

Marie Wingyee Lau

PERSONAL AND CONTACT INFO

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Circumgalactic medium, quasars, quasar absorption lines, galaxy formation, tidal disruption events, stellar abundances, spectroscopy

EDUCATION AND ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of California, Santa Cruz, Winter 2018 - Present

- Interim Postdoctoral Scholar

University of California, Santa Cruz, 2012 - Fall 2017

- Ph.D. Astronomy
- Thesis advisor: Prof. J. Xavier Prochaska
- M.S. 2015

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2008 - 2012

- B.S. Physics, with honors

University of California, Santa Barbara, Winter - Spring 2011

- Educational Abroad Program Reciprocity

University of California, Berkeley, Summer 2009

- Summer Sessions

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

- Hubble Space Telescope Cycle-25, title: Observing AGN Feedback Down-the-Barrel Using Associated Absorbers at $z \lesssim 1.5$, ID: 15034, **\$132,631**, Space Telescope Science Institute, 2017
- Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, UC Santa Cruz, 2017
- NEXSI Fellowship, UC Santa Cruz, 2012
- Regents' Fellowship, UC Santa Cruz, 2012
- Student speech representative of the United College scholarship presentation ceremony, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2012
- 9 scholarships totaling the full tuition, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2008 - 2012
- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, California Institute of Technology, 2011

TELESCOPE PROPOSALS AND OBSERVING

- Lick Observatory Shane/Kast: *A Potentially Transformative Approach to Cluster Cosmology*, Principal Investigator, trial run in 2017A
- Lick Observatory Shane/Kast: *Late-time Optical Spectral Signatures of Tidal Disruption Candidates*, Principal Investigator, 6 nights in 2017A, 12 nights in 2016A, 4 nights in 2015A
- Lick Observatory Shane/Kast: *To Explore Emission Lines on Large Spatial Scales of Red Galaxies Hosting Intermediate-mass Black Holes*, co-Investigator, 6 nights in 2017A

- Lick Observatory Shane/Kast: *The HI Gas of 2175 Å Absorbers*, co-Investigator, 5 nights in 2015B, 5 nights in 2015A, 5 nights in 2014B, 5 nights in 2014A
- Keck Observatory Keck I/LRIS: *Resolving the Small-scale Structure of the Circumgalactic Medium*, co-Investigator, 2 nights in 2015B, 3 nights in 2015A, 2 nights in 2014B
- Keck Observatory Keck II/ESI: *Circumgalactic Medium Studies at $z \sim 2$ with Close Quasar Pairs*, co-Investigator, 2 nights in 2014B, 1 night in 2014A, 1 night in 2013B
- Lead observer of ≈ 50 nights on medium and large telescopes, at optical and near-IR wavelengths, using long-slit spectroscopy, adaptive optics imaging, and integral field spectroscopy techniques

CONTRIBUTED TALKS

- 15 seminars at research institutions.
- 8 presentations at conferences.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Proposal reviewer, Hubble Space Telescope Cycle 25 Mid-cycle, 2017
- Colloquium co-organizer, UC Santa Cruz, 2017
- Referee for the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, 2015
- Organizer of prospective graduate student visit, UC Santa Cruz, 2015
- Vice-President and Publication of the United College Student Union Physics Society, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2009 - 2011
- Member of the United College Student Union Supervisory Committee, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2009 - 2011

TEACHING, MENTORING AND OUTREACH

- Primary Mentor for four high school interns under the Science Internship Program, UC Santa Cruz, 2017, 2016
- Mentor for the Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology, project titled Surface Compositions of Red Giant Stars in Globular Clusters, 2017, 2016
- Teaching Assistant for California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science (COSMOS), 2017, 2016
- Teaching Assistant for ASTR/PHYS 9B: Introduction to Research in Physics and Astrophysics, UC Santa Cruz, Spring 2017
- Teaching Assistant for ASTR 2: Overview of the Universe, UC Santa Cruz, Winter 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Winter 2016, Fall 2015
- Teaching Assistant for ASTR 6: The Space-Age Solar System, UC Santa Cruz, Winter 2015
- Teaching Assistant for ASTR 1: Introduction to the Cosmos, UC Santa Cruz, Fall 2012
- Private tutor for high school students in English and Mathematics, 2003 - 2008

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES OUTSIDE OF ASTRONOMY

- Climate change sensitivity evaluation from spaceborne instrument measurements
- Determining cloud base and thickness from spaceborne spectroscopic imaging and lidar profiling techniques
- Study on the occurrence of high winds and severe gusts during the onset of Northeast monsoon in Hong Kong
- Mechanical vibration of thin plates (senior thesis)

PUBLICATIONS

- Bose, S., & Dong, S., et al. including **Lau, M. W.**, *Gaia17biu/SN 2017egm: The Closest Hydrogen-poor Superluminous Supernova To Date is in a “Normal”, Massive, Metal-rich Spiral*

Galaxy, accepted by The Astrophysical Journal, arXiv:1708.00864

- **Lau, M. W.**, Prochaska, J. X., & Hennawi, J. F., *Quasars Probing Quasars. IX. The Kinematics Of the Circumgalactic Medium Surrounding $z \sim 2$ Quasars*, submitted to The Astrophysical Journal, arXiv:1705.03476
- Mathur, S., et al. including **Lau, M. W.**, *Space Telescope and Optical Reverberation Mapping Project. VII. Understanding the UV anomaly in NGC 5548 with X-Ray Spectroscopy*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 846, Issue 1, article id. 55 (2017)
- Pei, L., et al. including **Lau, M. W.**, *Space Telescope and Optical Reverberation Mapping Project. V. Optical Spectroscopic campaign and Emission-line Analysis for NGC 5548*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 837, Issue 2, article id. 131 (2017)
- **Lau, M. W.**, Prochaska, J. X., & Hennawi, J. F., *Quasars Probing Quasars. VIII. The Physical Properties of the Cool Circumgalactic Medium Surrounding $z \sim 2$ –3 Massive Galaxies Hosting Quasars*, The Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series, Volume 226, Issue 2, article id. 25, **51 pp.** (2016)
- Cai, Z., Fan, X., Peirani, S., Bian, F., Frye, B., McGreer, I., Prochaska, J. X., **Lau, M. W.**, Tejos, N., Ho, S., & Schneider, D. P., *MAPPING the Most Massive Overdensities Through Hydrogen (MAMMOTH) I: Methodology*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 833, Issue 2, article id. 135 (2016)
- Rubin, K. H. R., Hennawi, J. F., Prochaska, J. X., Simcoe, R. A., Myers, A., & **Lau, M. W.**, *Dissecting the Gaseous Halos of $z \sim 2$ Damped Ly α Systems with Close Quasar Pairs*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 808, Issue 1, article id. 38 (2015)
- Prochaska, J. X., **Lau, M. W.**, & Hennawi, J. F., *Quasars Probing Quasars. VII. The Pinnacle of the Cool Circumgalactic medium Surrounds Massive $z \sim 2$ Galaxies*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 796, Issue 2, article id. 140 (2014)
- Prochaska, J. X., Hennawi, J. F., Lee, K.-G., Cantalupo, S., Bovy, J., Djorgovski, S. G., Ellison, S. L., **Lau, M. W.**, Martin, C. L., Myers, A., Rubin, K. H. R., & Simcoe, R. A., *Quasars Probing Quasars. VI. Excess HI Absorption within One Proper Mpc of $z \sim 2$ Quasars*, The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 776, Issue 2, article id. 136 (2013)
- Jiang, Y., Aumann, H. H., **Lau, M. W.**, & Yung Y. L., *Climate Change Sensitivity Evaluation from AIRS and IRIS measurements*, Proceedings of the SPIE, Volume 8153, id. 81531Z (2011)

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Lau, M. W., Dai, J. L., Guillochon, J., & Ramirez-Ruiz, E., *Late-time Spectral Signatures of the Tidal Disruption Event PTF-09ge*
- Lau, M. W., Cheng, E., Chen, B., Smith, G. H., *The Origin of Abundance Anomalies in Red Giants in Globular Clusters*