

Yuzhe (Robert) Song

PhD Candidate in Physics

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Research Interests

High energy astrophysics, gamma-ray observation, stellar physics, cosmology, pulsars

Education

08/2017-07/2022	Doctor of Philosophy in Physics, CUNY Graduate Center , New York, United States Dissertation: “Stacking the Gamma-ray Sky to Search for Faint Astrophysical Populations” Advisor: Prof. Timothy A. D. Paglione (M.Phil., CUNY Graduate Center, 2021)
09/2014-08/2016	Master of Philosophy in Astrophysics, the University of Hong Kong , Hong Kong SAR Thesis: “Theoretical Study of Gamma-ray Emission from Pulsars” Supervisor: Prof. Kwong-Sang Cheng
09/2010-06/2014	Bachelor of Science in Astronomy, Nanjing University , Nanjing, China Thesis: “Analysis of Gamma-ray Pulsars Using a 2D Two-layer Outer Gap Model” Supervisor: Prof. Yongfeng Huang

Appointments

06/2021-Current	Committee Member, Committee for Sexual-Orientation & Gender Minorities in Astronomy, American Astronomical Society , United States
08/2018-Current	Adjunct Lecturer, CUNY York College , New York, United States
05/2019-08/2021	Workshop Coordinator & Mentor, AstroCom NYC Program , New York, United States
09/2016-05/2017	Instructional Assistant, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology , Hong Kong SAR
07/2013	Research Assistant, National Astronomical Observatories of China , Beijing, China Supervisor: Prof. Di Li

Skills

- Computing Skills: Python and related packages, *Fermi* Science Tools, Fermipy, Naima, TEMPO2
- Languages: English (native fluency), Chinese (Mandarin, native fluency)
- Other: mentorship, communication, networking, public speaking, teaching, open pedagogy methods, event organisation, WordPress

Research Experience

03/2018-Current	Stacking <i>Fermi</i>-LAT data to detect gamma-rays from faint populations , Advisor: Prof. Timothy Paglione <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Based on the <i>Fermi</i> likelihood analysis pipeline, I developed methods to stack residual maps and spatial and parameter-space likelihood profiles · Applied stacking methods to nearby flare stars and restricted their flare rates · Developed a temporal stacking method which lead to the detection of the first gamma-ray emitting isolated main sequence star, TVLM 513 · Model fitting results with Naima shows the detected gamma-ray emission agrees with physical conditions of the star · Applying stacking methods to pulsars and discovered a new population of low spin-down luminosity pulsars that might emit gamma-rays · Applied stacking methods to globular clusters, inverse Compton halo around luminous stars and interacting binaries (low-/high-mass X-ray binaries and cataclysmic variables) · Developed a toy model to validate the likelihood analysis and stacking methods.
03/2014-08/2016	Gamma-Ray Emissions from Pulsar Magnetosphere , Advisor: Prof. Kwong Sang Cheng <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Used a stationary three-dimensional two-layer outer gap model to explain the phase-averaged spectrum and phase-resolved spectrum by <i>Fermi-LAT data</i> · Then developed it into non-stationary model, which fitted the results better · Added an Inverse-Compton Scattering component to explain the high energy tails of the spectrum of some powerful pulsars like Geminga
2013	Star Formation Area in Taurus , Advisor: Prof. Di Li <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Blind-searched for bubbles (ring or arc structures) in the FCRAO data of $^{12}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ and $^{13}\text{CO}(J=1-0)$ as candidates, produced channel maps, contour maps and P-V diagrams as criteria to select 37 bubbles · Calculated mass, momentum, energy and energy injection rate of the bubbles and compared with the turbulence of the clouds

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Earth & Physical Sciences, CUNY York College

2018-present	Introductory Astronomy Lab, fall and spring semesters Physics Lab, fall semesters only
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Instructional Assistant, Department of Physics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Spring 2017	Capstone Project (Final Year Project), General Physics (Calculus), Energy Related Environmental Issues
Fall 2016	Electric & Magnetism, General Physics (Calculus), Modern Physics Laboratory

TA, Department of Physics, University of Hong Kong

2015 - 2016	Physics by Inquiry (Fall), Selected Topics in Astrophysics (Fall), Introduction to Relativity (Spring)
2014 - 2015	Fundamental Physics (Fall), Cosmology (Spring)

Mentoring Experience

2022-present	Co-mentor of Owen Henry (CUNY Brooklyn College), Master student research
2021-present	Co-mentor of Kayla Docher (Barnard College), AMNH Physical Sciences REU program
2021-present	Co-mentor of Keisi Kacanja (CUNY Hunter College), AstroCom NYC Program
2020-2021	Co-mentor of Vanessa Pinto (CUNY Hunter College), AstroCom NYC Program
2019-2020	Mentored a cohort of AstroCom NYC scholars on Classical Mechanics
2017	Mentor to physics students in the Capstone Project as part of their final year projects

Awards & Scholarships

2021	Amie James Science Conference Travel Award , CUNY Graduate Center
2021	Honorable Mention, Chambliss Astronomy Student Achievement Award , 238 th Meeting of the American Astronomical Society (AAS)
2020	Award for Excellence in Teaching , CUNY Graduate Center Annual teaching award to three graduate students at CUNY Graduate Center
2017-2022	CUNY Science Scholarship , full scholarship to support study at CUNY Graduate Center
2014-2016	Postgraduate Scholarship , full scholarship to support study at the University of Hong Kong
2012	Social Practice Scholarship , Nanjing University Awarded for excellent service as president of the Amateur Astronomers Association at Nanjing University
2011	People's Scholarship, Social Work Scholarship , Nanjing University Awarded for top 20% students at Nanjing University
2011-2014	Class for Elite Students in Astronomy Scholarship , Nanjing University Awarded for top 30% students of the Dept. of Astronomy

Grants & Fellowships

2021-2022	Science Communication Fellow , CUNY Graduate Center (\$3,000)
2021	Early Research Initiative Pre-Dissertation Research Grant , CUNY Graduate Center (\$5,000)
2021	Doctoral Student Research Grant Round 16, CUNY Graduate Center (\$500)
2021	Fermi Guest Investigator Program, Cycle-14 , co-I, (PI: Prof. Joshua Tan), not funded
2020	Open Pedagogy Fellow , CUNY Graduate Center (\$1,000)
2020	FAMOUS Travel Grant , American Astronomical Society, \$500 travel grant for the 235th AAS Meeting
2019	Doctoral Student Research Grant Round 14, CUNY Graduate Center (\$800)

Membership

American Astronomical Society, American Physical Society

Publications

1. **Song, Y.**, & Paglione, T., Zurek, D., Tan, J., *Gamma-rays from Interacting Binaries*, in prep
2. **Song, Y.**, & Paglione, T., *Stacking Search of Gamma-ray Flares From a Large Sample of Stars*, in prep
3. Kacanja, K., Docher, K., Paglione, T., & **Song, Y.**, *Searching for Gamma-ray Halo Around Luminous Stars Using Stacking Methods*, in prep
4. Pinto, V., Henry, O., Paglione, T., **Song, Y.**, Zurek, D., & Tan, J., *Gamma-Rays from Globular Clusters*, in prep
5. * **Song, Y.**, Paglione, T., Tan, J., & Lee-Georgescu, C., *A Large Population of Sub-Threshold Gamma-Ray Pulsars*, ApJ, in review. [arXiv:2112.10030](https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.10030)
6. * **Song, Y.**, & Paglione, T., *A Stacking Search for Gamma-Ray Emission from Nearby Flare Stars and the Periodic Source TVLM 513-46546*, 2020, ApJ, 900, 185S. [arXiv:2008.01143](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.01143)
7. **Song, Y.**, Takata, J., & Cheng, K. S., *Theoretical Study of Gamma-Ray Pulsar*, 2016 JASS, 33(2), 69-73
8. Li, H., Li, D., Qian, L., Duo, X., Goldsmith, P. F., Noriega-Crespo, A., Wu, Y., **Song, Y.**, & Nan. R., *Outflows and Bubbles in Taurus: Star-formation Feedback Sufficient to Maintain Turbulence*, 2015 ApJS, 219 20L. [arXiv:1507.06512](https://arxiv.org/abs/1507.06512)

Talks & Conferences

“Stacking the Gamma-ray Sky to Search for Faint Astrophysical Populations”

- 01/2022 | Dissertation Talk, 239th AAS Meeting, canceled due to COVID-19
- 11/2021 | Seminar, Department of Physics & Astronomy, Stony Brook University
- 11/2021 | Seminar, Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of California, Riverside
- 10/2021 | Colloquium, Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Louisville

“A Large Population of Sub-Threshold Gamma-Ray Pulsars”

- 03/2022 | Poster, 19th Divisional Meeting of the High Energy Astrophysics Division of AAS
- 11/2021 | IAU Symposium 363
- 06/2021 | 238th AAS Meeting, 2021AAS, 23812802S

Other Talks

- 10/2021 | *Will Stacking Fermi Data Enable Dark Matter Annihilation Signal Detection?*, Galaxy Formation Group Meeting, Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute
- 01/2021 | *Gamma-Rays from Globular Clusters*, co-author, 237th AAS Meeting, 2021AAS, 23713002P
- 10/2020 | *Detecting Gamma-ray Emission from Nearby Flare Stars*, Seminar for Laboratory of Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado, Boulder
- 01/2020 | *Tentative Gamma-Ray Detection of Fast Rotating TVLM 513-46546*, 235th 235th Meeting, 2020AAS, 23528804S
- 01/2020 | *Correlating White Light and Gamma-Ray Emission in Solar Flares*, co-author, 235th AAS Meeting, 2020AAS, 23528804S
- 01/2020 | *Gamma-rays from Jupiter*, co-author, 235th AAS Meeting, 2020AAS, 23528804S
- 01/2016 | *Theoretical Study of Gamma-ray Emission from Young Pulsars*, 6th Fermi Asian Network (FAN) workshop

Community & Professional Service

- Fall 2021 | Physics & Astronomy tutor, Dept. of Earth & Physical Sciences, CUNY York College
- 2021-present | Member, Committee for Sexual-Orientation & Gender Minorities in Astronomy (SGMA) of AAS
- 2019-present | Mentor. Organizing weekly skill development workshops for undergraduate researchers at AstroCom NYC program and serving as a graduate student mentor for AstroCom NYC scholars.
- 2019-present | Member, AMNH Astrophysics Department Seminar Committee
- 08/2019 | Student helper, CUNY Graduate Center Science Day & Orientation
- 2014-2015 | Bass Singer, the Shun Hing College Schola Cantorum Choir of the University of Hong Kong
- 2013-2014 | Bass Singer, the Nanjing University Choir
- 2013 | Volunteer, the 2nd Asia Youth Games, Nanjing
- 08/2012 | Volunteer, the 28th IAU General Assembly, Beijing
- 2011-2012 | President of the Amateur Astronomers Association of Nanjing University

Professional Development & Training

- 2021 - 2022 | **Science Communication Fellow**, CUNY Graduate Center. A year-long fellowship aims to train and prepare STEM graduate students to be effective science communicators who are skilled at engaging the general public.
- 2021 - 2022 | **Effective Practice Framework**, Association of College and University Educators. A 25-week training for refining teaching practices with a nationally recognized Certificate in Effective College Instruction issued upon completion.
- 06/2021 | **Astrostatistics Summer School**, Pennsylvania State University
- 2021 | **Machine Learning Class**, Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute, taught by Prof. Viviana Acquaviva
- 08/2020 | **Open Pedagogy Fellow**, CUNY Graduate Center. After participating in a CUNY faculty development workshop, I developed a zero-cost open educational resource syllabus for the introductory astronomy laboratory (ASTR141) at York College. It is also designed to fit the pandemic-era online learning.
- 07/2013 | 2nd **Radio Astronomy Summer School**, National Astronomical Observatories, China