

# 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, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, ...   |
| 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"><li>■ Proficient in accretion modeling of compact objects</li><li>■ Proficient in radiative transfer</li><li>■ Proficient in neutrino energy spectrum calculations</li><li>■ Proficient in particle trajectories in Kerr and Kerr–Newman spacetimes</li><li>■ Proficient in the Penrose process</li><li>■ Specialized in post-Newtonian methods for binary compact objects</li><li>■ Specialized in semi-analytic modeling for the formation and co-evolution of galaxies and BHs</li><li>■ Specialized in ray-tracing methods</li><li>■ Familiar with machine learning techniques</li><li>■ Familiar with GW and high-energy EM data analysis</li><li>■ Familiar with N-body simulation</li><li>■ Familiar with star evolution code MESA</li></ul> |

## 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.  
Roport title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
2023. 06 ■ The 5th Zeldovich meeting in ARMENIA.  
Roport title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
2024. 02 ■ Looking AHEAD to Soft Gamma-Ray Astrophysics: Prospects and Challenges.  
Roport title: *Electromagnetic Signatures of White Dwarf Collisions in AGN Discs.*
2024. 04 ■ **Plenary speaker**, at the 6th Galileo - Xu Guangqi Meeting.  
Roport title: *The transformation of the rotational energy of a Kerr BH.*
2024. 07 ■ **Plenary speaker**, at the 17th Marcel Grossmann Meeting.  
Roport 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.  
Roport title: *Neutron star accretion events in AGN disks: multi-messenger implications.*
2025. 05 ■ The 3rd Workshop on “Astrophysical Phenomena of AMS in AGN Disks”.  
Roport title: *S241125n: Binary BH Merger Produces Short GRB in AGN Disk.*
2025. 11 ■ The Annual Meeting of the Chinese Astronomical Society.  
Roport 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.  
Roport title: *Accretion and dynamics of compact objects in AGN disks: multi-messenger implications.*
2025. 12 ■ Report at Peking University.  
Roport 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, ICRA-Net 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. 081403, 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).