

Simin Tong

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Exoplanetary systems, protoplanetary disks, disk observations in multi-wavelengths, disk modelling.

EDUCATION

University of Leicester

Ph.D., Astronomy

Advisor: Prof. Richard Alexander

Leicester, UK

Sept. 2022- Sept. 2026 (expected)

Leiden University

M.Sc. (cum laude), Astronomy

Advisor: Dr. Nienke van der Marel

Leiden, Netherlands

Sept. 2019- Aug.2022

Jilin University

B.Sc., Physics and LL.B., Law

Jilin, China

Sept. 2015 -Jun. 2019

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- Student award from the Great Britain China Educational Trust ([charity no.269944](#)) 2026
- DAAD Research Grant 2026
 - Competitive 6-month grant supporting independent research.
- Leicester Future 100 Studentship *Sept. 2022-Mar. 2026*
- Leiden International Tuition Fee Waiver 2020-2022
- Dean's Scholarship 2019
 - the highest honour for undergraduates at the Department of Physics, JLU
- Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award 2019
- Outstanding Graduate in Jilin University 2019
- University Scholarship 2016-2019

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Research visits

- Research visit to MPIA @Heidelberg, Germany *Jan.-Jun., 2026*
- Kavli Summer Program in Astrophysics 2025 @VA, US *Jun.-Aug., 2025*
- Secondment to SUNY, Stony Brook/CCA, Flatiron Institute @NY, US *Apr.-Jul., 2024*
- Summer Student at Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Academia Sinica @Taipei *Jul.-Aug., 2019*
- Summer Student at Shanghai Astronomical Observatory @Shanghai, China *Jul. 2017&2018*

Summer/Winter schools

- Global Astrochemistry Lecture Series (GALS) 2025 ([Online](#)) *Feb.-Apr., 2025*
- EXOHOST Summer School @Tartu, Estonia *Sept., 2024*
- DUSTBUSTERS Winter School II @Lyon, France *Jan., 2024*
- Disc and Planet Formation Summer School @Beijing, China (virtual) *Jul., 2022*
- The 4th SKA Summer School @Shanghai, China *Jul. 2018*

PUBLICATIONS

First-author:

4. **Tong**, van der Marel, Williams & Anderson (2026) Disk survey in the Serpens star-forming region: environmental effects in nearby star-forming regions (*A&A*, *under review*)
3. **Tong**, Alexander & Rosotti (2026) Turbulence and dust fragility in protoplanetary discs. *MNRAS*, 545(4), staf2128 [[ADS](#)]
2. **Tong** & Alexander (2025) Compact protoplanetary discs can be produced by dead zones. *MNRAS*, 537(4), 3525 [[ADS](#)]
1. **Tong**, Alexander & Rosotti (2024) A question of personalities: evolution of viscous and wind-driven protoplanetary discs in the presence of dead zones. *MNRAS*, 533(2), 1211 [[ADS](#)]

Other contributions:

- Anderson et al. (2022) (incl. **Tong**) Protostellar and protoplanetary disk masses in the Serpens region. *ApJ*, 938(1), 55. [[ADS](#)]

PRESENTATION

- (*upcoming*) DISCO: Understanding the influence of star-forming environments on planet-forming disks @VA, US [[Oral](#)] (virtual) Sept., 2026
- Discs on the Exe @Exeter, UK [[Oral](#)] Jul., 2026
- UKI Discs Meeting 2026 @Cambridge, UK [[Oral](#)] Jul., 2026
- Group Meeting at MPIA @Heidelberg, Germany Mar., 2026
- Hydrodynamic and Dusty Turbulence in Protoplanetary Disks @NY, US [[Oral](#)] Feb., 2026
- Planet Formation & Exoplanets Coffee, MPIA @Heidelberg, Germany Feb., 2026
- Monday Science Seminar at UW-Madison @WI, US (virtual) Oct., 2025
- UKI Discs Meeting 2025 @Hatfield, UK [[Oral](#)] Sept., 2025
- Kavil Summer School 2025 @VA, US Aug., 2025
- Gordon Research Conference, Origins of Solar Systems @MA, US [[Poster](#)] Jun., 2025
- Group Meeting at Queen Mary University of London @London, UK May, 2025
- Midland Discs Meeting @Warwick, UK [[Oral](#)] May, 2025
- Pebbles in Planet Formation @Tokyo, Japan [[Oral](#)] (virtual) Feb., 2025
- Group Meeting at Max Planck Institute for Astronomy @Heidelberg, Germany (virtual) Feb., 2025
- Seminar at Purple Mountain Observatory @Nanjing, China Dec., 2024
- Group Meeting at Zhejiang University @Hangzhou, China Dec., 2024
- Seminar at Shanghai Astronomical Observatory @Shanghai, China Dec., 2024
- PDS Seminar at Tsinghua University @Beijing, China Dec., 2024
- Kavli Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics Seminar @Beijing, China Dec., 2024
- UKI Discs Meeting @Warwick, UK [[Oral](#)] Sept., 2024
- New Heights in Planet Formation @Garching, Germany [[Poster](#)] Jul., 2024
- COST Action Kick-off Meeting @Torun, Poland [[Oral](#)] Jul., 2024
- Group Meeting at the Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute @NY, US May, 2024
- National Astronomy Meeting 2023 @Cardiff, UK [[Poster](#)] Jul., 2023
- Midland Discs Meeting @Leicester, UK [[Oral](#)] Jun., 2023
- Protostars and Planets VII @Kyoto, Japan [[Poster](#)] Apr., 2023