

Agenda for the First ISSI Meeting in Beijing

1. Dates:

9-13 March 2026 & Social dinners / Night snacks for jet ladders will be spontaneous
Reception @ 10 March 2026

2. To-Do List Before 8 March:

2.1. Subgroup leads / chairs

If you are a lead or chair of a subgroup, please contact your subgroup members and organise the presentations for your assigned morning session. Further details are provided above.

2.2 Remote participants

If you are attending remotely, please complete the following steps:

First, decide whether you would like to give a presentation.

- If yes, please contact your subgroup lead to indicate your intention.
- Record your presentation and share it with Jiachen.
- Your presentation should clearly outline your contribution to the subgroup's research, including relevant research plans, previous work, recent progress over the past few months, or future directions. Please aim to make the content accessible to other subgroup members.
- The easiest way to do this is to record a single-person Zoom meeting, then upload the recording to Jiachen's OneDrive link, which will be shared with you upon request.

Second, please indicate whether you will be able to attend one of the two two-sided online catch-up calls by emailing Jiachen.

- If no remote participants are available for a given call, that call will be cancelled.
- Please note that the scheduled time may be inconvenient for your time zone.

2.3. In-Person Participants

If you wish to give a presentation, or if you have been invited by the subgroup chair to present, please prepare your talk in advance.

Your presentation should clearly outline your contribution to the subgroup's research, including relevant research plans, previous work, recent progress over the past few months, or future directions. Please aim to make the content accessible to other subgroup members.

If you plan to attend in person without presenting, please make full use of this opportunity by actively engaging in discussion and collaboration. In particular, we encourage you, particularly ECRs, to arrange discussions, initiate collaborations, and participate in hands-on collaborative work during the afternoon sessions.

3. In-person attendants:

Andrew Young; Jiachen Jiang; Yuhao Yao; Nicolas Scepti; Brenna Mockler; Robbie Webbe; Xiaoshan Huang; Francesco Barra; Jake Rule; Tom Kwan; Darius Michienzi

4. Remote attendants:

Adam Ingram; James Stone; Jane Dai; Yanfei Jiang; Sophia Waddell; Ciro Pinto

5. Subgroups:

Our team is divided into five subgroups, each focusing on a specific topic. Each group will present and discuss their work during this meeting in front of other subgroups. The collaboration workshops in the afternoons are for team members to work together, compare simulations, and analyse data collectively.

Super-Eddington 1: Understand why ULX spectra differ so markedly from standard disc spectra, and why both pulsating and non-pulsating ULXs exhibit strikingly similar multi-component thermal and non-thermal features.

Super-Eddington 2: Build a self-consistent theoretical framework for TDE evolution—from disc formation through super-Eddington phases and into late-time sub-Eddington stages.

Variability 3: Assess whether disc instabilities can account for extreme variability phenomena across different accreting systems.

General Relativity 2: Understand the contribution of the optically thick plunging region inside the ISCO to observed spectra and variability.

Winds: Directly compare numerical simulations of disc winds with high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy.

6. Subgroup Morning Program:

6.1. Each subgroup is allocated one morning. The tentative schedule **assumes** three presentations of 40–45 minutes each, including 5 minutes for brief clarification Q&A. Between presentations, there will be a 10-minute break intended for more in-depth questions, informal discussion, networking or coffee.

6.2. A dedicated discussion on how the subgroup should proceed and formulate a concrete plan will take place after lunch, from 13:30 to 13:45.

6.3. Please note that the morning schedule is **flexible**. Subgroup members may choose to have fewer longer presentations or more shorter ones, depending on what best suits their goals. The **subgroup lead** is responsible for coordinating the morning session, including selecting speakers and topics.

6.4. If a remote member needs to present, please reach out to Jiachen, record your presentation ahead of time and share with him. You may, for example, record your presentation using Zoom.

6.5. Lunch will be served at the ISSI dining hall.

6.6. From 13:45 onward, the time is reserved for collaboration. Participants who have other commitments or arrangements outside the workshop are free to depart at that point.

6.7. Considering the time differences between time zones, we will not livestream the presentations. However, all presentations will be recorded, and the recordings will be shared shortly after each day's meetings.

During the last two days of the workshop, we will schedule two online two-sided, catch-up calls, each one hour long, designed to bridge two different time zones. These sessions will provide an opportunity for remote participants to interact and discuss with on-site participants in Beijing. The connection link will be shared in advance.

If no remote attendants sign up for an online call by informing Jiachen, we will cancel that online call.

Please note that there is no overlap in regular working hours between CST and EDT, so these online sessions may fall at inconvenient times for some participants. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

6.8. The Slack channel will remain open at all times for continued discussion and asynchronous interaction.

7. Agenda:

9 March (Chair: Yuhao Yao)

9:00-9:45 Super-Eddington 2 subgroup presentations I.

9:55-10:40 Super-Eddington 2 subgroup presentations II.

10:50-11:30 Super-Eddington 2 subgroup presentations III.

11:30-13:30 Lunch break

13:30- 14:15 Discussion and Q&A for Super-Eddington 2 subgroup

14:25-14:40 Super-Eddington 2 subgroup summary and outlook

14:40-17:30 Collaboration workshop

10 March (Chair: Francesco Barra on behalf of Ciro Pinto)

9:00-9:45 Super-Eddington 1 subgroup presentations I.

9:55-10:40 Super-Eddington 1 subgroup presentations II.
 10:50-11:30 Super-Eddington 1 subgroup presentations III.
 11:30-13:30 Lunch break
 13:30- 14:15 Discussion and Q&A for Super-Eddington 1 subgroup
 14:25-14:40 Super-Eddington 1 subgroup summary and outlook
 14:40-17:30 Collaboration workshop
 Reception @ Park Plaza Hotel

11 March (Chair: Jiachen Jiang)

9:00-9:45 General Relativity 2 subgroup presentations I.
 9:55-10:40 General Relativity 2 subgroup presentations II.
 10:50-11:30 General Relativity 2 subgroup presentations III.
 11:30-13:30 Lunch break
 13:30- 14:15 Discussion and Q&A for General Relativity 2 subgroup
 14:25-14:40 General Relativity 2 subgroup summary and outlook
 14:40-17:30 Collaboration workshop

12 March (Chair: Robbie Webbe)

9:00-9:45 Variability 3 subgroup presentations I.
 9:55-10:40 Variability 3 subgroup presentations II.
 10:50-11:30 Variability 3 subgroup presentations III.
 11:30-13:30 Lunch break
 13:30- 14:15 Discussion and Q&A for Variability 3 subgroup
 14:25-14:40 Variability 3 subgroup summary and outlook
 14:40-16:00 Collaboration workshop

Europe-China Online Call

Location	Local Time	Time Zone	UTC Offset
London (United Kingdom – England)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 08-09:00:00	GMT	UTC
Paris (France – Paris)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 09-10:00:00	CET	UTC+1 hour
Beijing (China – Beijing Municipality)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 16-17:00:00	CST	UTC+8 hours
Corresponding UTC (GMT)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 08-09:00:00		

13 March (Chair: Nicolas Scepi)

North America-China Catch up call

Location	Local Time	Time Zone	UTC Offset
Beijing (China – Beijing Municipality)	Friday, 13 March 2026, 08-09:00:00	CST	UTC+8 hours
San Francisco (USA – California)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 17-18:00:00	PDT	UTC-7 hours
Boston (USA – Massachusetts)	Thursday, 12 March 2026, 20-21:00:00	EDT	UTC-4 hours
Corresponding UTC (GMT)	Friday, 13 March 2026, 00-01:00:00		

9:00-9:45 Winds subgroup presentations I.
 9:55-10:40 Winds subgroup presentations II.
 10:50-11:30 Winds subgroup presentations III.
 11:30-13:30 Lunch break
 13:30- 14:15 Discussion and Q&A for Winds subgroup
 14:25-14:40 Winds subgroup summary and outlook
 14:40-17:30 Collaboration workshop