

Cong Zhou

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." –Laozi
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Education

University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)

Yan Jici Talent Program in Physics, School of Physical Sciences

09/2016 - 07/2020

Bachelor of Science (honors) in Astrophysics

Expected in 06/2020

- Cumulative GPA: **3.87/4.30**
- Ranking: **1/29** in Department of Astronomy
16/336 in School of Physical Sciences

Awards

The 39th Guo Moruo Scholarship (the **highest honor** for undergraduates in USTC)

2019

National Astronomical Observatory of China Scholarship

2019

Scholarship of Yan Jici Talent Program in Physics

2018

Outstanding Student Scholarship (Grade B)

2018

Zhang Zongzhi Sci-Tech Scholarship

2017

Outstanding Student Scholarship (Grade A)

2016

Publications

1. Qian Hu, **Cong Zhou**, Jhao-Hong Peng, Linqing Wen, Qi Chu, and Manoj Kovalam., *Semianalytical approach for sky localization of gravitational waves*, Phys. Rev. D 104, 104008

2. Wen Zhao, Tan Liu, Linqing Wen, Tao Zhu, Anzhong Wang, Qian Hu and **Cong Zhou**, *Model-independent test of the parity symmetry of gravity with gravitational waves*, arXiv:1909.13007, Eur. Phys. J. C 80, 630 (2020).

Research Interests

- Gravitational Physics
- Black Hole Theory
- Cosmology

Research Experience

Model-independent test of the parity symmetry of gravity with gravitational waves

09/2018 - 05/2019

Advisor: Prof. Wen Zhao @ USTC

- Aimed to develop a waveform-independent method to examine the parity symmetry of gravity with the data of gravitational waves.
- Extract left-hand and right-hand polarization modes of gravitational waves to measure the arrival time difference between the two polarizations, thus test the parity symmetry of gravity by constraining the velocity birefringence of gravitational waves.
- Conducted tests on simulated data to prove the feasibility of this method.
- Work on real data GW150914 and GW170817. Strongly constrained the scale of parity violation.

Semianalytical approach for sky localization of gravitational waves

07/2019 - 10/2021

Advisor: Prof. Lingqin Wen @ University of Western Australia

- Aimed to shorten the latency of sky localization of gravitational wave sources through Bayesian method to replace the current BAYESTAR method.
- Conducted a Monte Carlo experiment and chose an Gaussian approximation of the true distribution of extrinsic parameters.
- Innovated an analytical solution of the Bayesian posterior probability density for gravitational wave sources sky localization, which was a numerical solution in previous method.
- Conducted various kinds of simulation tests, based on ideal power spectrum density and O2 power spectrum density, to check the self-consistency of my method through a P - P plot, which showed a very good result.
- Qian Hu changed the approximation of the prior and improved my original method.

Standardized Tests

TOFEL: 103 (Reading:29; Listening:25; Speaking:23; Writing:26)

13/10/2019

GRE general: 317 (Verbal Reasoning:149; Quantitative Reasoning:168; Analytical Writing:3)

11/10/2019

Professional Skills

Programming Python, Mathematica, C, LaTeX