Te Han Ph.D. Candidate

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Education

Ph.D. in Physics, University of California, Irvine 2021 – 2026 (expected)
Advisor: Paul Robertson

B.S. in Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara 2017 – 2020
Advisor: Timothy Brandt

Awards & Honors

Chancellor's Fellowship | 2021–2023 UCI
Highest Honors (Honors at Graduation) | 2017–2020 UCSB
Dean's Honors (Letters & Science) | 2018–2020 UCSB

First-Author Publications

TESS-Gaia Light Curve: A PSF-based TESS FFI Light-curve Product
Han, T. & Brandt, T. D. 2023, AJ, 165, 71

TOI-5344 b: A Saturn-like Planet Orbiting a Super-solar Metallicity M0 Dwarf
Han, T., Robertson, P., Kanodia, S., et al. 2024, AJ, 167, 4

NEIDSpecMatch: Stellar Parameter Estimation with NEID Spectra Using an Empirical Library
Han, T., Robertson, P., Cañas, C. I., et al. 2025, RNAAS, 9, 63

Hundreds of TESS Exoplanets Might Be Larger than We Thought
Han, T., Robertson, P., Brandt, T. D., et al. 2025, ApJL, 988, L4

SURFSUP: Surveying Ultrafast Rotators For SUperyoung Planets
Han, T., Robertson, P., Holcomb, R., et al. 2025, In prep.

TESS-Gaia Light Curve: photometric precision analysis and new functionalities
Han, T., Robertson, P., Haviland, J., et al. 2025, In prep.

Selected Co-author Publications

Searching for GEMS: The Occurrence of Giant Planets orbiting M-dwarfs within 100 pc
Glusman, R. I., Cañas, C. I., Kanodia, S., Han, T., …, et al. 2025, arXiv:2509.08773

Searching for GEMS: TOI-5916 b & TOI-6158 b are two Saturn-density planets orbiting M2 dwarfs
O'Brien, S., Wong, A., Han, T., et al. 2025, arXiv:2510.11798

All publications

Personal ADS database: — Last updated: Oct. 2025
https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/public-libraries/i0dN71eMRXya8elFayuVLw

Citation statistics — h-index:8; total citation: 195
https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=icmoWO4AAAAJ&hl=en

Research & Academic Positions

Visiting Graduate Student | Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2025
Graduate Student Researcher | UC Irvine 2023 – Present
Teaching Assistant | UC Irvine 2021 – 2022
Lab Assistant | UC Santa Barbara 2020 – 2021
Physics Study Room Fellow | UC Santa Barbara 2018 – 2020
Learning Assistant | UC Santa Barbara 2018 – 2019

Talks & Posters

Invited Talks:

Caltech/IPAC Lunch Seminar, Caltech — The radius bias of TESS exoplanets 2025.04
TESS Science Talk, MIT (Remote) — TGLC Technical Details 2024.04
ExoSoCal 2023, Caltech — TOI-5344 b as a GEMS planet 2023.12
TESS Science Talk, MIT — TGLC Methods 2023.08

Contributed Talks:

TESS Science Conference III, MIT — TGLC Performance 2024.07
TESS Mission Update, MIT — TESS-Gaia Light Curve 2023.06

Posters:

Know Thy Star, Know Thy Planet 2, Caltech — SURFSUP 2025.02
CoolStars22, UCSD — SURFSUP 2024.06

Mentorship & Teaching

Undergraduate Research Mentor 2024–2025
Supervised Shane O'Brien & Amber Wong on a peer-reviewed paper UCI
Teaching Assistant 2022
COSMOS Cluster: California State Summer School for Mathematics and Science UCI
Teaching Assistant 2021–2022
Courses: Physics 7E, Physics 7D, Physics 3LB, Physics 3A UCI
Learning Assistant 2018
Course: INT 89AH UCSB
Physics Study Room Fellow 2018–2020
Provided peer tutoring and problem-solving guidance UCSB

Community Service & Outreach

Scientific Organizing Committee — ExoSoCal 2025 (UCLA) 2025
Referee — AAS Journals (AJ) 2025-
Photographer — UCI Physics & Astronomy Department's annual Awards Ceremony 2025
Visitor — UCI Mt. Wilson Field Trip 2022
Organizer — TEDxHarbinNo3HighSchool 2016

Awarded Telescope Time

NSF's NOIRLab (WIYN Telescope) PI – 12 hours | 2025–2026
2025B-665716
UC Observatories (Keck Telescope) Co-PI – 0.75 nights | 2025–2026
2025B_U202
McDonald Observatory (HET Telescope) Co-PI – 10 hours | 2025
SURFSUP
UC Observatories (Shane Telescope) Co-PI – 6 nights | 2024–2025
2024B_S011
NSF's NOIRLab (WIYN Telescope) Co-PI – 13.1 hours | 2024
2024A-413680
McDonald Observatory (HET Telescope) Co-PI – multiple semesters | 2022–2024
SURFSUP

Telescope Observing

Co-PI / Observer — Shane 3-m Telescope at Lick Observatory 15 nights, 2023-2024
Trainee — Sophia H. Levy McDonald Graduate Observational Astronomy Workshop 2022
Trainee — Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Telescope (FAST) School 2021

Media Coverage

Sky & Telescope — Coverage of ApJL: "Some planets are bigger than we thought" 2025

Space.com — Coverage of ApJL: "Bad news for alien life? Earth-size planets may be less common than we thought" 2025

Sci.News — Coverage of ApJL: "Hundreds of Exoplanets Discovered by NASA's TESS Satellite Might Be Larger than We Thought" 2025

Earth.com — Coverage of ApJL: "Hundreds of exoplanets are much larger than we thought" 2025

Orange County Register — Coverage of ApJL: "UC Irvine researchers add some clarity to search for extraterrestrial life" 2025

UCI News — Coverage of ApJL: "UC Irvine astronomers discover scores of exoplanets may be larger than realized" 2025

Skills

Programming: *Python*

Research & Data: *Ground-based telescope planning and observing (Shane 3-m Telescope at Lick Observatory), Exoplanet modeling, Radial Velocity analysis, Light Curve analysis, Spectra analysis, 3D modeling*

Technical Tools: *Deep Space Astrophotography, DSLR/Drone photography, 3D printing*

Communication: *Public speaking, Teaching, Science writing*

Languages: *Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)*