YUE SAMUEL LU

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EDUCATION

• **University of California, San Diego (UCSD)** Sep. 2022—present
Ph.D. in ***Physics***; C. Phil obtained in **Aug. 2024**
Current GPA: 3.90/4.00
Doctoral advisor: Dušan Kereš

• **University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)** Sep. 2018—Jun. 2022
B.S. in ***Physics***; B.S. in ***Mathematics***; Minor in ***Astronomy***
Overall GPA: 3.82/4.00 (Physics GPA: 3.93, Math GPA: 3.92)
Consecutive Dean's Honors; Physics Department Honor; College of Letters and Sciences Graduation Honor

GENERAL RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theoretical and Computational Astrophysics
The Circum/Inter-galactic Medium, Cosmic Rays, Magnetic Fields, Numerical Simulations

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Graduate Student Researcher in FIRE[1] Simulation Project Jul. 2022—Present
Prof. Dušan Kereš and FIRE collaboration *UCSD*

· Worked on problems related to non-thermal processes in galaxy formation/evolution, including cosmic rays (CRs) and magnetic fields (B-fields) from the FIRE simulations

Intergalactic Filaments in Simulation Nov. 2020—Present
Prof. Nir Mandelker, Prof. S. Peng Oh *UCSD, UCSB/KITP[2], HUJI[3]*

· Analyzed the structure and dynamics of intergalactic filaments in cosmological simulations. Explored observables related to this regime, including Lyman-α and X-ray

AGN Accretion Disk Jul. 2020—Jun. 2022
Prof. Omer Blaes *UCSB*

· Explored idealized MHD simulations run by the `Athena++` code and analyzed an $m = 2$ anomaly in an simulated AGN accretion disk

PUBLICATIONS

First-authored papers

Lu, Y. S., Kereš, D.; Hopkins, P. F.; Ponnada, S. B.; Faucher-Giguere, C-A.; Hummels, C. (2025) Constraining cosmic-ray models in FIRE simulations using basic circumgalactic medium properties. arXiv preprint arXiv:2505.13597

Lu, Y. S.; Mandelker, N.; Oh, S. P.; Dekel, A.;van den Bosch, F. C.; Springel, V.; Nagai, D.; van de Voort, F. (2024). The Structure and Dynamics of Massive High-z Cosmic-Web Filaments: Three Radial Zones in Filament Cross-Sections. MNRAS, 527, 11256

[1] https://fire.northwestern.edu
[2] Kavli Institute of Theoretical Physics
[3] The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Contributed papers

Ponnada, S. B.; Cochrane, R. K.; Hopkins, P. F.; Bustky, I. S.; Wellons, S.; Sanchez, N. N.; Hummels, C.; **Lu, Y. S.**; Keres, D.; Hayward, C. C. (2024), Hooks, Lines, and Sinkers: How AGN Feedback and Cosmic-Ray Transport shape the Far Infrared-Radio Correlation of Galaxies. The Astrophysical Journal 980.1 (2025): 135.

Su, K. Y., Bryan, G. L., Hopkins, P. F., Natarajan, P., Ponnada, S. B., Emami, R., & **, Lu, Y. S.** (2025). Modeling Cosmic Rays at AGN Jet-Driven Shock Fronts. arXiv preprint arXiv:2502.00927

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Cosmic Ecosystems Poster
Jul–Aug 2025

Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo, ON, Canada

Annual Santa Cruz Galaxy Workshops Talks given
2023 (video), 2024 (video)

UC Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA, USA

Galaxy Formation and Evolution in Southern California (GalFRESCA) Talk given
Sep 2024

Carnegie Observatories, Pasadena, CA, USA

International Conference on Resolving Galaxy Ecosystems on All Scales Poster
Dec 2023

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China

UCSB Undergraduate Physics Research Symposium Talk given
Sep 2021 (video)

KITP & UCSB, online

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

UCSD Physics Department Fall 2024—present
Lab TA Coordinator

Oversaw a ∼1500-people pre-med/bio-major physics lab class; duties included training teaching assistants, coordinating the grading, and making sure all weekly lab sections run smoothly

UCSD Physics Department/A&A Department Fall 2022—now
Teaching Assistant

Ran and instructed discussion sections and lab sections for undergraduate level physics courses; graded homework assignments and/or exams. Course have taught so far:

· **PHYS 1-series lab:** introductory lab course designed mainly for pre-med students

· **PHYS 2A:** mechanics (aimed for engineering students)

· **PHYS 2B:** electromagnetism (aimed for engineering students)

· **PHYS 7:** galaxies and cosmology (general education level)

· **PHYS 13:** life in the universe (general education level)

· **PHYS 163:** galaxies (designed for upper division physics students)

· **ASTR 103:** dynamics of radiation and fluid

UCSB Campus Learning Assistance Services (CLAS) Fall 2020—Spring 2021
Math, Physics and Engineering Tutor

Taught lower division math and physics courses; ran group tutorials and drop-in sessions

UCSB Physics Department Fall 2019—Summer 2022
Learning Assistant and Grader

Assisted teaching assistants on running physics course discussion sessions; graded assignments and/or exams

SELECTED COURSEWORKS

Graduate Courses: High Energy Astrophysics, Galactic Dynamics, Interstellar Medium, Stellar Physics, Astrophysical Fluid Dynamics, Parallel Computing, Emergent States of Matter, Statistics, Data Analysis and Machine Learning for Physicists
Independent Studies: Differential Geometry and Manifold Theory with Applications in General Relativity (with Dr. Jiayin Pan at UCSB)

ACADEMIC SERVICE / OUTREACH

UCSD Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics Fall 2023-present
Colloquium and Journal Club Committee

Helped on organizing and arranging weekly colloquia and journal clubs

UCSD Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics Apr 2024
2024 Continental U.S. Solar Eclipse Outreach Event

Volunteer

SKILLS

Coding Languages	Python, C/C++, Matlab, Mathematica
Scientific Computation	Numpy, SciPy, matplotlib, Numba, astropy
Numerical Simulation Suites	`AREPO`, `GIZMO`, `Athena/Athena++`
Operating Systems	Linux, MacOS
Parallel Computing	OpenMP, MPI, CUDA
Typesetting	LaTeX, Markdown