ApJ, OJA

Peer reviewer

Reviewed journal articles for Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Astrophysical Journal, Open Journal of Astrophysics.

online

2020 - now

NASA

Proposal reviewer

Reviewed fellowship and grant proposals.

online

2022-now

Faculty Committee

Student representative

Represented students during faculty committee meeting; sent meeting minutes.

University of Chicago

Sep 2019- Aug 2020

Astronomy & Astrophysics Department

post-colloquium discussion host

Organized and hosted graduate student discussion with colloquium speakers.

University of Chicago

Sep 2019- Aug 2020

Technical Skills

Programming

C, Python

Drawing & Typesetting

L^AT_EX, Office

Languages

Chinese (native), English (full professional), French (elementary)

Volunteering

Adler Planetarium

Astronomy Conversations Presenter

Presented scientific visualization to the general public; answered questions from visitors.

Chicago, IL

Nov. 2018 - Aug. 2022

Hyde Park Neighbourhood Center

Teaching Assistant

Tutored K-12 students with their school work; planned and involved in their after school activities.

Chicago, IL

Oct. 2018 - March 2019

Physical Science Division Social Committee at University of Chicago

Treasurer

Chicago, IL

Jan. 2020 - Dec. 2020

Organized events; budgeted and oversaw recreation funds; book-kept and reported expenditures.

Conference and Seminars

Jan 2025	Invited talk: Astronomy Seminar	<i>Edmonton, AB</i>
Jun 2024	Contribution talk: Cosmic Dawn at High Latitude	<i>Stockholm, Sweden</i>
Jun 2024	Contribution talk: CASCA Annual Meetings	<i>Toronto, Canada</i>
Oct 2023	Contribution talk: Astrostatistics in Canada and Beyond	<i>Banff, Canada</i>
Jun 2023	Contribution talk: Reionisation in the Summer	<i>Heidelberg, Germany</i>
June 2023	Poster presentation: First Light	<i>MIT, MA</i>
Sep 2022	Lightning talk: CCA Reionization on a Blackboard Workshop	<i>New York, NY</i>
Sep 2022	Contributed talk: GMT Annual Meeting Black Hole at All Scales	<i>Sedona, AZ</i>
May 2022	Contributed talk: Carnegie Observatories Lunch Talk Seminar Series	<i>Pasadena, CA</i>
May 2022	Contributed talk: UC Riverside Astronomy Journal Club	<i>Riverside, CA</i>
Mar 2022	Contributed talk: Reionization and Cosmic Dawn: Looking Forward To the Past	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Feb 2022	Invited talk: University of Sussex Colloquium	<i>online</i>
Nov 2021	Contributed talk: UCSC Cosmology/Galaxies/IGM Seminar	<i>Santa Cruz, CA</i>
Nov 2021	Invited talk: Berkeley Cosmology Seminar	<i>Berkeley, CA</i>
Nov 2021	Invited talk: OSU CCAPP Seminar	<i>online</i>
Nov 2021	Invited talk: CfA Seminar	<i>online</i>
Oct 2021	Contributed talk: Steward / NOIRLab Galaxy Group Seminar	<i>online</i>
Oct 2021	Invited talk: CMU/Pitt Astro Lunch Seminar	<i>Pittsburgh, PA</i>
Aug 2021	Lightning talk: CCA Learn the Universe Workshop	<i>New York, NY</i>
July 2021	Project presentation: International Summer School on the Interstellar Medium of Galaxies	<i>online</i>
July 2021	Contributed talk: UK National Astronomy Meeting	<i>online</i>
May 2021	Contributed talk: Caltech Astronomy Tea Talk	<i>online</i>
May 2021	Invited talk: MIT Astrophysics Brown Bag Lunch Talk	<i>online</i>
Feb 2021	Invited talk: State of the Universe Seminar at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research	<i>online</i>
Dec 2020	Contributed talk: Quasars During Reionisation	<i>online</i>
July 2020	Contributed talk: Summer All Zoom Epoch of Reionization Astronomy Conference	<i>online</i>
Mar 2020	Contributed talk: First Stars VI Conference	<i>Concepcion, Chile</i>
Jan 2020	iPoster presentation: AAS Annual Meeting	<i>Honolulu, HI</i>
Jan 2020	Poster presentation: The Cosmic Baryon Cycle: Impact on Galaxy Evolution	<i>Carlsbad, CA</i>
Aug 2019	Poster presentation: The São Paulo School of Advanced Science on First Light	<i>São Paulo, Brazil</i>
Jun 2019	Invited talk: Blue Waters Symposium	<i>Sunriver, OR</i>
Sep 2018	Poster presentation: IGM2018: Revealing Cosmology and Reionization History with the IGM	<i>Kashiwa, Japan</i>