

Shurui Zhang

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Research Interests

My research interests are on AGNs and compact objects via multi-messenger approaches.

- Modeling compact objects (BHs, NSs, WDs) in AGN disks: investigating the roles and fates of compact objects in galactic nuclei, and predicting/interpreting the associated multi-messenger signals.
- Theoretical physics of black holes (BHs): unveiling the mechanisms of energy supply and transfer in extreme environments, and exploring new physical processes around/in BHs.
- Investigating special transients and peculiar objects, including GRBs and the lightest neutron stars.

Employment History

2025.12 – present ■ **Postdoc Fellow**, International Center for Relativistic Astrophysics Network.

Education

2016. 09 – 2020. 07 ■ **B.Sc. in Basic Science of Mathematics and Physics (National Elite Program in Mathematics and Physics), Yunnan University.**
2020. 09 – 2025. 12 ■ **M.Sc. & Ph.D. in Astrophysics, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC).**
Thesis title: *Accretion and dynamics of compact objects in AGN disks.* ([PDF link](#))
2022. 12 – 2023. 12 ■ **Visiting Ph.D., International Center for Relativistic Astrophysics Network.**
Conducted through the *Joint International Relativistic Astrophysics Doctorate Program*.
2023. 12 – 2024. 12 ■ **Joint Ph.D. in Astrophysics, University of Ferrara, Italy.**

Skills

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|-----------------|---|
| Languages | ■ Strong reading, writing and speaking competencies for English, Chinese (native) |
| Coding | ■ Mathematic, Python, Linux Shell, \LaTeX , ... |
| Basic Knowledge | ■ General Relativity, Radiation Mechanisms, Physics of AGN, Physics of Compact Object, Stellar Structure and Evolution, Probability and AI,... |
| Techniques | ■ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proficient in accretion modeling of compact objects• Proficient in radiative transfer• Proficient in neutrino energy spectrum calculations• Proficient in particle trajectories in Kerr and Kerr–Newman spacetimes• Proficient in the Penrose process• Specialized in post-Newtonian methods for binary compact objects• Specialized in semi-analytic modeling for the formation and co-evolution of galaxies and BHs• Specialized in ray-tracing methods• Familiar with machine learning techniques• Familiar with GW and high-energy EM data analysis• Familiar with N-body simulation• Familiar with star evolution code MESA |

Service

Teaching Assistant	■ Served as teaching assistant for the courses *General Relativity* and *Celestial Mechanics and Astrometry*	Spring 2022, Spring 2025
Reviewer	■ Reviewer for The Astrophysical Journal (ApJ)	Spring 2024
Popular Science	■ Wrote a popular science article on compact objects in AGN disks	Jan. 2024
Collaboration	■ Facilitated and coordinated scientific collaboration between Italy and China.	

Selected Conference and Report

- 2023. 04 ■ The Second International NIP Conference in Academy of Sciences of Albania.
Report title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
- 2023. 06 ■ The 5th Zeldovich meeting in ARMENIA.
Report title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
- 2024. 02 ■ Looking AHEAD to Soft Gamma-Ray Astrophysics: Prospects and Challenges.
Report title: *Electromagnetic Signatures of White Dwarf Collisions in AGN Discs.*
- 2024. 04 ■ **Plenary speaker**, at the 6th Galileo - Xu Guangqi Meeting.
Report title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
- 2024. 07 ■ **Plenary speaker**, at the 17th Marcel Grossmann Meeting.
Report title: *The lightest neutron star formed from a binary system.*
- 2025. 04 ■ The Annual Meeting of the Division of Gravitation and Relativistic Astrophysics of the Chinese Physical Society.
Report title: *Neutron star accretion events in AGN disks: multi-messenger implications.*
- 2025. 05 ■ The 3rd Workshop on “Astrophysical Phenomena of AMS in AGN Disks”.
Report title: *S241125n: Binary BH Merger Produces Short GRB in AGN Disk.*
- 2025. 11 ■ The Annual Meeting of the Chinese Astronomical Society.
Report title: *Probe the Role of Compact Objects in AGN Disks Through Multi-messenger Approaches.*

■ **The excellent prize of oral presentation**, at the Annual Meeting for Postgraduate Students of the University of Science and Technology of China.
Report title: *Accretion and dynamics of compact objects in AGN disks: multi-messenger implications.*
- 2025. 12 ■ Report at Peking University.
Report title: *NS Accretion in AGN Disks: Multi-messenger Implications.*

Press (in English)

- 2024. 05 ■ [What Can AI Learn About the Universe? Universe Today.](#)
- 2025. 03 ■ [New Study Sheds Light on the Penrose Process and Energy Extraction from Kerr Black Holes, ICRANet press releases.](#)



Selected Fellowship and Honor

Fellowship

- 2022 ■ **CSC scholarship**, a scholarship from the China Scholarship Council (CSC) to pursue studies in Italy as a Joint PhD Student for 24 months.












Selected Fellowship and Honor (continued)

Awards


- 2025  **National Scholarship.** Granted by the Chinese government to outstanding doctoral students within the top 3%.
-  **Outstanding Graduate.** Awarded by University of Science and Technology of China.

Research Publications

Journal Articles

- 1 **S. R. Zhang**, Y. Luo, X.-J. Wu, J.-M. Wang, L. C. Ho, and Y.-F. Yuan, “Electromagnetic signatures of white dwarf collisions in AGN discs,” *MNRAS*, vol. 524, no. 1, pp. 940–951, Sep. 2023.  DOI: [10.1093/mnras/stad1855](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stad1855).
- 2 **S. R. Zhang**, Y.-F. Yuan, J.-M. Wang, and L. C. Ho, “Neutron star accretion events in AGN discs: multimessenger implications,” *MNRAS*, vol. 532, no. 2, pp. 1330–1344, Aug. 2024.  DOI: [10.1093/mnras/stae1546](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stae1546).
- 3 **S. R. Zhang** et al., “LVK S241125n: Massive Binary Black Hole Merger Produces GRB in AGN Disk,” *ApJ*, Jan. 2026.  DOI: [10.3847/1538-4357/ae3319](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ae3319).
- 4 **S. R. Zhang** and M. Prakapenia, “The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr black hole,” *Classical and Quantum Gravity*, vol. 41, no. 13, 135019, p. 135 019, Jul. 2024.  DOI: [10.1088/1361-6382/ad51c2](https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6382/ad51c2).
- 5 **S. R. Zhang**, J. A. Rueda Hernandez, and R. Negreiros, “Can the Central Compact Object in HESS J1731–347 Be Indeed the Lightest Neutron Star Observed?” *ApJ*, vol. 978, no. 1, 1, p. 1, Jan. 2025.  DOI: [10.3847/1538-4357/ad96b5](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ad96b5).
- 6 **S. R. Zhang**, Y. Luo, and Y.-F. Yuan, “White dwarf collisions in AGN disks and the observational effects,” *Chinese Science Bulletin*, vol. 70, no. 3, pp. 423–431, Dec. 2024.  DOI: [10.1360/TB-2024-0603](https://doi.org/10.1360/TB-2024-0603).
- 7 Y. Luo, X.-J. Wu, **S. R. Zhang**, J.-M. Wang, L. C. Ho, and Y.-F. Yuan, “White dwarf-white dwarf collisions in AGN discs via close encounters,” *MNRAS*, vol. 524, no. 4, pp. 6015–6023, Oct. 2023.  DOI: [10.1093/mnras/stad2188](https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stad2188).
- 8 R. Ruffini, M. Prakapenia, H. Quevedo, and **S. R. Zhang**, “Single versus the repetitive penrose process in a kerr black hole,” *PRL*, vol. 134, p. 081 403, 8 Feb. 2025.  DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.134.081403](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.134.081403).
- 9 R. Ruffini, C. L. Bianco, M. Prakapenia, H. Quevedo, J. A. Rueda, and **S. R. Zhang**, “Role of the irreducible mass in repetitive penrose energy extraction processes in a kerr black hole,” *PRR*, vol. 7, p. 013 203, 1 Feb. 2025.  DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevResearch.7.013203](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevResearch.7.013203).
- 10 Y. Aimuratov et al., “GRB-SN Association within the Binary-driven Hypernova Model,” *ApJ*, vol. 955, no. 2, 93, p. 93, Oct. 2023.  DOI: [10.3847/1538-4357/ace721](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ace721).
- 11 C. L. Bianco et al., “Probing Electromagnetic Gravitational-wave Emission Coincidence in a Type I Binary-driven Hypernova Family of Long Gamma-Ray Bursts at Very High Redshift,” *ApJ*, vol. 966, no. 2, 219, p. 219, May 2024.  DOI: [10.3847/1538-4357/ad2fa9](https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ad2fa9).

Conference Proceedings

- 1 **S. R. Zhang**, “The Transformation of the Rotational Energy of an Accreting Kerr Black Hole,” in *Proceedings of the Fifth Zeldovich meeting, an international conference in honor of Ya.B. Zeldovich held in Yerevan, Armenia on June 12–16, 2023*, vol. 67, Dec. 2023, S97–S101.  DOI: [10.1134/S1063772923140202](https://doi.org/10.1134/S1063772923140202).