

Details of the school

(I) Observational astronomy (Simon Driver)

1. Lecture

- 1.1 Introduction of galaxy images for different galaxy types from both the nearby and distant Universe (the latest HST/JWST/Euclid images will be used for this).
- 1.2 Spectroscopic properties of galaxies and key information extracted from the properties.
- 1.3 Special talks from early-career researchers.

2. Hands-on session

- 2.1 Estimation of galaxy masses using observational data.
- 2.2 Derivation of galaxy distances using spectroscopic data.

(II) Gravitational dynamics in the universe (Kenji Bekki)

1. Lecture

- 1.1 From Kepler motions in two-body to rosetta orbits in N-body systems.
- 1.2 Physics of galaxy merging – the role of dynamical friction.
- 1.3 The roles of galaxy merging in galaxy formation – merging of supermassive black holes, morphological transformation, triggering starbursts.
- 1.4 Nbody simulations of galaxies and star clusters
- 1.5 Introduction of short projects after this summer school.

2. Hands-on session (Evolution of satellite galaxies from 100 kpc to 0.01 pc)

- 2.1 Analytical estimation of total masses (including dark matter) for the Galaxy and its satellite galaxies using rotation curves/virial theorem.
- 2.2. From 100 kpc to 1 kpc – the timescale of merging of a satellite with the Galaxy with/without dark matter due to dynamical friction against halo stars/gas + dark matter
- 2.3 From 1 kpc to 10 pc - the timescale of merging of a stellar nucleus (with MBH)
- 2.4 From 10 pc to 0.01 pc (or event to the Schwarzschild radius) - the timescale of merging of SBHs due to dynamical friction within merging nuclei.

*** For 2.2- 2.4. both analytical models and simulations results will be used. ****

*** For analytical models, only pens and papers are necessary. ***

*** For simulation data analysis, plotting skills + laptop PCs are required. ***

3. Summer projects (for multiple students) – from one week to one year!

3.1 Dynamical friction of MBHs against gas in forming stellar nuclei (gas vs star dynamical friction comparison).

3.2 Destruction of stellar nuclei by sinking MBHs. – origin for the diverse nuclear structures in galaxies.

3.3 Ram pressure stripping and S0 formation.

*** Students will be able to use my own GPU clusters for these new simulations. ***

(III) Cosmology and dark matter (Chris Power)

1. Lecture

1.1 The expanding Universe – measuring distance, the cosmic distance ladder, the Hubble Law

1.2 The matter content of the Universe - the Big Bang, the primordial elements, the need for dark matter.

1.3

1.4 Where does cosmic structure come from? - the Cosmic Microwave Background, overview of top-down and bottom-up structure formation, how it connects to our theories of dark matter, the cosmic web?

1.5 How do galaxies fit into this picture? – dark matter halos, high level overview of the physics of galaxy formation, in particular star formation, black hole growth and feedback.

2. Hands-on session – galaxies in the cosmic web – will require access to a computer and to manipulate data cubes using a python notebook.

2.1 Load in a cosmological dark matter simulation and visualize the cosmic web in 3D in the 3 spatial coordinates – look at projections in 2D.

2.2 Overlay the distribution of galaxies (either from a semi-empirical model, like a halo occupation distribution, or a semi-analytical model, like Shark) – apply different luminosity/colour cuts to highlight how galaxies of different masses/luminosities/colours trace the cosmic web – what trends are apparent?

2.3 Overlay the distribution of dark matter halos – what is the relationship between galaxies and their associated dark matter halos?

2.4 Now visualize the cosmic web – now using projected spatial coordinates in 2 dimensions and introducing redshift along the third dimension. Investigate (by eye) the Finger of God effect.

3. Summer projects (TBC)