

Ruokai Yin

PhD candidate, ECE, Yale University

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Computer Architecture
 - Accelerator Design
 - Systolic-Array
 - Sparse Tensor Accelerator
 - SIMT Architecture
 - Performance Modeling
- Domain-specific Acceleration
 - Spiking Neural Networks
 - Sparse Neural Networks
 - Mixed-precision GEMM
 - Unary Computing
- AI Algorithm-Hardware Co-Design
 - Network Compression
 - Quantization
 - Pruning

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering, Yale University Sep. 2021 — Current

Advisor: Prof. Priyadarshini Panda

B.S., Electrical Engineering & Computer Science & Math, University of Wisconsin - Madison Sep. 2018 — May. 2021

Graduate with Distinction, GPA: 3.98/4.00

Advisor: Prof. Joshua San Miguel

EMPLOYMENT

Research Intern, ASIC team, Cerebras Systems, May. 2024 — Aug. 2024

- Manager: Vipin Sharma

Architecture design and modeling for Cerebras's next-generation wafer-scale engine, with a focus on:


- Exploring PE scalability and projecting performance.
- Modeling and projecting performance for several new architectural features.
- Modeling inter-PE fabric movement for both dense and sparse LLM workloads.
- Modeling the checkpoints evict/refill process at both PE and IO levels.

PUBLICATIONS [SELECTED]

[Computer architecture & Domain-specific acceleration:](#)

LoAS: Fully Temporal-Parallel Dataflow for Dual-Sparse Spiking Neural Networks.

[Ruokai Yin](#), Youngeun Kim, Di Wu, and Priyadarshini Panda

International Symposium on Microarchitecture (MICRO) 2024.  [open-source artifact](#).


PacQ: A SIMT Microarchitecture for Efficient Dataflow in Hyper-asymmetric GEMMs.

[Ruokai Yin](#), Yuhang Li, and Priyadarshini Panda

ACM/IEEE Design Automation Conference (DAC) 2025.

SATA: Sparsity-Aware Training Accelerator for Spiking Neural Networks.

[Ruokai Yin](#), Abhishek Moitra, Abhiroop Bhattacharjee, Youngeun Kim, and Priyadarshini Panda

IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems (TCAD), 2022.  [open-source simulator](#).

 **uGEMM: Unary Computing Architecture for GEMM Applications.**

Di Wu, Jingjie Li, [Ruokai Yin](#), Hsuan Hsiao, Younghyun Kim, Joshua San Miguel

International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA) 2020, **IEEE Top-pick 2020**.  [open-source simulator](#).

[AI Algorithm-Architecture Co-Design:](#)


 **MINT: Multiplier-less Integer Quantization for Spiking Neural Networks.**

[Ruokai Yin](#), Yuhang Li, Abhishek Moitra, and Priyadarshini Panda

Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conference (ASP-DAC) 2024, **Best Paper Award Nomination**.  [open-source code](#).

Workload-balanced Pruning for Sparse Spiking Neural Networks.

[Ruokai Yin](#), Youngeun Kim, Yuhang Li, Abhishek Moitra, Nitin Satpute, Anna Hambitzer, Priyadarshini Panda

IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence (TETCI), 2024.  [open-source code](#).

AWARDS & HONORS

Research

Best Paper Award Nomination, ASP-DAC, 2024

Spotlight Paper, NeurIPS Workshop on Learning from Time Series for Health, 2022

IEEE Micro Top Pick, Computer Architecture, 2020

Academic

John Bennett Fenn Fellowship Fund, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022, Yale University

Distinctive Scholastic Achievement, Spring 2021, University of Wisconsin - Madison

Dean's Honor List, Fall 2018 – Spring 2021, University of Wisconsin - Madison

FULL PUBLICATIONS [CONFERENCE]

TT-SNN: Tensor Train Decomposition for Efficient Spiking Neural Network Training.

Donghyun Li, [Ruokai Yin](#), Youngeun Kim, Abhishek Moitra, Yuhang Li, and Priyadarshini Panda

Design Automation and Test in Europe (DATE) 2024.

Are SNNs Truly Energy-efficient? – A Hardware Perspective.

Abhiroop Bhattacharjee*, [Ruokai Yin](#)*, Abhishek Moitra, and Priyadarshini Panda

IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP) 2024.

Lottery Ticket Hypothesis for Spiking Neural Networks.

Youngeun Kim, Yuhang Li, Hyoungseob Park, Yeshwanth Venkatesha, [Ruokai Yin](#), and Priyadarshini Panda

European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV) 2022, **Oral Presentation (2.7% of submitted papers)**.

🕒 Wearable-based Human Activity Recognition with Spatio-Temporal Spiking Neural Networks.

Yuhang Li, [Ruokai Yin](#), Hyoungseob Park, Youngeun Kim, and Priyadarshini Panda

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2022 Workshop, **Spotlight Paper**.

Normalized Stability: a Cross-level Design Metric for Early Termination in Stochastic Computing.

Di Wu, [Ruokai Yin](#), Joshua San Miguel

Asia and South Pacific Design Automation Conference (ASP-DAC) 2021

FULL PUBLICATIONS [JOURNAL]

Do we really need a large number of visual prompts?.

Youngeun Kim, Yuhang Li, Abhishek Moitra, [Ruokai Yin](#), Priyadarshini Panda

Neural Networks, 2024.

Rethinking Skip Connections in Spiking Neural Networks with Time-To-First-Spike Coding.

Youngeun Kim, Adar Kahana, [Ruokai Yin](#), Yuhang Li, Panos Stinis, George Em Karniadakis, Priyadarshini Panda

Frontiers in Neuroscience, 2024.

Efficient Human Activity Recognition with Spatio-Temporal Spiking Neural Networks.

Yuhang Li, [Ruokai Yin](#), Youngeun Kim, and Priyadarshini Panda

Frontiers in Neuroscience, 2023.

Sharing Leaky-Integrate-and-Fire Neurons for Memory-Efficient Spiking Neural Networks.

Youngeun Kim, Yuhang Li, Abhishek Moitra, [Ruokai Yin](#), and Priyadarshini Panda

Frontiers in Neuroscience, 2023.

uGEMM: Unary Computing for GEMM Applications.

Di Wu, Jingjie Li, [Ruokai Yin](#), Hsuan Hsiao, Younghyun Kim, Joshua San Miguel

IEEE Micro, 2021.

In-Stream Correlation-Based Division and Bit-Inserting Square Root in Stochastic Computing.

Di Wu, [Ruokai Yin](#), Joshua San Miguel

IEEE Design & Test, 2021.

TALKS

LoAS: Fully Temporal-Parallel Dataflow for Dual-Sparse Spiking Neural Networks

57th MICRO (Austin, USA), Nov 2024

MINT: Multiplier-less Integer Quantization for Energy Efficient Spiking Neural Networks

29th ASP-DAC (Incheon, South Korea), Jan 2024

SATA: Sparsity-Aware Training Accelerator for Spiking Neural Networks

Center for Brain-Inspired Computing (C-BRIC, SRC), Nov 2022

UnarySim and Characterizing Early Termination in Stochastic Computing

2020 UW Computer Architecture Industrial Affiliates (Madison, WI, USA), Sep 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TA - EENG 439, Neural Networks & Learning Systems, Fall 2023

Instructor: Prof. Priya Panda

TA - EENG 348, Digital Systems, Spring 2023

Instructor: Prof. Rajit Manohar

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Reviewer

- IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems
- IEEE International Symposium on Circuits and Systems, 2024
- IEEE Journal on Emerging and Selected Topics in Circuits and Systems
- IEEE Transactions on Very Large Scale Integration Systems
- IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems
- AI Communications