

FRANCES FENGYI YANG

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ABOUT ME

Frances Yang is a final-year PhD candidate at the Australian Institute for Machine Learning (AIML), The University of Adelaide, supervised by *Prof. Tat-Jun Chin* and *Dr. Michele Sasdelli*. By exploring both gate-based and annealing-based quantum systems, she aims to unlock new computational paradigms for large-scale perception and decision-making systems.

Frances is driven to pursue an academic career where she can lead cutting-edge research in quantum computer vision, build interdisciplinary collaborations, and mentor future researchers. With a strong publication record and a clear vision for impactful, long-term research directions, she is also committed to high-quality, research-informed teaching and contributing to a vibrant academic community.

EDUCATION

The University of Adelaide, Australia

2021 – 2025

PhD candidate at School of Computer & Mathematical Sciences

Supervisors: *Prof. Tat-Jun Chin* & *Dr. Michele Sasdelli*

Thesis title: Realisation of Deep Learning Algorithms and Computer Vision on Quantum Computers

Research focus: developing quantum algorithms for foundational problems in machine learning and computer vision, with a particular emphasis on quantum-enhanced geometric reasoning and optimization.

The University of Adelaide, Australia

2016 – 2020

1st Class Honours *BEng (Hons)* in Electrical & Electronics, majored in Computer Engineering

GPA: 6.3/7.0, equivalent to 3.77/4.0

Highlight courses: Digital Signal Processing, Radio Frequency Systems, Control, Electronic Circuits, and Engineering Electromagnetics.

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

1. Robust Fitting on a Gate Quantum Computer

Frances Fengyi Yang, Michele Sasdelli, Tat-Jun Chin

European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV), *Best Paper Finalist, Oral*, 2024.

Invited talk at 2nd Workshop on Quantum Computer Vision and Machine Learning (QCVML).

2. Projected Stochastic Gradient Descent with Quantum Annealed Binary Gradients

Maximilian Krahn, Michelle Sasdelli, **Frances Fengyi Yang**, Vladislav Golyanik, Juho Kannala, Tat-Jun Chin, Tolga Birdal

British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC), 2024.

3. Training Multilayer Perceptrons by Sampling with Quantum Annealers

Frances Fengyi Yang, Michele Sasdelli, Tat-Jun Chin

arXiv preprint arXiv:2303.12352, 2023.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

Research Assistant

2020 – 2021

Centre for Research on Engineering Software Technologies (CREST) Group, The University of Adelaide

Project: Adversarial Machine Learning in Natural Language Processing (NLP)

- Worked on building a defense pipeline against adversarial samples in a task-agnostic NLP system.
- Implemented a text normalizer to map user-generated text from social media to canonical forms for NLP systems to mitigate the impact of potential adversarial samples.

Research Assistant

2018 – 2019

System and Control Group, The University of Adelaide

Project: Rover Platform Development for Autonomous & Multi-agent system

- Implemented a three-wheeled omnidirectional robot PID controller with model simulation in Simulink, implementation & tests in Python, and deployed on Raspberry Pi.

Research Assistant

2017 – 2018

The University of Adelaide

Sponsored by Australian Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG)

Project: Classifying Network Traffic Flows with Deep Learning

- Trained and optimized classifiers for sparsely labeled network data using selected algorithms including NN, SVM, C4.5 Decision Tree, Random Forest, etc.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Lecturer

2025 Semester 1

Course: Computer Networks & Applications (3001_7039 Combined)

School of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, The University of Adelaide

OTHER EXPERIENCES

Software Developer Intern

2021

eSMART 21 Pty Ltd

Sensor Image Processing in Smart Parking Systems

- Added a privacy layer to the smart parking system by processing sensor input to blur human objects in camera images using machine learning techniques.

Kaggle Competition

2020

OSIC Pulmonary Fibrosis Progression Project

Awarded **silver medal**, for ranking 17th out of 2097 and being among the **top 1%** worldwide

- Employed deep learning and data analysis techniques to carry out the task of predicting patients' severity of the decline in lung function based on historical CT scans of their lungs – as part of a 3 manned team.
- Used a ConvNets architecture called EfficientNet-B0 with Adam Optimization Algorithm for prediction.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Best Paper Candidate & Oral presentation in ECCV

2024

Australian Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarship

2021

Silver Medal in Kaggle Competition

2020

Australian Cyber Security Cooperative Research Centre Research Scholarships

2019

The University of Adelaide Summer Research Scholarships

2018

SKILLS

Programming Python, C++, MATLAB, Verilog.

Quantum Computing D-Wave Ocean SDK, Qiskit, AWS Braket.

Machine Learning Tools PyTorch, Scikit-Learn.

Miscellaneous Linux, Git, L^AT_EX.

REFERENCE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST
