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[ **Gifted Programme** ]



**Emerging Technology Talk Series by YASHK**

# The Early Universe – Secrets from the Dawn of Time

Professor WANG Yi

Department of Physics, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology



**Application Deadline**

**20 July 2026 12:00 noon**

## **Intended Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of the gifted programme, gifted students should be able to:

1. understand the Cosmic Correlation from Myth to Science;
2. unveil the mystery of Cosmic Inflation;
3. explore the origin and “Seeds” of Galaxies;
4. reflect on scientific limits and the unknown frontier.



## ◆ Gifted Programme Introduction

Since ancient times, humanity has imagined romantic tales behind the stars, such as the legendary bond between the Cowherd and the Weaver Girl. Modern cosmology, however, reveals a connection far more profound than any myth: galaxies are fundamentally correlated. Remarkably, our very existence here is linked to the distribution of galaxies hundreds of millions of light-years away.

What lies behind this cosmic connection? The answer is unveiled by the physics of the early universe: Cosmic Inflation. This period of rapid expansion not only explains why galaxies are positioned the way they are, but also provides the 'seeds' that allowed these massive structures to form in the first place.

While inflation solves these mysteries, a deeper question remains: what triggered inflation itself? This ultimately leads us to the ultimate frontier—how the universe began. While physical cosmology cannot yet provide a definitive answer, I will discuss the current challenges we face and the fascinating conjectures about the dawn of time.

WANG Yi is a Professor in the Department of Physics, Associate Director of the Institute for Space Science and Technology at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), and an Elected Member of the Hong Kong Young Academy of Sciences. He specialises in theoretical physics and cosmology and previously served as the Hawking Senior Fellow at the University of Cambridge.

Passionate about physics education, Professor Wang has authored a series of courses on Modern Physics and General Relativity on Coursera and served as the leader of the Hong Kong team for the International Physics Olympiad. He is also a prolific science communicator, having contributed to the 6th edition of the renowned book series 100,000 Whys and published multiple popular science books. His science videos have garnered over 100 million views online.

## ◆ Schedule

Session	Date	Time	Venue
1	15 August 2026 (Sat)	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (Registration: 9: 45 a.m.)	Zoom Meeting

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## Emerging Technology Talk Series by YASHK



### ◆ Suitable for

- S1 – S6 HKAGE student members in 2025/26 school year ONLY.
- Class size: 280
- \* First-come, first-served.

### ◆ Medium of Instruction

English

### ◆ Certificate

E-Certificate will be awarded to participants who have attended the talk.

### ◆ Remark

Starting from the 2023/24 school year, after the first review period, ALL student members must complete the following requirements in each school year in order to maintain their membership:

- Attend One Talk; AND
- Participate in One programme or activity of any kind

This talk is one of the items in the five domains of the Holistic Talk Series. The objective is to facilitate the all-round development of student' gifted potential.



#### Emerging Technology Talk Series by YASHK

Scientists introduce eye-opening emerging technology to enhance students' motivation to learn.



#### Trendy Academic Talk Series

Introduce trendy topics to widen the students' horizons.



#### National Security Talk Series

Understanding the meaning of National Security, enhances students' sense of national identity.



#### Ignite Life Talk Series

Celebrities share their life-changing moments to enhance students' aspirations for life.



#### Future Insight Talk Series

Professionals share insights about the latest trends in their industry to help students plan their future.



### ◆ Enquiry

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