# Kai-Cheng Yang

CONTACT
INFORMATION

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# **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Informatics, Complex Systems track, Indiana University	August 2017—
M.S., Theoretical Physics, Lanzhou University (China)	June 2017
B.S., Theoretical Physics, Lanzhou University (China)	June 2014

#### **Awards**

• IU School of Public Health Big Idea Challenge (\$250)	2020
• Informatics Ph.D. Student Conference Travel Awards (\$1000)	2020
• IU GISA Conference Travel Awards (\$700)	2019
• Informatics Ph.D. Student Conference Travel Awards (\$1000)	2019
• NSF Research Trainee scholarship in Complex Networks and Systems (\$5000)	2018

# RESEARCH **PROJECTS**

# Social media PI: Filippo Menczer

- Social bot detection [C1, C2, J5], human perception of bots [J4]
- Misinformation [P2, W2, J3, J8]
- Abusive behaviors [P6]
- Social media ecosystem bias [P1, P7]

# Opioid epidemic PIs: Brea Perry, Yong-Yeol Ahn

- High-risk patient detection [P3, P5, J6]
- Policy effects [J1]

#### Network science

- Network embedding [J2, P8]
- Spreading phenomena [J7, J9]

#### Journal Articles **Publications**

- J1. Lee, B., Zhao, W., Yang, K.-C., Ahn, Y.-Y. & Perry, B. L. Systematic Evaluation of State Policy Interventions Targeting the US Opioid Epidemic, 2007-2018. JAMA network open 4, e2036687 (2021).
- J2. Zhang, Y.-J., Yang, K.-C. & Radicchi, F. Model-free hidden geometry of complex networks. *Physical Reviews E* **103**, 012305 (2021).
- J3. Pasquetto, I. V., Swire-Thompson, B., Amazeen, M. A., Benevenuto, F., Brashier, N., Bond, R. M., Bozarth, L. C., Budak, C., Ecker, U. K., ... & Yang, K.-C. Tackling misinformation: What researchers could do with social media data. The Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review 1 (2020).
- J4. Yan, H., Yang, K.-C., Menczer, F. & Shanahan, J. Asymmetrical Perceptions of Partisan Political Bots. New Media & Society. doi:10.1177/1461444820942744 (2020).
- J5. Yang, K.-C., Varol, O., Davis, C. A., Ferrara, E., Flammini, A. & Menczer, F. Arming the public with artificial intelligence to counter social bots. Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies, e115 (2019).

- J6. Perry, B. L., Yang, K.-C., Kaminski, P., Odabas, M., Park, J., Martel, M., Oser, C. B., Freeman, P. R., Ahn, Y.-Y. & Talbert, J. Co-prescription network reveals social dynamics of opioid doctor shopping. *PLoS ONE* 14, e0223849 (2019).
- J7. Zhang, Y.-J., Wu, Z.-X., Holme, P. & Yang, K.-C. Advantage of Being Multicomponent and Spatial: Multipartite Viruses Colonize Structured Populations with Lower Thresholds. *Physical Reviews Letters* 123. (Editors' Suggestion), 138101 (2019).
- J8. Shao, C., Ciampaglia, G. L., Varol, O., Yang, K.-C., Flammini, A. & Menczer, F. The spread of low-credibility content by social bots. *Nature Communications* 9, 4787 (2018).
- J9. **Yang, K.-C.**, Wu, Z.-X., Holme, P. & Nonaka, E. Expansion of cooperatively growing populations: Optimal migration rates and habitat network structures. *Physical Reviews E* **95**, 012306 (2017).

# **Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings**

- C1. Yang, K.-C., Varol, O., Hui, P.-M. & Menczer, F. Scalable and Generalizable Social Bot Detection through Data Selection in Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 34 (New York, NY, USA, 2020), 1096–1103.
- C2. Sayyadiharikandeh, M., Varol, O., Yang, K.-C., Flammini, A. & Menczer, F. Detection of Novel Social Bots by Ensembles of Specialized Classifiers in Proceedings of the 29th ACM International Conference on Information & Knowledge Management (CIKM) (Virtual, 2020), 2725–2732.

# Peer-reviewed Workshop/Demo/Dataset/Software Papers

- W1. Yang, K.-C., Aronson, B. & Ahn, Y.-Y. BiRank: Fast and Flexible Ranking on Bipartite Networks with R and Python. *Journal of Open Source Software* 5, 2315 (2020).
- W2. Yang, K.-C., Torres-Lugo, C. & Menczer, F. Prevalence of Low-Credibility Information on Twitter During the COVID-19 Outbreak in Proceedings of the ICWSM International Workshop on Cyber Social Threats (CySoc) (Virtual, 2020).
- W3. Hui, P.-M., Yang, K.-C., Torres-Lugo, C. & Menczer, F. BotSlayer: DIY Real-Time Influence Campaign Detection in Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 14 (Virtual, 2020), 980–982.
- W4. Yang, K.-C., Hui, P.-M. & Menczer, F. Bot Electioneering Volume: Visualizing Social Bot Activity During Elections in Companion Proceedings of The 2019 World Wide Web Conference (WWW) (San Francisco, CA, USA, 2019), 214–217.
- W5. Hui, P.-M., Yang, K.-C., Torres-Lugo, C., Monroe, Z., McCarty, M., Serrette, B., Pentchev, V. & Menczer, F. BotSlayer: real-time detection of bot amplification on Twitter. *Journal of Open Source Software* **4**, 1706 (2019).

#### **Working Papers**

- P1. **Yang, K.-C.**, Hui, P.-M. & Menczer, F. How Twitter Data Sampling Biases U.S. Voter Behavior Characterizations. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2006.01447* (2020).
- P2. Yang, K.-C., Pierri, F., Hui, P.-M., Axelrod, D., Torres-Lugo, C., Bryden, J. & Menczer, F. The COVID-19 Infodemic: Twitter versus Facebook. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2012.09353* (2020).
- P3. Aronson, B., Yang, K.-C., Odabas, M., Ahn, Y. Y. & Perry, B. L. Comparing Measures of Centrality in Bipartite Social Networks: A Study of Drug Seeking for Opioid Analgesics. *SocArXiv preprint*. osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/hazvs (2020).

- P4. DeVerna, M., Pierri, F., Truong, B. T., Bollenbacher, J., Axelrod, D., Loynes, N., Torres-Lugo, C., Yang, K.-C., Menczer, F. & Bryden, J. CoVaxxy: A global collection of English Twitter posts about COVID-19 vaccines. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2101.07694* (2020).
- P5. Perry, B. L., Odabas, M., Yang, K.-C., Lee, B., Kaminski, P., Aronson, B. & Ahn, Y.-Y. New means, new measures: Assessing traditional and social network indicators of prescription drug seeking behavior over ten years of the opioid epidemic. *In submission* (2020).
- P6. Torres-Lugo, C., Yang, K.-C. & Menczer, F. The Manufacture of Political Echo Chambers by Follow Train Abuse on Twitter. *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2010.13691 (2020).
- P7. Wen, C., Pacheco, D., Yang, K.-C. & Menczer, F. Neutral Bots Reveal Political Bias on Social Media. *arXiv preprint arXiv:*2005.08141 (2020).
- P8. Yoon, J., **Yang, K.-C.**, Jung, W.-S. & Ahn, Y.-Y. Persona2vec: A Flexible Multi-role Representations Learning Framework for Graphs. *arXiv* preprint *arXiv*:2006.04941 (2020).

### Tools Observatory on Social Media (OSoMe)

- Botometer® [C2, J5], BotometerLite [C1]: popular bot detection tools with 250,000 daily requests from researchers, journalists, and social media users
- BotSlayer [W3, W5], BEV [W4], Hoaxy<sup>®</sup>: bot amplification detection & visualization tools with thousands of users
- OSoMeTweet (GitHub, PyPI): Python library for accessing Twitter's V2 API
- CoVaxxy [P4]: dashboard for COVID-19 vaccine Twitter discussion

#### **Network Science**

- Persoan2vec (GitHub) [P8]: multi-role representations embedding for networks
- BiRank (GitHub, PyPI, CRAN) [W1]: bipartite network PageRank

#### Presentations Tutorials

• Identifying Social Media Manipulation with OSoMe Tools (video) *IC*<sup>2</sup>*S*<sup>2</sup> 2020 (*Virtual*)

#### Talks & Posters

- The COVID-19 Infodemic in online social networks: Twitter versus Facebook

  The 3rd North American Social Networks Conference NASN 2021 (Virtual)

  Jan. 2021
- One talk and four posters
- NetSci 2020 (Virtual) Sep. 2020

   Two talks

Jul. 2020

- IC<sup>2</sup>S<sup>2</sup> 2020 (Virtual) Jul. 2020
   Prevalence of Low-Credibility Information on Twitter During the COVID-19 Outbreak
- CySoc 2020 (Virtual)

  Jun. 2020
- BotometerLite
- AAAI 2020 (New York, USA) Feb. 2020
- Bot Electioneering Volume
   Color Color 2010 (Color Electioneering Volume)
  - CyberSafety 2019 (San Francisco, USA) May 2019
- Expansion of Cooperatively Growing Populations on Networks

  \*Chinese Physical Society Fall Meeting 2016 (Beijing, China)\*

  Sep. 2016

#### Demos

BotSlayer: DIY Real-Time Influence Campaign Detection
 ICWSM 2020 (Virtual)
 Jun. 2020

# TEACHING Associate Instructor, Indiana University

I590 Applied Data Science

Fall 2017, Spring 2018

# APPOINTMENTS Research Assistant, Indiana University

Doctor shopping project

Fall 2018 - Spring 2021

#### SERVICE Journal Reviewer

Social Network Analysis and Mining; ACM Digital Threats: Research and Practice; IEEE Internet Computing; PeerJ Computer Science; Humanities & Social Sciences Communications; IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering; Information Processing & Management; Online Social Networks and Media; Information, Communication and Society

**Conference Reviewer** 

ICWSM'20, '21

# IN THE PRESS Selected Media Coverage

- Using OSoMe tools to track inauthentic actors and spread of misinformation online Scientific American (Jan. 2021); Bloomberg News (Nov. 2020); The New York Times (Oct. 2020); Newsweek (Oct. 2020); Bloomberg News (Mar. 2020); The National Interest (Nov. 2019); The Conversation (Nov. 2019); IU news (Sep. 2019); IDS news (Sep. 2019); Science Node (Sep. 2019); Reuters (Nov. 2018)
- Low-credibility information on Twitter during the COVID-19 outbreak [W2] *IEEE Spectrum (Jul. 2020)*
- Asymmetrical perceptions of partisan political bots [J4]
   IU the Media School Report (Jul. 2020)
- The spread of low-credibility content by social bots [J8] Salon (Sep. 2020), IU news (Nov. 2018), ScienceNews (Nov. 2018)

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