WENJUN CHANG

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https://w-chang-astro.github.io

EDUCATION

University of California, Riverside *Sept 2020 - Present*
Ph.D. in Physics and Astronomy
Advisor: Prof. Gillian Wilson

University of California, Riverside *Sept 2020 - June 2021*
M.Sc. in Physics and Astronomy
GPA: 3.98/4.0

University of Science and Technology of China *Aug 2016 - June 2020*
B.Sc. in Astronomy
Advisors: Prof. Xu Kong and Prof. Stijn Wuyts
Honors Thesis: *Cold Gas Properties and Dust Attenuation of Nearby Galaxies*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Researcher *Oct 2020 - June 2021*
University of California, Riverside (with Prof. Gillian Wilson)
Lead Proj I: Far-Infrared and Radio Insights into the Nature of Ultra-Massive Galaxies at $z \gtrsim 3$.
Lead Proj II: Confirming Quiescent Ultra-Massive Galaxies Using ALMA Dust Continuum.
Lead Proj III: Statistical Far-Infrared Analysis of a Large Sample of Ultra-Massive Galaxies at $z > 3$.

Research Assistant *June 2020 - Sept 2020*
University of Science and Technology of China (with Prof. Guanwen Fang and Prof. Xu Kong)
Lead Proj: The Effect of Environment on Properties of Massive Green Valley Galaxies at $0.5 < z < 2.5$.

Undergraduate Summer Researcher *July 2020 - Sept 2020*
University of Bath, U.K. (with Prof. Stijn Wuyts)
Collaborative Project: Cold Gas Properties in Nearby 10k Galaxies in MaNGA survey.

Undergraduate Researcher *July 2018 - June 2020*
University of Science and Technology of China (with Prof. Xu Kong and Dr. Zhixiong Liang)
Lead Project: The IRX–β Relation of HII Regions in Galaxy M33

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professional Development Program (PDP), UC Santa Cruz *Apr 2024 - Dec 2024*
Institute for Scientist and Engineer Educators (ISEE)
Independently designed and implemented an optical physics lab for college students.
Location: Las Positas College, Livermore, CA.
90-hour development program focused on inclusive STEM teaching and curriculum design.

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Riverside
PHYS 037 — The Origins (Instructor: Bahram Mobasher) *Fall 2025*
PHYS 006 — The Violent Universe (Instructor: Gabriela Canalizo) *Winter 2025*
PHYS 018 — Energy and the Environment (Instructor: Brian Siana) *Fall 2024*
PHYS 020 — Exploring the Universe (Instructor: Laura Sales) *Spring 2024, Spring 2025*
General Physics Labs & Discussion *2021 - 2025*
PHYS 2LA, 2LB, 2LC, 40A, 40B, 40C

Teaching Assistant, University of Science and Technology of China *Feb - June 2020*
General Physics Lab - Waves, Vibrations, and Sound

APPROVED PROPOSAL AS CO-I.

JWST Cycle 2 (GO 2913)
Dissecting the Monsters: Resolved IFU Spectroscopy of the Most Massive Quiescent Galaxies at $z > 3$, 19.4 hours (PI: Forrest, B.)
ALMA Cycle 8 (2021.1.00501.S)
Do Truly Quiescent Massive Galaxies Exist at $3 < z < 4$?, 19.7 hours. (PI: Forrest, B.)
W. M. Keck 2023B (U085), **2022B** (U021)
Do Super-Ultramassive Galaxies Exist at $3 < z < 4$? (PI: Wilson, G.)

OBSERVATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Keck I Telescopes MOSFIRE — *10 nights, 2021-2025*
Lick Observatory — *Oct 14-18, 2021*
Muench-Woltjer Observational Astronomy Workshop

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talk, The 247th AAS Press Conference, Phoenix, Arizona — *Jan 2026*
Poster, The 247th AAS meeting, Phoenix, Arizona — *Jan 2026*
Poster, Keck Science Meeting, UCLA, CA — *Sept 2025*
Dusty or Dead? Far-Infrared Insights on the Nature of Ultramassive Galaxies
Talk, Keck Science Meeting, Berkeley, CA — *Sept 2023*
The Role of AGN and Gas Depletion in the Quenching of Ultramassive Galaxies at $z \sim 3$
Talk, Physics & Astronomy Student Seminar (PASS), UCR — *Mar 2023*
Talk, Astro Jamboree, UCR — *Oct 2022*

TECHNICAL STRENGTHS

Computer Languages	C/C++, Python, IDL, bash, Linux
Software & Tools	CASA, IRAF, SExtractor, MATLAB, Mathematica, LaTeX
SED Modelling	CIGALE, MAGPHYS, EAZY, BAGPIPES
Languages	English, Mandarin Chinese

OUTREACH

Volunteer, the 10th Anniversary of the Sand to Snow National Monument anniversary, CA — *Mar 2026*
Judge, Riverside Unified School District (RUSD)'s Annual Science & Engineering Fair, CA — *Jan 2026*
Judge, AAS 247 Meeting Chambliss Student Award, Phoenix, AZ — *Jan 2026*
Volunteer, Planetary Alignment Telescope Night, UCR — *Mar 2025*
Volunteer, Solar Viewing, UCR — *Jan 2025*

WORKSHOPS

AAS 247 Peer-Review Workshop (Phoenix, AZ) — *Jan 2026*
Professional Development Program (ISEE, UCSC) — *Apr–Dec 2024*
ALMA Proposal Workshop, Caltech — *Apr 2023*
Lick Observatory Muench-Woltjer Workshop, Mt. Hamilton — *Oct 2021*
Internship, Purple Mountain Observatory, Nanjing — *Dec 2019*
Internship, Shanghai Astronomical Observatory, Shanghai — *Jan 2019*
Future Physicist Summer Camp, USTC — *July 2018*

GRANTS & AWARDS

Dissertation Completion Fellowship Award (DCFA), UCR — *2026 Winter, Spring*
The Graduate Student Association (GSA) Travel Grants, UCR — *2023, 2025, 2026*
Outstanding 1st Graduate Student (Benjamin C. Shen Memorial Award), UCR — *June 2021*
Dean's Distinguished Fellowship, UCR — *2020-2021*

Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis, USTC *June 2020*
Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award, USTC *Sept 2019*
Undergraduate Summer Research Award, USTC *2019*
Undergraduate Science Research Project Grant, USTC *2018-2020*

REFERENCES

Prof. Gillian Wilson, University of California, Merced *PhD Advisor*
Email: gwilson@ucmerced.edu
Prof. Gabriela Canalizo, University of California, Riverside *PhD Co-Advisor*
Email: gabyc@ucr.edu
Prof. Allison Noble, Arizona State University *Collaborator*
Email: anoble5@asu.edu
Prof. Xu Kong, University of Science and Technology of China *Undergraduate Advisor*
Email: xkong@ustc.edu.cn

PUBLICATIONS

Chang, W., Wilson, G., Forrest, B., Muzzin, A., et al., anticipated submission to ApJ, *Statistical Far-Infrared Analysis of a Large Sample of Ultramassive Galaxies at* $z > 3$.

Chang, W.*, Wilson, G., Forrest, B., et al. 2026, arXiv:2601.22844, submitted to ApJ, under revision, *MAGAZ3NE: Dust Deficiency in Ultramassive Quiescent Galaxies at* $3 < z < 4$ *with ALMA Observation*.

Chang, W.*, Wilson, G., Forrest, B., et al. 2026, ApJ, 1001, 131, *MAGAZ3NE: Far-IR and Radio Insights into the Nature and Properties of Ultramassive Galaxies at* $z \gtrsim 3$.

Chang, W.*, Fang. G., et al. 2022, ApJ, 936, 47, *The Physical Properties of Massive Green Valley Galaxies as a Function of Environment at* $0.5 < z < 2.5$ *in 3D-HST/CANDELS Fields*.

Forrest, B. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2025, arXiv:2508.10987, accepted by Nature Astronomy, *A Massive, Evolved Slow-Rotating Galaxy in the Early Universe*.

McConachie, I. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2025, arXiv:2508.05752, accepted by ApJ, *Excavating The Ruins: An Ancient z=2.675 Galaxy Which Formed in the First 500 Myr*.

McConachie, I. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2025, ApJ, 978, 17, *MAGAZ3NE: Evidence for Galactic Conformity in* $z > 3$ *Protoclusters*.

Forrest, B. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2024, ApJ, 971, 169, *Environmental Effects on the Stellar Mass Function in a* $z \sim 3.3$ *Overdensity of Galaxies in the COSMOS Field*.

Forrest, B. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2024, ApJ, 977, 51, *MAGAZ3NE: Massive, Extremely Dusty Galaxies at* $z \sim 2$ *Lead to Photometric Overestimation of the Most Massive Galaxies at* $3 < z < 4$.

Stawinski, S. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2024, The Open Journal of Astrophysics 7 (June), *Spectroscopic Confirmation of an Ultra-Massive Galaxy in a Protocluster at* $z \sim 4.9$.

Forrest, B. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2023, MNRAS, 526, L56–L62, *Elentari: A Massive Proto-Supercluster at* $z \sim 3.3$ *in the COSMOS Field*.

Forrest, B. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2022, ApJ, 938, 109, *MAGAZ3NE: High Stellar Velocity Dispersions for Ultra-Massive Quiescent Galaxies at* $z > 3$.

Avery, C. R. (*incl.* **Chang, W.**) et al. 2021, MNRAS, 503, 5134–5160, *Incidence, Scaling Relations, and Physical Conditions of Ionized Gas Outflows in MaNGA*.