

# YUNING CHEN

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## EDUCATION

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**University of California, Merced** Aug. 2021 - present  
*Ph.D. Student; Working as Graduate Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant* Merced, CA, USA  
**Tsinghua University** Aug. 2017 - Jun. 2021  
*B.Eng. in Software Engineering; Excellent Bachelor Graduate(10%);* Beijing, China

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Research Intern @ Alibaba Cloud U.S.** May. 2023 - Aug.2023  
*Keywords: Cloud-native, Large Language Model(LLM), IP Anycast.* Sunnyvale, CA

## PUBLICATIONS

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(\* denotes equal contribution)

Yifei Xu\*, Yuning Chen\*, Xumiao Zhang\*, Xianshang Lin, Pan Hu, Yunfei Ma, Songwu Lu, Wan Du, Z. Morley Mao, Ennan Zhai, and Dennis Cai. **CloudEval-YAML: A Practical Benchmark for Cloud Configuration Generation.** MLSys 2024.

Kang Yang, Yuning Chen, and Wan Du. **OrchLoc: In-Orchard Localization via a Single LoRa Gateway and Generative Diffusion Model-based Fingerprinting.** ACM Mobisys 2024.

Kang Yang\*, Yuning Chen\*, Xuanren Chen, and Wan Du. **Link Quality Modeling for LoRa Networks in Orchards.** ACM/IEEE IPSN 2023

Yifei Xu\*, Yuning Chen\*, Xumiao Zhang\*, Xianshang Lin, Pan Hu, Yunfei Ma, Songwu Lu, Wan Du, Z. Morley Mao, Ennan Zhai, and Dennis Cai. **CloudEval-YAML: A Realistic and Scalable Benchmark for Cloud Configuration Generation.** Machine Learning for Systems Workshop, NeurIPS 2023.

Zhizhang Hu\*, Shangjie Du\*, Yuning Chen, Xuan Zhang, Wan Du, Asa Bradman, Shijia Pan. **Poster: Enhancing Fault Resilience of Air Quality Monitoring in San Joaquin Valley: A Data Equity Analysis.** ACM SenSys 2023

## RECENT PROJECTS

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(Each accompanied by a full paper submitted to top-tier system conferences, with my contribution as first or co-first author.)

**A Scalable Benchmark for Cloud Configuration Generation** May. 2023 - Aug.2023  
*Research Intern, Advisor: Dr. Pan Hu, Dr. Yunfei Ma, Alibaba Cloud U.S.*

- Proposed a benchmark that includes the first hand-written dataset with 1011 practical problems for cloud-scale applications. Designed a scalable, automated evaluation platform consisting of a computing cluster to evaluate the generated code efficiently for various performance metrics.
- Presented an in-depth evaluation of 12 LLMs with the benchmark, leading to a deeper understanding of the performance of LLMs in the context of cloud configuration, as well as effective methods to improve task performance and reduce cost.

**IP Anycast Catchment Optimization based on AS-Path Prepending** May. 2023 - Aug.2023  
*Research Intern, Advisor: Dr. Pan Hu, Dr. Yunfei Ma, Alibaba Cloud U.S.*

- Identified causes of catchment inefficiency in IP anycast related to ASPP settings in a large scale MTR measurements on a testbed with over 1,000,000 IPs and 39 transits globally.
- Proposed a practical and interpretable workflow to optimize catchment efficiency based on iterative topology discovery with high efficiency with a minimal number of steps.

## Long-term Predictive Control for Sustainable Agriculture

Jan. 2023 - Feb.2024

*Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Prof. Wan Du, University of California, Merced*

- Introduced a new time-series forecasting model based on the iTransformer architecture, featuring modular designs that leverage external predictive input and capture periodic patterns in data sequences.
- Formulated agricultural managed aquifer recharge (AgMAR) as a long-term predictive control problem, designed an MPC workflow with a heuristic planning scheme to enhance the efficiency.

## PREVIOUS PROJECTS

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### Link Quality Modeling for LoRa Networks in Smart Orchards.

Aug. 2022 - Dec.2022

*Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Prof. Wan Du, University of California, Merced*

- Assesed the propagation modeling problem of wireless LoRa signals in smart orchard applications and explained the root drawback of existing path loss models.
- Proposed an interpretable propagation model for LoRa networks in orchards which leverages the first Fresnel zone theory to model the shadowing effect. Performance proved by extensive in-field experiments.

### Application-layer optimization for Video Streaming over Multipath

Sep. 2021 - Jul.2022

*Graduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Prof. Wan Du, University of California, Merced*

- Implemented MPTCP on Linux and AWS EC2 for WiFi and cellular collaborative transmission, evaluating QoE across various transport and application-layer bitrate techniques.
- Proposed a DNN-based approach for extracting multi-layer features to improve transmission time predictions, enhancing bitrate selection strategy and QoE.

### Low-Latency Real-Time Video Streaming with WebRTC

Jun. 2020 - Jan. 2021

*Undergraduate Research Assistant, Advisor: Prof. Mo Li, Nanyang Technological University*

- Built a live video streaming platform based on peer-peer connection, aiming to simulate and evaluate the real performance of WebRTC streaming, including signaling design and implementation.
- Implemented the Selective Forwarding Unit, a media server based on Janus to simulate the SOTA real-time video conference app; provided support for both PC and Android.

## SERVICES

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### Reviewer

ACM SenSys'23 Poster & Demo, ACM TOSN

### Artifact Evaluation Committee

ACM MobiCom'24, ACM MobiSys'24

### Volunteer

ACM/IEEE CPS-IoT Week 2023

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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### Languages

Python, C, C++, Java, Javascript, LaTeX, SQL, Golang, Matlab

### Technologies

Pytorch, Git, Linux, WebRTC, FFMPEG, Wireshark, NS-3, Prompt engineering

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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### Awards

- ACM SIGBED student travel award (for ACM/IEEE CPS-IoT Week), 2023
- ACM CoNEXT travel grant, 2021
- Excellent Bachelor Graduate, 2021
- First Prize, Student Research Training (SRT), Tsinghua University, 2019
- Outstanding Winner in the 7th Creative Competition · Junction X Tsinghua Hackathon, 2018

### Scholarships

- Scholarships Indicating Comprehensive Excellence, Tsinghua University, 2018, 2019, 2020
- Bobcat Fellowship, University of California Merced, 2022