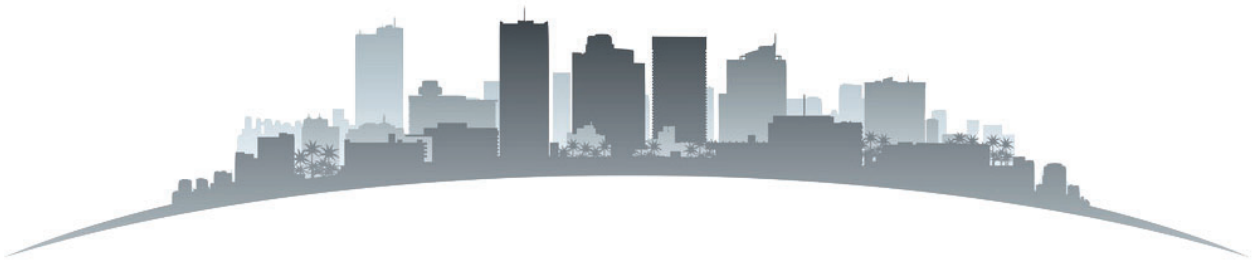
33rd Texas Symposium

on Relativistic Astrophysics

2025



PHOENIX

ARIZONA

Arizona State University, Tempe/Phoenix, USA

December 8-12, 2025

https://texassymposium.events.asu.edu

Welcome to the 33rd Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics

We are delighted to announce the 33rd Texas Symposium will be held at Arizona State University (ASU), situated in the vibrant city of Phoenix/Tempe, Arizona, United States. The dates for the symposium are December 8 to December 12, spanning Monday to Friday.

The Texas Symposium is one of the most prominent international conferences in astronomy and physics, a global event since its inception in 1963, having convened in diverse locations worldwide, including its recent occurrence in Shanghai, China. This edition marks a significant return to the United States after a decade, with the last U.S.-based symposium taking place in Texas during the 27th edition.

Plenary Speakers

Roger Blandford Stanford University	**James Bock** Cal Tech	**Tamara Davis** University of Queensland	**Cora Dvorkin*** Harvard University
Simon Foreman Arizona State University	**Wendy Freedman** University of Chicago	**Katie Freese** University of Texas Austin	**Vicky Kalogera** Northwestern University
Rocky Kolb University of Chicago	**Cecilia Lunardini** Arizona State University	**John Mather** NASA	**Feryal Ozel** Georgia Tech
Jim Peebles Princeton University	**Adam Riess** Johns Hopkins University	**George Smoot*** UC Berkeley	**Tanmay Vachaspati** Arizona State University
Frank Wilczek Massachusetts Institute Of Technology/ASU	**Rogier Windhorst** Arizona State University	**Matias Zaldarriaga** IAS Princeton	

*To be confirmed

Why ASU?

Arizona State University, recognized globally for its scientific innovation and interdisciplinary research, provides an ideal setting for this distinguished event. ASU has a strong tradition of hosting major international conferences, offering state-of-the-art facilities and a collaborative academic environment that will ensure a seamless and enriching experience for all attendees.

Convenience & Accessibility

ASU's prime location in Tempe, adjacent to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX)—one of the busiest airline hubs in the country—makes travel easy for international and domestic participants. A wide range of high-quality accommodations is available nearby, catering to diverse preferences and budgets.

Beyond the Symposium

Phoenix and Tempe offer a vibrant cultural landscape, featuring world-class museums, scenic outdoor activities, and a thriving culinary scene. Whether exploring the Desert Botanical Garden, hiking Camelback Mountain, or enjoying local Southwestern cuisine, attendees will have plenty of opportunities to experience the unique charm of Arizona's Sonoran Desert.

We look forward to welcoming you to Arizona State University in December 2025 for an exciting week of scientific discovery, collaboration, and cultural exploration!

About us

The Cosmology Initiative (https://cosmology.asu.edu) at ASU is composed of a large group of theoretical and experimental physicists with expertise spanning a diverse range of subjects. Our members perform research at the confluence of Astrophysics, General Relativity, Particle Physics and Cosmology with members housed in the Cosmology Initiative in the Department of Physics (https://physics.asu.edu), the School of Earth and Space Exploration (https://sese.asu.edu), the Beus Center for Cosmic Foundations (https://sese.asu.edu/beus-center-for-cosmic-foundations) and the Beyond Center (https://beyond.asu.edu). The relevant center directors include Tanmay Vachaspati, Rogier Windhorst, Judd Bowman and Paul Davies, respectively, and are comprised of hundreds if scientists. We are fortunate to have Nobel Laureate Frank Wilczek as a member of our department.

Location

Phoenix, Arizona has an ancient history, with evidence of Native American cultures dating back thousands of years. The Hohokam people, who inhabited the area over a millennium ago, left behind a legacy of intricate canal systems that laid the groundwork for modern agriculture.

Over the decades, Phoenix evolved into a major metropolitan area, embracing a diverse economy, technological advancements, and a burgeoning cultural scene. Today, it stands as the fifth-most populous city in the United States, a thriving community that elevates art, culture, cuisine and more to levels of greatness.

Arizona State University is a renowned public research university with multiple campuses across the Phoenix metropolitan area, our main campus is located in the city of Tempe. Established in 1885, ASU has grown into one of the largest and most innovative universities in the United States. Symposium attendees can explore the campus, attend cultural events, or visit the ASU Art Museum.

Phoenix offers a gateway to the Sonoran Desert, known for its unique flora and fauna. Attendees can explore the Desert Botanical Garden to experience the beauty of desert plant

life. The Valley of the Sun provides ample opportunities for outdoor activities. Attendees can enjoy hiking in the nearby Camelback Mountain, Papago Park or Superstition Mountain range, offering stunning desert vistas.

Downtown Phoenix and Tempe have undergone revitalization, boasting trendy restaurants, bars, and entertainment options, creating a dynamic urban atmosphere. Phoenix Art Museum showcases an extensive collection of visual arts, while the Heard Museum focuses on Native American culture. Both provide insightful cultural experiences. Phoenix's culinary scene is diverse and vibrant. Attendees can savor Southwestern cuisine and explore the city's growing food culture.

Further local Tempe information, including local food and event options, may be found on the city's websites: https://www.tempetourism.com , https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/68621648/2024-tempe-visitors-guide

Conference venue

Omni Tempe at ASU

A newly opened state-of-the-art hotel and event center conveniently located adjacent to the ASU campus and within walking distance of downtown Tempe: https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/tempe-asu

Logistics

Drawing from the attendance records of previous Texas meetings (409 in Portsmouth, 270 in Cape Town, 460 in Geneva, 470 in Dallas, 150 in Sao Paulo, 310 in Heidelberg), our target is to host approximately 500 participants for the upcoming symposium.

The scheduling plan involves conducting parallel sessions primarily in the afternoons. This arrangement ensures a dynamic and engaging symposium experience for participants. In addition, we will have several Nobel laureates in attendance as keynote speakers including John Mather, Jim Peebles, Adam Riess, George Smoot (TBC) and Frank Wilczek.

Accommodation

We have arranged discounted pre-booked rooms at the conference venue, the Omni Hotel. We invite you to book your rooms early, as December is very popular time of year and rooms are expected to sell out quickly. For special Symposium room rates go to: https://bookings.omnihotels.com/event/tempe-asu/texassymposium

We look forward to seeing you in December 2025!

Warm regards from the local organizational committee,

Mathew Baumgart, Andrei Belitsky, Judd Bowman, Paul Davies, Damien Easson (Chair), Simon Foreman, Cynthia Keeler, Cecilia Lunardini, Philip Mauskopf, Maulik Parikh, William Terrano, Tanmay Vachaspati, Rogier Windhorst and Frank Wilczek.

Contact us: txsymp2025@asu.edu

https://texassymposium.events.asu.edu

Staff

Marisol Diaz, Anne Dominic, Jeanette Perez, Jessica Strycker

Scientific Organizing Committee (SOC)

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Axel Brandenburg – Carnegie Mellon University; Nordita
Yi-Fu Cai – University of Science and Technology of China
Paul Davies – Arizona State University
Damien Easson – Arizona State University
Glennys Farrar – New York University
Katherine Freese – University of Texas at Austin; Stockholm University
Ruth Gregory – King's College London
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Eiichiro Komatsu – Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics
Dong Lai – Cornell University
Cecilia Lunardini – Arizona State University
John Mather – NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Priyamvada Natarajan – Yale University
James Peebles – Princeton University
Hiranya Peiris – University of Cambridge
Adam Riess – Johns Hopkins University, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences; Space Telescope Science Institute
Frank Rieger – Heidelberg University
Maria Rodriguez – Utah State University
Pearl Sandick – University of Utah
George Smoot – University of California, Berkeley; Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; HKUST Jockey Club Institute for Advanced Study
Tarun Souradeep – Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), India
Glenn Starkman – Case Western Reserve University
Mark Trodden – University of Pennsylvania
Tanmay Vachaspati – Arizona State University
Alex Vikman – Institute of Physics, Czech Academy of Sciences
Roland Walter – University of Geneva
David Wands – University of Portsmouth
Amanda Weltman – University of Cape Town
Frank Wilczek – Arizona State University
Matias Zaldarriaga – Institute for Advanced Study

International Organizing Committee (IOC)

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