



HAO Colloquium Series

(Refreshments served)

- Speaker:** Feng Tian, Tsinghua University
- Time:** 3:00–4:00 pm
- Date:** Wednesday, August 14, 2013
- Location:** CG1-2139 Capt. Mary (No webcast or recording will be available)
- Title:** Habitability of Exoplanets and Potential Biosignatures on Exoplanets

Abstract:

With ~900 Exoplanets and a few thousand exoplanet candidates having been discovered, the rapidly expanding research field of exoplanets has increased our understanding of planetary atmospheres. Although several claims have been made on the discovery of "habitable" planets in recent years, none has been confirmed or generally accepted by the scientific community. In the next one or two decades, observation techniques will finally be mature for reliable identification and perhaps characterization of habitable exoplanets. In this talk we will discuss some recent developments on the observations and modeling of the atmospheres of exoplanets, focusing on 1) What kind of environment exists on terrestrial planets around other stars? 2) What are the differences in photochemistry in different planetary atmospheres?