Shuli Jiang

Research Interests

I am an Applied Scientist at Amazon Web Services (AWS) AI Labs. My research spans the theory and applications of machine learning optimization, communication efficient distributed algorithms, differential privacy, and security of large language models (LLMs).

Education

August 2020 – June 2025

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Ph.D. student at the Robotics Institute, School of Computer Science

Advisor: Prof. Gauri Joshi Expected Graduation Date: June 2025

May 2019 - May 2020

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

M.S. in Computer Science

Thesis title: Deep Multi-view Clustering Using Local Similarity Graphs

Advisor: Prof. Artur Dubrawski

August 2015 – May 2019

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

B.S. in Computer Science, University Honor Minor: Electrical and Computer Engineering

Research Publications

($\alpha\beta$: alphabetical order, **: contribution order)

Preprints

1. (**) Shuli Jiang, Pranay Sharma, Zhiwei Steven Wu, Gauri Joshi

The Cost of Shuffling in Private Gradient Based Optimization

arXiv Feb 2025 🌐 Link

2. (**) Shuli Jiang, Swanand Ravindra Kadhe, Yi Zhou, Farhan Ahmed, Ling Cai, Nathalie Baracaldo

Turning Generative Models Degenerate: The Power of Data Poisoning Attacks

arXiv Jul 2024 🏶 Link

Conference / Journal Proceedings

ı. (**) Shuli Jiang, Qiuyi Richard Zhang, Gauri Joshi

Optimized Tradeoffs for Private Prediction with Majority Ensembling

Transaction on Machine Learning Research (TMLR November 2024) 🏶 Link

2. (**) Shuli Jiang, Pranay Sharma, Gauri Joshi

Correlation Aware Sparsified Mean Estimation Using Random Projection 🗘 Link 🗘 Code

The Thirty-seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2023)

3. (**) Shuli Jiang, Robson Leonardo Ferreira Cordeiro, Leman Akoglu

D.MCA: Outlier Detection with Explicit Micro-Cluster Assignments Link Code

The Twenty-second IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM 2022)

4. (αβ) Shuli Jiang, Hai Thanh Pham, David P. Woodruff, Qiuyi Richard Zhang
Optimal Sketching for Trace Estimation Link Code
The Thirty-fifth Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2021 Spotlight)

5. $(\alpha\beta)$ Shuli Jiang, Dongyu Li, Irene Mengze Li, Arvind V. Mahankali, David P. Woodruff

Streaming and Distributed Algorithms for Robust Column Subset Selection Link Code

The Thirty-eighth International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2021)

6. (**) Bohan Zhang, Dana Van Aken, Justin Wang, Tao Dai, Shuli Jiang, Jacky Lao, Siyuan Sheng, Andrew Pavlo, Geoffrey J. Gordon

A Demonstration of the OtterTune Automatic Database Management System Tuning Service Link Code

The VLDB Endowment, Vol. 11, No. 12 (VLDB 2018)

Workshop Proceedings

(**) Shuli Jiang, Swanand Kadhe, Yi Zhou, Ling Cai, Nathalie Baracaldo
 Forcing Generative Models to Degenerate Ones: The Power of Data Poisoning Attacks Link
 NeurIPS 2023 Workshop on Backdoors in Deep Learning - The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly (Best Poster Award)

Technical Reports

1. $(\alpha\beta)$ Theresa Gebert, Shuli Jiang, Jiaxian Sheng

Characterizing Allegheny County Opioid Overdoses with an Interactive Data Explorer and Synthetic Prediction Tool \$\oint\text{Link}\$ Code

HackAuton Best Show Prize, 2018

2. Shuli Jiang

Deep Multi-view Clustering Using Local Similarity Graphs Link

Master's Thesis, 2020, Advisor: Prof. Artur Dubrawski

Patent

April 2024

Inventors: Shuli Jiang, Swanand Kadhe, Yi Zhou, Ling Cai, Nathalie Baracaldo

Title: Defense Against Poisoning Generative Models

Reference number: P202303734US01

Filed by IBM Research

Work Experience

January 2025 - April 2025

Google Research, Remote in Pittsburgh, PA, USA Student Researcher (Part-Time)

September 2024 - November 2024

Google Research, Remote in Pittsburgh, PA, USA Student Researcher (Part-Time)

Work Experience (continued)

May 2024 - August 2024

Google Research, Mountain View, CA, USA

Student Researcher

Manager: Walid Krichene, Nicolas Mayoraz

Focus: Differential Privacy, Recommender Systems

Design differentially private learning algorithms for training models, such as Factorization Machines, for ads prediction and recommender systems. Our focus is on scenarios where datasets contain both private and public features, exploring how to leverage public features to improve the privacy-utility trade-off.

May 2023 - August 2023

IBM Research (Almaden), San Jose, CA, USA

Research Summer Intern (AI Security and Privacy Solutions) Advisor: Swanand Kadhe, Manager: Nathalie Baracaldo

Focus: Large Language Model (LLM) Security

Investigate security vulnerabilities of large language models (LLMs) in terms of data poisoning attacks targeting natural language generation (NLG) tasks, including text summarization, text completion, table-to-text generation, etc. Design and develop defense strategies to counter-attack those types of security threats to LLMs.

June 2018 - August 2018

Morgan Stanley, New York City, NY, USA

Technology Analyst (Application Development)

Focus: Outlier Detection

Develop a data quality management system which collects real-time trading data from multiple source databases, detects potential anomalies to ensure data quality and visualizes anomalous data.

June 2017 - August 2017

PreSenso Ltd., Haifa, Israel

Software Engineer Intern

Focus: Outlier Detection

Develope an anomaly detection benchmark for evaluating and comparing the performances of different anomaly detection algorithms on various patterns of anomalies.

Public Talks

September 2024 CMU CyLab Security & Privacy Institute Partners Conference

Topic: Differentially Private Incremental Gradient (IG) Methods with Public Data

February 2024 NSF CPS Frontier Annual Review Lightening Talk (3-min)

Topic: Distributed Vector Mean Estimation

September 2023 AI-EDGE Students and Postdocs gathering for AI Research and Knowledge Sharing

(AI-EDGE SPARKS)

Topic: Federated Learning and Distributed Vector Mean Estimation

May 2023 CMU Robotics Institute Ph.D. Speaking Qualifier Public Talk

Topic: Differential Privacy and Private Majority Ensembling

Service

Conference/Workshop Reviewer SODA 2022, SIGKDD 2023, NeurIPS 2023, ICLR 2024, AISTATS

2024, SDM 2024, ISIT 2024, NeurIPS 2024, ICLR 2025, AISTATS

2025, MLSys 2025, ICML 2025, NeurIPS 2025

Workshop Reviewer 📕 AAAI The First Workshop on DL-Hardware Co-Design for AI Ac-

celeration 2023, ICLR Workshop R2-FM 2024, ICML Workshop

FM-Wild 2024, AutoML Workshop 2024

Journal Reviewer | IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking 2023, Data-centric Ma-

chine Learning Research (DMLR) 2024

Department Service MU Robotics Institute Ph.D. Admission Committee 2023, 2024

Teaching Assistantship

Fall 2022 | 16-831 Statistical Techniques in Robotics, @ Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2020 **10-725 Convex Optimization**, @ Carnegie Mellon University

Fall 2017 | 17-214 Principles of Software Construction, @ Carnegie Mellon University

Technical Skills

Programming Python, Java, Matlab (Basic), C (Basic)

Tools Python: {Tensorflow, PyTorch, Pandas}, LaTeX

Awards

NeurIPS 2023 Scholar Award

2022 | IEEE ICDM 2022 Student Travel Award (\$ 700)

Graduate Student Assembly/Provost Conference Travel Grant (\$ 750)

2019 Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate University Honor

2015 – 2019 Carnegie Mellon University Undergraduate Dean's List

2018 HackAuton Best Show Prize

2017 – 2019 Rarnegie Mellon University Innovation Scholar

Buncher Entrepreneurship Award (\$ 10,000)