Special Issue

Gravitational Lensing

Message from the Guest Editor

Gravitational lensing is currently a prime tool to investigate a number of astrophysical problems: From understanding the structure of our own galaxy, to searching for extrasolar planets, from studying the distribution of matter in galaxies and galaxy clusters, to understanding the nature of the main constituents of our universe, dark matter, and dark energy. A century passed since Albert Einstein published his theory of general relativity and since then, the accomplishment of gravitational lensing have been huge. This Special Issue wants to focus on the most recent developments in this field of astronomy and discuss what the open questions are that lensing can help to answer in the near future. Not only will the next years see the launch of missions like Euclid and WFIRST, but a new generation of instruments and telescopes, both on the ground and in space, will be available to the lensing community. Not only will the number of gravitational lenses discovered increase by orders of magnitude, but it will be possible to study a large number of them with unprecedented levels of details at different wavelengths.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

Editor-in-Chief

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