

## Di Li

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### EDUCATION

**Ph.D.**, Astrophysics

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

February 2002

**Bachelor of Science**, Nuclear Physics

Beijing University, Beijing, China

July 1995

**Graduation Certificate**, Computer Science

Beijing University, Beijing, China

July 1995

### EMPLOYMENT

**Chief Scientist**

The Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical radio Telescope (FAST) Project

July 2018 – Present

**Chief Scientist**

Radio Astronomy Division, National Astronomical Observatories of China

Jan 2012 – Present

**Research Scientist**

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

Jan 2007 – Dec 2011

**National Research Council Fellow**

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology

May 2005 – Dec 2006

**Astronomer**

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Feb 2002 – May 2005

### SELECTED GRANTS , AWARDS, COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

«China News Weekly» **Scientist of the Year**

“China News Weekly” Influential Persons of the Year

2023

**The 3rd National Innovation Award**

The Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the China Association for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Science and Technology, and the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council.

2023

“*The National Innovation Award*”

**PI, Natural Science Award**

Beijing Science and Technology Award

2023

<i>“FAST’s Precise Characterization of Fast Radio Bursts and their Surrounding Environments”</i>		
<b>PI, Outstanding Scientific and Technological Achievement Award for year 2022</b>		
Chinese Academy of Sciences		2023
<i>“Fast Radio Burst Research Group”</i>		
<b>Member, Basic Science Center</b>		
National Natural Science Foundation of China		2020–2024
<i>“LAMOST and FAST: A Study of the MilkyWay and the Local Universe”</i>		
<b>PI, National Key R&amp;D Program of China</b>		
Ministry of Science and Technology of China		2017–2022
<i>“A Commensal Radio Astronomy FAST Survey (CRAFTS)”</i>		
<b>PI, Distinguished Young Fellowship</b>		
National Natural Science Foundation of China		2017–2022
<i>“Surveys with Large Radio Facilities and Evolution of the Interstellar Medium”</i>		
<b>Member</b>		
Major Facilities User-Guidance Council, Chinese Academy of Sciences		2015–2018
<b>PI, International Partnership Key Program</b>		
Chinese Academy of Sciences		2017–2022
<b>CoI, Gravitational Wave and General Relativity</b>		
Key Program of National Natural Science Foundation of China		2017–2022
<b>Chair</b>		
Cradle of Life Science Working Group, The Square Kilometer Array Organization		2015–2016
<b>Member, Australia Telescope National Facility Steering Committee (ATNF)</b>		
The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia		2012–2014
<b>PI, Fundamental Science Key Program (973)</b>		
Ministry of Science and Technology of China		2012–2016
<i>“The Frontiers of Radio Astronomy and FAST Early Sciences”</i>		
<b>Member, Stratospheric Observatory for Far Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA) Science User Group</b>		
Universities Space Research Association (USRA)		2012–2014
<b>Member of the Judge Panel, Chinese National Science and Technology Achievement Award</b>		
Ministry of Science and Technology of China		2012
<b>PI, Herschel Open Time Project, ESA/NASA</b>		2011
<i>“The Conditions of Isolated Dark Clouds with Signs of On Going H2 Formation”</i>		
<b>PI, SOFIA Basic Science Program, ESA/NASA</b>		2011

*“Mapping Dark Gas in Rho Oph A”*

**Member of Group Achievement Award, NASA** 2010

*Citation: “Outstanding achievements in the successful development of critical hardware”*

**CoI of four Herschel Open Time Projects, ESA/NASA** 2010

**CoI of Herschel Open Time Key Projects, ESA/NASA** 2008

*“GOT CPlus: State of the Diffuse ISM: Galactic Observations of the Terahertz CII Line”*

*“HOP: Herschel Oxygen Project”*

**PI of Spitzer Proposal, NASA** 2007

*“MIPS SED Observations of Massive Quiescent Cores in Orion”*

**CoI of two Spitzer Proposals and Grants, NASA** 2006

**Resident Research Associateship Award**

National Research Council, USA 2005

*Citation: “Awarded to postdoctoral scholars of outstanding ability as a result of national competition.”*

## **SYNOPSIS OF EXPERIENCES**

Dr. Li is a radio astronomer. He is the Chief Scientist of both FAST and the radio division of NAOC. He pioneered several observing and data analysis techniques, including HI narrow self-absorption (HINSA) and a new inversion algorithm for solving the dust temperature distribution. These techniques facilitated important measurements of star forming regions, such as their formation time scale. Based on HINSA Zeeman effect, he led the effort to precisely measure interstellar magnetic field, which was published on the cover of Nature. Dr. Li has led and/or made multiple significant discoveries, including the first detection of interstellar molecular oxygen, the largest set of fast radio burst (FRB) events, the first persistently active FRB, etc. He proposed and implemented a novel high-cadence-CAL technique that multiplied the survey efficiency of FAST. He has published more than 300 peer-reviewed journal articles, including 6 on Nature and 2 on Science. He won the National Research Council (US) Resident Research Associateship award (2005) based on “his outstanding research capabilities” and as “a result of national competition”. He won (as a member) the NASA outstanding team award (2009). He won the 2017 Distinguished Achievement Award (as a major contributor) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and again in 2022 as the PI. He took on many leading and/or advisory roles in national and international organizations, including the Steering Committee of Australia Telescope National Facility (ATNF), the “Cradle of Life” science working group (as a co-chair) of the Square Kilometer Array, the CAS Major-facilities Guidance Group, and the advisory panel of the Breakthrough Listen initiative.