Weixuan Pan

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EDUCATION

Guangzhou University, BS in Astronomy   Sept. 2022 – Jul. 2026

- GPA: 3.48/4.0 (Average: 88.58/100)
- Research Interests: Galaxy Formation and Evolution, Structure Formation, Machine Learning
- Thesis: Evolution and Disk Stability of Milky Way-like Galaxies with Different Dark-Matter Halo Properties (in progress)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Effects of Dark-Matter Halo Properties on the Stability of Disk Galaxies   Jul. 2025 – Present
Undergrad Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Shi Shao, National Astronomical Observatories

- Generated baseline Milky Way–like galaxy initial conditions using GALIC, establishing a stable reference model for subsequent parameter studies.
- Conducted 5 Gyr N-body simulations with GADGET-4, varying halo concentration, spin and shape.
- Computed Toomre Q, disk scale height and velocity dispersions to assess disk stability using Pynbody.

Dust Attenuation Fitting and Analysis   May 2025 – Present
Undergrad Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Yewei Mao, Guangzhou University

- Developed a Python pipeline for 17-band SED fitting of M81 using 3 attenuation curves, with Milky Way model performing better, suggesting M81's very weak UV bump features.
- Performed Bayesian SED fitting of M81 using BAGPIPES program, evaluating Salim dust model with and without bump parameters, finding Bayesian evidence supports the no-bump model with $\Delta \ln Z = -1.539 \pm 0.273$.
- Characterized weak photometric constraints on M81's UV bump strength, with different statistical approaches producing uncertain conclusions about dust attenuation properties.

Analysis on Numerical Simulation of Large-Scale Structure   Sept. 2024 – Jun. 2025
Undergrad Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Qiao Wang, National Astronomical Observatories

- Investigated the effects of $\Omega_b h^2$, $\Omega_c h^2$ and A_s on the matter power spectrum using CAMB, revealing medium-scale BAO features, strong CDM scale dependence, and overall amplitude modulation across cosmic scales.
- Employed FoF algorithm to identify 2 million dark matter halo structures from N-body simulation snapshot ($50\,h^{-1}$ Mpc box size).
- Utilized Colossus and Halotools libraries to study halo statistics, revealing systematic biases in Press-Schechter mass functions and quantifying spatial clustering to provide observational constraints for structure formation.
- Completed a report about the project: *Analysis on Numerical Simulation of Large-Scale Structure*

Identification and Observation of Blue Straggler Stars in COIN-Gaia 11   Nov. 2024 – Mar. 2025
Team Member | Advisor: Dr. Feng Wang, Guangzhou University

- Applied Density-Based Spatial Clustering of Applications with Noise (DBSCAN) clustering algorithm to Gaia DR3 data, identifying potential member stars of open cluster COIN-Gaia 11 after field star removal.
- Determined main sequence turn-off (MSTO) position using empirical color distribution analysis on color-magnitude diagram, classifying cluster members into main sequence (MS) and MSTO populations.
- Selected stars bluer and brighter than the MSTO in the CMD, detecting blue straggler star candidates.
- Formulated observational proposal and secured 3-night telescope allocation at 85cm telescope in Xinglong Observatory for photometric monitoring, acquiring light curves for 5 BSS candidates.

Spectroscopy of one H II region in the external galaxy NGC 0925   May 2024 – Nov. 2024
Undergrad Researcher | Advisor: Dr. Yewei Mao, Guangzhou University

- Processed 2D FITS spectral data to extract calibrated 1D spectra using PyRAF system.
- Extracted fluxes of 10 emission lines (Hβ, [OIII] λ4959, etc.) from the corrected spectra using CCM extinction law and Gaussian profile fitting.
- Calculated dust attenuation (0.630 mag), star formation rate (0.019 M$_\odot$ yr^{-1}), and oxygen abundance (8.293 dex) of the H II region.

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Galaxy Classification using Machine Learning   Apr. 2025 – May 2025
Advisor: Dr. Feng Wang, Guangzhou University

- Built an RNN classifier in PyTorch to categorize galaxy spectra, processing 6,000 samples across 3 spectral categories.
- Designed a CNN model in PyTorch to classify galaxy images into 7 morphological categories, assessing 5 input modes (RGB, grayscale, and individual R/G/B channels) and determining the blue channel performed best.

Radio Astronomy Data Processing   Dec. 2024
Advisor: Jin Wang, Laboratory Instructor, Guangzhou University

- Executed baseline correction and Gaussian fitting with GILDAS on 4 CS isotopologue transitions ($C^{32}S, C^{33}S, C^{34}S, ^{13}CS$ 2-1 lines) at 3 galactic positions, demonstrating strong signals for all lines at G010.32.30 and weaker $C^{33}S$ detection at G000.31.30 and G017.63.30 positions.
- Converted 3D cube data of Orion A region to 2D intensity maps using GILDAS, revealing centrally-peaked molecular gas distribution with radial intensity gradient.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Effects of Dark-Matter Halo Properties on the Stability of Disk Galaxies   Dec. 2025 (Upcoming)
Guangzhou University Undergraduates Research Symposium   Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

Dust Attenuation Fitting and Analysis   Jul. 2025
Guangzhou University Undergraduates Research Symposium   Guangzhou, Guangdong Province

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Shenzhen International Dark Sky Community Field Program   May 2024
Research Trainee

- Measured night sky light of dark sky community employing monitoring instrument.
- Delivered astronomy education on basic principles of astronomical observations to residents and tourists, enhancing their appreciation of dark sky community and fostering greater public interest in astronomy development.

Astronomy Dilettantes Association of Guangzhou University   2022 – 2024
Director of Science and Technology Department

- Organized "Sidewalk Astronomy" outreach activities to demonstrate telescope operations and interpret astronomy concepts to the public, inspiring potential astronomy enthusiasts.
- Served as judge for the 18th Guangdong Province Astronomy Olympiad semi-finals, evaluating contestants on telescope assembly and observational performance.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Third-Class Comprehensive Scholarship, Guangzhou University (Top 25% of class, ¥1000)   2025
Outstanding Staff of the Astronomy Dilettantes Association   2024
Third-Class Comprehensive Scholarship, Guangzhou University (Top 25% of class, ¥1000)   2023

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Programming: Python, C/C++, PyTorch, HTML

Professional Codes: GADGET-4, GALIC, Pynbody, Colossus, Halotools, Bagpipes, Pyraf, GILDAS

Languages: English (IELTS: 6.5), Mandarin (Native), Cantonese (Native)