

# Chang Liu

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN ASTRONOMY

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*“Explore the universe, benefit the society.”*

## Education

### Peking University

UNDERGRAD IN LIFE SCIENCES (SWITCHED TO ASTRONOMY)

- GPA 3.87/4, Rank 1/120

Beijing, China

Sep 2016 - Jun 2017

### Peking University

UNDERGRAD IN ASTRONOMY

- GPA 3.83/4, Rank 1/28

Beijing, China

Sep 2017 - Jun 2020

SOME ADVANCED COURSES

- Astrophysics: 96
- Astrophysics Seminar: 100
- Theoretical Astrophysics - Stellar Atmospheres: 92
- Astronomical Spectroscopy: 92
- Gravitational-Wave Astrophysics (Graduate Course): 92

## Skills

**Programming** Python, Shell/Zsh, C++, Fortran, Git

**Languages** Chinese, English

**Softwares** Photoshop, Lightroom, Illustrator,  $\text{\LaTeX}$

## Experience

### Department of Astronomy, Peking University

IMPACT OF AN ACTIVE SGR A\* ON THE SYNTHESIS OF MOLECULAR SPECIES THROUGHOUT THE MILKY WAY

Beijing, China

Jul 2018 - Nov 2019

**Mentors: Xian Chen & Fujun Du**

- Undergraduate Research & Training Program - National Innovation Training Program
- Investigated the impacts of an AGN on the synthesis of prebiotic/organic molecules to indicate the potential correlation between an active supermassive black hole and both the origin and the evolution of life.
- Calculated the ionization rates of electromagnetic radiation caused by accretion of the supermassive black hole in the Milky Way with Galactic absorption considered.
- Completed the classic gas-phase network `osu_01_2007` by adding X-ray ionization and necessary grain processes important for synthesis of complex species.
- Simulated the chemical evolution of crucial precursors for interstellar prebiotic molecules with **KROME**, with the discovery of observable change in distribution for important molecules.

### Astronomy Department, Caltech

A SYSTEMATIC SEARCH FOR PERIODIC WHITE DWARFS USING ZTF DATA

Pasadena, US

Jun 2019 - Aug 2019

**Mentor: Shrinivas R. Kulkarni**

- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)
- Explored the potential of the state-of-the-art time-domain facility - Zwicky Transient Facility (ZTF) by conducting a systematic search for periodic white dwarfs with periods lying within 1-3 hr.
- Conducted a cross match between *Gaia* and ZTF, selecting  $\sim 90,000$  *Gaia* sources with enough ZTF records.
- A number of 81 sources stood out as periodic under a well-designed periodogram based on Lomb-Scargle method.
- Analyzed the shapes of light curves derived from ZTF as well as color information from *Gaia* and PanSTARRS.
- Discovered various sources of interest including an unusual strongly ellipsoidal-modulated double white dwarfs system with an extremely low-mass (ELM) component.

**Mentor: Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz**

- Undergraduate thesis
- Study the stability of mass transfer in a Direct Impact mass transfer white dwarf binary with hydrodynamical simulation.
- Built a 3-body integrator in Fortran to calculate the ballistic trajectory of a particle in Roche lobe overflow in a binary system.
- Visualized the feedback of torques of the accreted materials on the orbital evolution of double white dwarfs with **yt**.
- Simulations are executed with the radiation MHD simulation code, **FLASH**.

## Honors & Awards

- Oct 2019 **Merit Student**, Annual honor of 2018-2019, School of Physics, Peking University
- Oct 2019 **PKU Scholarship**, Annual scholarship of 2018-2019, School of Physics, Peking University
- Jun 2019 **PKU Scholarship in Physics**, School of Physics, Peking University
- May 2019 **National Innovation Training Program**, Undergraduate Research & Training Program
- Oct 2018 **Merit Student**, Annual honor of 2017-2018, School of Physics, Peking University
- Oct 2018 **Weilin Scholarship**, Annual scholarship of 2017-2018, School of Physics, Peking University
- Oct 2017 **Merit Student Pacesetter (the Highest Annual Accolade)**, Annual honor of 2016-2017, School of Life Sciences, Peking University
- Oct 2017 **Arawana Scholarship**, Annual scholarship of 2016-2017, School of Life Sciences, Peking University
- Sept 2017 **Third Prize**, The Alumni Cup for Summer Social Practice, School of Life Sciences, Peking University
- Sept 2017 **Excellent Student Union Member**, Annual honor of 2016-2017, Student Union of School of Life Sciences of Peking University

## Publications

- **Liu, C.**, Chen, X. & Du, F., *Impact of an Active Sgr A\* on the Synthesis of Water and Organic Molecules Throughout the Milky Way*, 2020, arXiv:2002.03086, *ApJ* submitted.

## Presentation

**The Project Presentation for the SURF Program, Caltech**

Pasadena, US

A SYSTEMATIC SEARCH FOR PERIODIC WHITE DWARFS

Aug. 2019

## Extracurricular Activity

**Investigation Group on Bike-sharing in Xiamen (School of Life Science)**

Xiamen, China

CORE MEMBER

Jul. 2017

- Investigated the present condition and analyzed the future development of several brands of shared bikes in Xiamen, China
- In charge of organizing the draft of both our investigation proposal and the report

**Department of Daily Life, Student Union (School of Life Science)**

Beijing, China

MEMBER

Sept. 2016 - Jun. 2017

- Organized various activities to improve the life quality including organizing social mixers and designing games for the New Year Party
- Helped design a questionnaire and conducted a census on the current living and studying conditions of students in School of Life Sciences, reflected the problems to the dean and negotiated possible solutions
- In charge of *Calendar of Species* program of the WeChat public account of the Student Union; conducted popular science promotion about various plants in literary essays

## References

**Prof. Xian Chen**

Beijing, China

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The Kavli Institute for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Peking University

**Prof. Shrinivas R. Kulkarni**

Pasadena, US

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Astronomy Department, California Institute of Technology

**Prof. Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz**

Santa Cruz, US

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Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, UC Santa Cruz