Cong Yin

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Bio

I am an early-career climate scientist pushing the boundaries of understanding wildfires and climate extremes using hydroclimatic, data-driven, and geostatistical approaches. My work has led to step-changes in understanding the synchronicity and persistence of extreme fire weather—factors that strongly influence extreme fire activity. Benefiting from world-class supervision and collaboration, I focus my recent work on extreme wildfires, one of the most societally and environmentally destructive consequences of climate change. I increasingly concentrate on predicting extreme wildfires and developing a mechanistic understanding of their causes, contributing to advances in fire science and fire management, with the potential to save lives and property.

Education

Ph.D. in Geographic Information Science	Sep. 2018 – Jun. 2024
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University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China	
Advisor: Dr. Juanle Wang	
Dissertation: Detection, Changes, and Impacts of Global Compound Events	
Visiting Ph.D. Student at Columbia University, New York, NY, USA	Apr. 2023 – Jun. 2024
Department: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory	
Advisor: Dr. Mingfang Ting	
B.S. in Land Resources Management	Sep. 2014 – Jun. 2018
Chang'an University, Xi'an, China	

Appointments

Postdoctoral Scientist at University of California, Merced, CA, USA

Aug. 2024 – Present

Department: Sierra Nevada Research Institute

Advisor: Dr. John Abatzoglou

Publications

Published

- [1] C. Yin, M. Ting, K. Kornhuber, R. M. Horton, Y. Yang, Y. Jiang, CETD, a global compound events detection and visualisation toolbox and dataset. Sci. Data 12, 356 (2025).
- [2] Y. Liu, Y. Xin, C. Yin, A Transformer-based method to simulate multi-scale soil moisture. J. Hydrol. 655, 132900 (2025).
- [3] C. Yin, Y. Yang, X. Chen, X. Yue, Y. Liu, Y. Xin, Global near real-time daily apparent temperature and heat wave dataset. Geosci. Data J. 10, 231–245 (2023).
- [4] C. Yin, Y. Yang, X. Chen, X. Yue, Y. Liu, Y. Xin, Changes in global heat waves and its socioeconomic exposure in a warmer future. Clim. Risk Manag. 38, 100459 (2022).
- [5] C. Yin, Y. Yang, F. Yang, X. Chen, Y. Xin, P. Luo, Diagnose the dominant climate factors and periods of spring phenology in Qinling Mountains, China. Ecol. Indic. 131, 108211 (2021).
- [6] X. Chen, Y. Yang, C. Yin, Contribution of Changes in Snow Cover Extent to Shortwave Radiation Perturbations at the Top of the Atmosphere over the Northern Hemisphere during 2000–2019. Remote Sens. 13, 4938 (2021).

- [7] C. Yin, F. Yang, J. Wang, Y. Ye, Spatiotemporal distribution and risk assessment of heat waves based on apparent temperature in the one belt and one road region. Remote Sens. 12, 1174 (2020).
- [8] C. Yin, F. Yang, J. Wang, Analogs of Future Climate in Chinese Cities Identified in Present Observations. IEEE Access 8, 219151–219159 (2020).

Under Review

[1] C. Yin, J. T. Abatzoglou, M. W. Jones, A. C. Cullen, M. Sadegh, J. Wang, Y. Liu, Increasing synchronicity of global extreme fire weather. Sci. Adv. (2025).

In Preparation

- [1] C. Yin, J. T. Abatzoglou, M. W. Jones, A. C. Cullen, M. Sadegh, Increasing fire weather waves as a critical driver of extreme fire activity.
- [2] C. Yin, M. Ting, K. Kornhuber, R. M. Horton, Understanding the record-breaking concurrent heatwaves of summer 2023.

Funding

[1] Changes and Drivers of Global Extreme Fire Weather, China State Key	PI (2024–, \$5, 000)
Laboratory of Geographic Information Science and Technology	
[2] Detection, Changes, and Impacts of Global Compound Events,	PI (2023–2024, \$24, 000)
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences	

Presentations

[1] Increasing synchronicity of global extreme fire weather, SNRI	Oral, Mar. 2025, Merced, USA
Early Career Researcher Lightning Talks	
[2] Increasing Global Intra-Regional and Inter-Regional	Poster, May 2025, Denver, USA
Synchronous Fire Danger, 2025 AMS Denver Summit	
[3] CETD, a global compound events detection and visualization	Poster, Dec. 2023, San Francisco, USA
toolbox and dataset, AGU Fall Meeting	

Honors & Awards

[1] First Class Academic Scholarship, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences	Oct. 2022 & 2023
[2] First Class Director Scholarship, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural	Oct. 2021 & 2022
Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences	
[3] Scholarship for the International PhD Joint Training Program, University of	Nov. 2022
Chinese Academy of Sciences	
[4] Merit Student Scholarship, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences	May 2020, 2021 & 2023

Media & Outreach

Science Communication

- [1] Founder of the WeChat public account Extreme Science, established in Feb. 2025, 799 followers
- [2] CETD, a global compound events detection and visualisation toolbox and dataset, Bluesky, Mar. 2025

Industry & Fieldwork

- [1] A nine-day fieldwork investigating the ecological benefits of restoring grazing land to grassland in Tibet, Jul. 2019, Tibet, China
- [2] A fourteen-day fieldwork monitoring factory pollution using drones in northern China, Nov. 2020, Hebei, China