Sage Li

+1 (706) 993-5224 | sageli766@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/sageli/ | github.com/sageli766

My website has pictures of my research/projects!

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology

Master of Science in Computational Data Analytics

Aug. 2024 - May 2026 (Projected)

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta, GA

Aug. 2020 - May 2024

Georgia Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Science in Physics

Experience

Computational Astrophysics Intern

May 2025 - Current

Astronomy and Astrophysics Analytics Group, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Livermore, CA

- Derived custom chi-squared loss functions in Python for high-precision asteroid orbit curve fitting.
- Optimized nonlinear orbital-element solvers to improve robustness and decrease convergence time.
- Derived and implemented a custom convolutional kernel to enhance source detection in crowded astronomical fields, significantly boosting sensitivity and suppressing background noise.
- Architected an end-to-end workflow spanning data collection, analysis, and compilation, enabling scalability and parallelism on LLNL supercomputers.

Research Intern

May 2022 - May 2023

Mountain View, CA

- NASA Ames Research Center
 - Managed HPC resources to simulate stellar fluid dynamics.
 - Architected simulation setup pipelines in Python, reducing runtime over older versions by over 70%.
 - Introduced new functionality to fluid simulations, allowing consideration of magnetic field effects.
 - Utilized Numpy, Pandas, and SciPy to conduct and automate time-series analysis on 100+ TB of data.

Projects

General Relativistic Ray Tracer | Python, NumPy, Numba (CUDA), Matplotlib, Numerical Methods

- Developed a general relativistic simulation framework in python (numba), tracing photon trajectories in Schwarzschild spacetime by numerically solving null geodesic equations with a fourth order Runge-Kutta integrator.
- Optimized GPU grid/block configurations to achieve a 300+ times speedup over CPU-based code.

Hit Error Analysis | Python, Pandas, Numpy, pymc (MCMC), tkinter

- Conducted a Bayesian analysis on user hit error for online rhythm game "osu!".
- Utilized a hierarchical model to isolating high-impact parameters on game performance.
- Developed novel algorithms for object-hit association, improving runtime over similar programs by over 80%.
- Created a GUI-based dashboard application for seamless integration of data visualization and collection.

Publications

Li, S., Geringer-Sameth, A., Golovich, N. (2025). An automated probablistic asteroid prediscovery pipeline. In Review.

Kitiashvili, I., Wray, A., Li, S., Granovsky, S., & Mullaney, K. (2023) ., Advances in 3D realistic modeling of solar-type stars to study stellar jitter and photospheric and subsurface dynamics [Abstract]. American Astronomical Society Meeting Abstracts, 55(2), 316.01.

Awards

Bloomberg BPuzzled Global Finals - Selected to represent Georgia Tech after winning qualifiers and placed third in a problem solving and logic-based puzzle competition against global and domestic universities.

LLNL PLS Poster Symposium Best In Show – Selected as best Physics-related poster and presentation out of 130 contestants for my poster Asteroids in Hiding: Determination of Asteroid Orbits with Prediscoveries.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Quantitative: Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, Data Structures/Algorithms, Machine Learning

Programming: Python, R, SQL, Java, JavaScript, MATLAB

Frameworks & Libraries: HPC, CUDA, NumPy, Pandas, Scipy, Matplotlib, plotly, scikit-learn, PyTorch, Numba, OpenCV

Tools & Platforms: Linux, Bash, regex, Git/GitHub, Jupyter Notebook, Google Firebase, AWS, Docker, Kubernetes

Languages: English, Chinese (Mandarin), Japanese