

Zishen Wan

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research Areas: Computer Architecture, VLSI, Autonomous Machine, EDA, Embedded System

Research Vision: My research is at the intersection of VLSI, computer architecture, and embedded systems. I build hardware and system for autonomous machines and edge intelligence through cross-stack software-hardware co-design, with the vision to advance their performance, efficiency, resilience, and robustness.

EDUCATION

- 2020-2025 **Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA**
(Expected) Ph.D., School of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)
- *Advisor:* Prof. Arijit Raychowdhury
 - *Research Topic:* Efficient and Reliable Hardware and System Design for Edge Intelligence
 - *GPA:* 4.0/4.0
- 2018-2020 **Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA**
M.S., School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS)
- *Advisor:* Prof. Vijay Janapa Reddi
 - *Research Topic:* Reliability and Design Automation of Autonomous Machines
 - *GPA:* 3.95/4
- 2014-2018 **Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT), Harbin, China**
B.E. with High Honors, Department of Electrical Engineering (EE)
- *GPA:* 93.5/100 (Rank: 2/230)

PERFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020- **Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA**
Graduate Research Assistant
- 2018-2020 **Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA**
Graduate Research Assistant
- 2018 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA**
Graduate Research Assistant
- 2016-2018 **Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin, China**
Undergraduate Research Assistant
- 2017 **National Tsing-Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan**
Visiting Student
- 2017 **National Chiao-Tung University, Hsinchu, Taiwan**
Visiting Student

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 **IEEE Micro Top Picks**, Honorable Mention
Recognition of “the most significant research papers in computer architecture based on novelty and potential for long-term impact, published in the top computer architecture conferences of 2022”
- 2022 **1st Place, ACM Student Research Competition** at Embedded Systems Week (**ESWEEK**)
Ranked 1st of 30 participants, will represent SIGBED to compete in ACM Grand Finals
- 2022 **3rd Place, ACM Student Research Competition** at International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (**ICCAD**) (declined)
- 2022 **Qualcomm Fellowship**
- 2022 **Young Fellow**, ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (**DAC**)
- 2022 **CRNCH PhD Fellowship**, Center for Novel Computing Hierarchies, Georgia Tech
2-4 graduate students each year in Georgia Tech College of Engineering and College of Computing
- 2021 **Best Research Video Award**, DAC Young Fellow Program
25 winners out of ~200 DAC young fellow students
- 2021 **Young Fellow**, ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (**DAC**)
- 2021 **4th Place**, ACM Student Research Competition at International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (**ICCAD**)
- 2020 **Best Paper Award** in IEEE Computer Architecture Letter (**CAL**)
Paper ranked highest among 42 accepted papers that year
- 2020 **Best Paper Award** in ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (**DAC**)
Paper ranked highest among 228 accepted papers out of 984 submissions that year
- 2020 **Dean’s Fellowship**, Purdue University
2 winners out of over 1600 worldwide applicants, declined
- 2018 **Chiang Chen Overseas Graduate Scholarship**
10 of all undergraduates and graduates in China, \$50,000/person
- 2018 **Best Undergraduate Thesis Award**, HIT
100 winners out of ~4000 thesis submissions
- 2018 **First Class of Chunhui Innovation Achievement Award**
3 of all undergraduates in HIT, highest student academic honor in HIT
- 2018 **China Telecom Scholarship**
5 of all undergraduates and graduates in HIT
- 2018 **Outstanding Graduates**, HIT
Top 1% of all undergraduates
- 2017 **Innovation and Entrepreneurship Scholarship**, Ministry of Industry and Information, China
- 2016 **First Prize**, National Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling, China
Team leader, 294 winners out of ~32000 teams, ranked highest among ~600 HIT teams
- 2016 **Siemens Academic Scholarship**
30 of all undergraduates and graduates in HIT
- 2016 **Outstanding Student** of Heilongjiang Province, China
Top 1% of all undergraduates
- 2015 **Johnson Electric Academic Scholarship**
15 of all undergraduates and graduates in HIT
- 2015-2017 **First Class Academic Excellence Scholarship**, HIT
Top 3% of all undergraduates

PUBLICATIONS

(* Indicates Equal Contributions)

Book

- Synthesis** “Robotic Computing on FPGAs”
Lectures on Shaoshan Liu, Zishen Wan, Bo Yu, Yu Wang
Computer *In Synthesis Lectures on Computer Architecture (Morgan & Claypool Publishers), pp.1-*
Architecture *218, Jun 2021*

Conference Publications

- DAC 2023** “BERRY: Bit Error Robustness for Energy-Efficient Reinforcement Learning-Based Autonomous Systems”
Zishen Wan, Nandhini Chandramoorthy, Karthik Swaminathan, Pin-Yu Chen, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Arijit Raychowdhury
To appear in ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC), July 2023
- DATE 2023** “Real-Time Fully Unsupervised Domain Adaptation for Lane Detection in Autonomous Driving”
 Kshitij Bhardwaj, Zishen Wan, Arijit Raychowdhury, Ryan Goldhahn
To appear in Design, Automation and Test in Europe Conference (DATE), March 2023
- DATE 2023** “MAVFI: An End-to-End Fault Analysis Framework with Anomaly Detection and Recovery for Micro Aerial Vehicles”
 Yu-Shun Hsiao*, Zishen Wan*, Tianyu Jia, Radhika Ghosal, Abdulrahman Mahmoud Arijit Raychowdhury, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei, Vijay Janapa Reddi (*alphabetical order)
To appear in Design, Automation and Test in Europe Conference (DATE), March 2023
- ISSCC 2023** “A 73.53TOPS/W 14.74TOPS Heterogeneous RRAM In-Memory and SRAM Near-Memory SoC for Hybrid Frame and Event-Based Target Tracking”
 Muya Chang*, Ashwin Lele*, Samuel Spetalnick, Brian Crafton, Shota Konna, Zishen Wan, Ashwin Bhat, Win-San Khwa, Yu-der Chih, Meng-Fan Chang, Arijit Raychowdhury
To appear in International Solid-State Circuits Conference (ISSCC), February 2023
- ICCAD 2022** “On Resilience and Robustness of Autonomous Systems”
Zishen Wan, Karthik Swaminathan, Pin-Yu Chen, Nandhini Chandramoorthy, Arijit Raychowdhury
In 41st IEEE/ACM International Conference on Computer-Aided Design (ICCAD), November 2022
- MICRO 2022** “Automatic Domain-Specific SoC Design for Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles”
 (Selected as **IEEE Micro Top Picks, Honorable Mention**)
 Srivatsan Krishnan, Zishen Wan, Kshitij Bhardwaj, Paul Whatmough, Aleksandra Faust, Sabrina M. Neuman, Gu-Yeon Wei, David Brooks, Vijay Janapa Reddi
In 55th IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO), October 2022
Acceptance Rate: 22% (83/369)
- DAC 2022** “Improving Compute In-Memory ECC Reliability with Successive Correction”
 Brian Crafton, Zishen Wan, Samuel Spetalnick, Jong-Hyeok Yoon, Wei Wu, Carlos Tokunaga, Vivek De, Arijit Raychowdhury
In 59th ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC), July 2022

Acceptance Rate: 23% (231/987)

- AICAS 2022** “Robotic Computing on FPGAs: Current Progress, Research Challenges, and Opportunities”
Zishen Wan, Ashwin Lele, Bo Yu, Shaoshan Liu, Yu Wang, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Cong (Callie) Hao, Arijit Raychowdhury
In IEEE International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Circuits and Systems (AICAS), June 2022
- ISPASS 2022** “Roofline Model for UAVs: A Bottleneck Analysis Tool for Onboard Compute Characterization of Autonomous Unmanned Aerial Vehicles”
 Srivatsan Krishnan, Zishen Wan, Kshitij Bhardwaj, Ninad Jadhav, Aleksandra Faust, Vijay Janapa Reddi
In IEEE International Symposium on Performance Analysis of Systems and Software (ISPASS), June 2022
 Acceptance Rate: 28.9% (24/83)
- CICC 2022** “An Energy-Efficient and Runtime-Reconfigurable FPGA-Based Accelerator for Robotic Localization Systems”
 Qiang Liu*, Zishen Wan*, Bo Yu*, Weizhuang Liu, Shaoshan Liu, Arijit Raychowdhury
In IEEE Custom Integrated Circuits Conference (CICC), April 2022
 Acceptance Rate: 41.3% (97/235)
- DATE 2022** “FRL-FI: Transient Fault Analysis for Federated Reinforcement Learning-Based Navigation Systems”
Zishen Wan, Aqeel Anwar, Abdulrahman Mahmoud, Tianyu Jia, Yu-Shun Hsiao, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Arijit Raychowdhury
In Design, Automation and Test in Europe Conference (DATE), March 2022
 Acceptance Rate: 25%
- ASP-DAC 2022** “Circuit and System Technologies for Energy-Efficient Edge Robotics”
 (Invited Paper) Zishen Wan, Ashwin Lele, Arijit Raychowdhury
In Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conference (ASP-DAC), January 2022
- DAC 2021** “Analyzing and Improving Fault Tolerance of Learning-Based Navigation System”
Zishen Wan, Aqeel Anwar, Yu-Shun Hsiao, Tianyu Jia, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Arijit Raychowdhury
In 58th ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC), December 2021
 Acceptance Rate: 23%
- AICAS 2021** “An Energy-Efficient Quad-Camera Visual System for Autonomous Machines on FPGA Platform”
Zishen Wan*, Yuyang Zhang*, Arijit Raychowdhury, Bo Yu, Yanjun Zhang, Shaoshan Liu
In IEEE International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Circuits and Systems (AICAS), June 2021
- AICAS 2021** “iELAS: An ELAS-Based Energy-Efficient Accelerator for Real-Time Stereo Matching on FPGA Platform”
 Tian Gao*, Zishen Wan*, Yuyang Zhang, Bo Yu, Yanjun Zhang, Shaoshan Liu, Arijit Raychowdhury
In IEEE International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Circuits and Systems (AICAS), June 2021

- DAC 2020 (Best Paper Award)** “Algorithm-Hardware Co-Design of Adaptive Floating-Point Encodings for Resilient Deep Learning Inference”
Thierry Tambe, En-Yu Yang, Zishen Wan, Yuntian Deng, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei
In 57th ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC), July 2020
Acceptance Rate: 23% (228/984)

Journal Publications

- TMLR 2022** “QuaRL: Quantization for Fast and Environmentally Sustainable Reinforcement Learning”
Srivatsan Krishnan*, Max Lam*, Sharad Chitlangian*, Zishen Wan, Gabriel Barth-Maron, Aleksandra Faust, Vijay Janapa Reddi
In Transactions on Machine Learning Research (TMLR), July 2022
- CAS-M 2021** “A Survey of FPGA-Based Robotic Computing”
Zishen Wan*, Bo Yu*, Thomas Yuang Li, Jie Tang, Yuhao Zhu, Yu Wang, Arijit Raychowdhury, Shaoshan Liu
In IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine (CAS-M), June 2021
- CAL 2020 (Best Paper Award)** “The Sky Is Not the Limit: A Visual Performance Model for Cyber-Physical Co-Design in Autonomous Machines”
Srivatsan Krishnan, Zishen Wan, Kshitij Bhardwaj, Paul Whatmough, Aleksandra Faust, Gu-Yeon Wei, David Brooks, Vijay Janapa Reddi
In IEEE Computer Architecture Letters (CAL), March 2020
- JJAP 2019** “Electrically Tunable Temporal Imaging in a Graphene-Based Waveguide”
Peng Xie, Yu Wen, Zishen Wan, Xinyu Wang, Jiarui Liu, Wenqiang Yang, Xiaofeng Li, Yishan Wang
In Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, 58(5):050914, April 2019

Workshop Publications

- ICML 2022** “Multi-Task Federated Reinforcement Learning with Adversaries”
Aqeel Anwar, Zishen Wan, Arijit Raychowdhury
In International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), Adversarial Machine Learning Workshop, July 2022
- NVMW 2022** “RRAM-ECC: Improving Reliability of RRAM-Based Compute In-Memory”
Zishen Wan*, Brian Crafton*, Samuel Spetalnick, Jong-Hyeok Yoon, Arijit Raychowdhury
In 13th Annual Non-Volatile Memories Workshop (NVMW), May 2022
- ICLR 2021** “ActorQ: Quantization for Actor-Learner Distributed Reinforcement Learning”
Max Lam*, Sharad Chitlangian*, Srivatsan Krishnan*, Zishen Wan, Gabriel Barth-Maron, Aleksandra Faust, Vijay Janapa Reddi
In International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), Hardware-Aware Efficient Training Workshop, May 2021
- MLSys 2020** “Quantized Reinforcement Learning (QuaRL)”
Srivatsan Krishnan*, Sharad Chitlangian*, Max Lam*, Zishen Wan, Aleksandra Faust, Vijay Janapa Reddi

In Conference on Machine Learning and System (MLSys), Resource-Constrained Machine Learning Workshop, March 2020

Preprints

- Preprint 2021** “AutoSoC: Automating Algorithm-SoC Co-design for Aerial Robots”
Srivatsan Krishnan, Thierry Tambe, Zishen Wan, Vijay Janapa Reddi
arXiv preprint arXiv:2109.05683, 2021
- Preprint 2019** “Adaptivfloat: A Floating-point Based Data Type for Resilient Deep Learning Inference”
Thierry Tambe, En-yu Yang, Zishen Wan, Yuntian Deng, Vijay Janapa Reddi, Alexander Rush, David Brooks, Gu-Yeon Wei
arXiv preprint arXiv:1909.13271, 2019

SELECTED TALKS

- Feb 2023 “Intelligence in Robotic Computing: Exploring Agile Design Flows for Building Efficient and Resilient Autonomous Systems”
At CRNCH (Center for Research into Novel Computing Hierarchies) Annual Summit, Atlanta, GA, USA
- Nov 2022 “Intelligence in Robotic Computing: Exploring Agile Design Flows for Building Efficient and Resilient Autonomous Systems”
At ACM Student Research Competition (SRC) at ICCAD 2022, San Diego, CA, USA
- Nov 2022 “Efficient and Resilient Computing for Autonomous Systems”
At ACM Student Research Competition (SRC) at ESWEEK 2022, virtual
- Oct 2022 “Efficient Algorithm-Hardware Co-Design for Robotic Mapping and Localization”
At 5th IBM AI Compute Symposium, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY, USA
- Oct 2022 “Efficient Algorithm-Hardware Co-Design for Robotic Mapping and Localization”
At CBRIC (Center for Brain-Inspired Computing) Annual Summit, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA
- Jun 2022 “Reliability of Autonomous Machines – System Perspective”
At COMPSAC Plenary Panel, Torino, Italy (virtual)
- Mar 2022 “FPGA-Based Robotic Computing: Current Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities”
Guest Lecture in Georgia Tech ECE8893 (Parallel Programming for FPGAs), Atlanta, GA, USA
- Feb 2022 “FPGA-Based Robotic Computing: Current Progress, Challenges, and Opportunities”
At CRNCH (Center for Research into Novel Computing Hierarchies) Annual Summit, Atlanta, GA, USA
- Nov 2021 “Efficient and Reliable Computing for Autonomous Machines”
At ACM Student Research Competition (SRC) at ICCAD 2021, virtual
- Oct 2021 “Enabling Reliable and Safe Autonomous Systems”

At CBRIC (Center for Brain-Inspired Computing) Annual Summit, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA (virtual)

Aug 2021 “Analyzing and Improving Resilience of Autonomous Systems - From Hardware Faults Perspective”
At CBRIC (Center for Brain-Inspired Computing) Industry Talk, virtual

RELATED COURSES

- GT ECE6115 Interconnection Networks for High-Performance Systems
 Instructor: Prof. Tushar Krishna
Project: SCALE-Sim + Accelergy: Enabling Timing Predictability and Energy Estimation of Systolic CNN-Accelerator
- GT ECE6130 Advanced VLSI Systems
 Instructor: Prof. Saibal Mukhopadhyay
- GT ECE8803 Memory Device Technologies and Applications
 Instructor: Prof. Shimeng Yu
- GT CS7292 Reliable Computer Architecture
 Instructor: Prof. Moinuddin Qureshi
Project: Low-Cost Error Detection and Correction for Compute In-Memory Systems
- GT CS6476 Computer Vision
 Instructor: Prof. James Hays
- Harvard CS246 Advanced Computer Architecture
 Instructor: Prof. David Brooks
Project: SoC-DNN Design Space Exploration and Optimization
- Harvard CS247r Special Topics in Computer Architecture
 Instructor: Prof. David Brooks
Project: Study of Posit Numeric in Speech Recognition Neural Inference
- Harvard CS249r Edge Computing - Autonomous Machines
 (Best Project Award) Instructor: Prof. Vijay Janapa Reddi
Project: AutoX: Automating Algorithm-SoC Co-Design for Aerial Robots
- Harvard ES201 Decision Theory
 Instructor: Prof. Demba Ba
Project: Web Traffic Time Series Forecasting
- MIT 6.374 Analysis and Design of Digital Integrated Circuits
 (Best Project Award) Instructor: Prof. Vivienne Sze
Project: Image Pre-processor for Robust DNN Resistant to Adversarial Attacks
- MIT 6.888 Hardware Architecture for Deep Learning
 Instructor: Prof. Vivienne Sze & Prof. Joel Emer
- MIT 6.867 Machine Learning
 Instructor: Prof. Devavrat Shah, Prof. Suvrit Sra, Prof. David Sontag
Project: Generative Model for Human Pose Transferring Between Videos

MENTORSHIP

Fall 2022	Maanas Purushothapu (BS - Georgia Tech), Nishant Sharma (BS - Georgia Tech) <i>Project: Accelerating Robotic Computing with FPGAs</i>
Spring 2022	Zhenkun Fan (MS - Georgia Tech) <i>Project: Benchmarking Unsupervised Adaptation on Edge Devices</i>
Spring 2022	Ying-Hao Wei (MS - Georgia Tech) <i>Project: Reliability Analysis and Improvement of Autonomous Intelligent Systems</i>
Fall 2021	Katarine Emanuela Klitzke (Undergrad - Georgia Tech) <i>Project: Architectural Analysis and Benchmarking for UAV Navigation Systems</i>
Summer 2020	Prateek Piniseti (Undergrad - Harvard) <i>Project: Performance Modeling for Cyber-Physical Co-Design in UAV</i>

ACADEMIC SERVICE

ML Commons	ML Commons (MLPerf) Research Working Group <i>Co-found ML Commons Resilience and Robustness Research Working Group, 2022</i>
DAC	IEEE/ACM Design Automation Conference (DAC) <i>Technical Program Committee, 2023</i>
IEEE T-CAD	IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems (IF: 2.807) <i>Reviewer, 2023</i>
MICRO	IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO) <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee, 2022</i>
ASPLOS	IEEE/ACM International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS) <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee, 2023</i> <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee, 2022</i>
IISWC	IEEE International Symposium on Workload Characterization (IISWC) <i>Artifact Evaluation Committee, 2022</i> <i>Student Volunteer, 2019</i>
NPC	IFIP International Conference on Network and Parallel Computing (NPC) <i>Technical Program Committee, 2022</i>
COMPSAC	IEEE Computers, Software & Applications Conference (COMPSAC) <i>Panelist, 2022</i>

SKILLS

Programming	Python, C/C++, Verilog/SystemVerilog, MATLAB
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ML Framework Pytorch, TensorFlow, Keras, Caffe

Tool Virtuoso, Design Compiler, Innovous, Calibre, Vivado, Quartus, OrCAD, MultiSim, Altium Designer, Unreal Engine, AirSim