

YIFENG XIAO

📍 3740 McClintock Ave, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 90007

✉ yifengx@usc.edu 📞 +1 (213)-271-8231

EDUCATION

- University of Southern California (USC)**, Los Angeles, CA, U.S. Jan. 2021 - Present
Ph.D. in Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
GPA: 3.9/4.0
- Fudan University (FDU)**, Shanghai, China Aug. 2016 - Jul. 2020
B.E. in Microelectronic Science and Engineering
- University of Sydney (USYD)**, Sydney, Australia Feb. 2019 - Jun. 2019
Exchange Student in Department of Information and Computer Engineering

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Contract-based Optimized Construction of Satisfiable Safety-Critical System Architectures** Oct. 2021 - Present
Advisor: Prof. Pierluigi Nuzzo, Viterbi School of Engineering, USC
 - Utilized Assume-Guarantee contracts to model diverse design viewpoints of a manufacturing system.
 - Implemented requirements verification and design space exploration via refinement checking using Gurobi.
 - Employed optimized selection techniques to construct architectures for a power distribution network.
- Robustness Verification of Neural Network-Enabled Cyber-Physical System** Apr. 2021 - Sep. 2021
Advisor: Prof. Pierluigi Nuzzo, Viterbi School of Engineering, USC
 - Developed a SMC-based framework for robustness verification of neural networks.
 - Conducted robustness verification for neural network-based perception on the MNIST dataset.
 - Conducted compositional verification and sensitivity analysis in a reinforcement learning-enabled mountain car system.
- Graph-based Automated Reference Placement for Printed Circuit Board (PCB) Design** Aug. 2020 - Mar. 2021
Advisor: Jianli Chen, School of Microelectronics, FDU
 - Designed a graph-based data structure for PCB netlist information.
 - Utilized graph isomorphism algorithms to detect similar designs in the netlist.
 - Developed a subgraph matching technique for automated reference placement.
- Low-Cost Hotspot Detection with Active Entropy Sampling** Dec. 2019 - Apr. 2020
Advisor: Bei Yu, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)
 - Processed layout data into clips and performed feature extraction using principal component analysis.
 - Developed an entropy-based technique that considered model uncertainty and data diversity.
 - Applied an active learning framework for hotspot detection, resulting in higher accuracy and less time consumption.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Self-Driving Vehicle Testbed in the USC AutoDrive Lab** Sep. 2021 - Present
Mentor for USC Viterbi Center for Undergraduate Research in Viterbi Engineering (CURVE) Program
- Robustness Verification for Traffic Sign Classification System** Jun. 2022 - Jul. 2022
Mentor for 2022 USC Viterbi Summer High School Intensive in Next-Generation Engineering (SHINE) Program
- USC Viterbi Graduate Mentorship Program** Aug. 2022 - Nov. 2022

PUBLICATION

Conference Papers

- Su, M., Xiao, Y., Zhang, S., Su, H., Xu, J., He, H., ... & Chang, Y. W. (2022). Late Breaking Results: Subgraph Matching Based Reference Placement for PCB Designs. DAC 2022.

- Xiao, Y., Su, M., Yang, H., Chen, J., Yu, J., & Yu, B. (2021, December). Low-Cost Lithography Hotspot Detection with Active Entropy Sampling and Model Calibration. DAC 2021.
- Ma, C., Xiao, Y., Wang, S., Yu, J., & Chen, J. (2021, October). CongestNN: A Bi-Directional Congestion Prediction Framework for Large-Scale Heterogeneous FPGAs. ASICON 2021.

AWARD

- 2020 College Graduate Excellence Award of Shanghai (5/122)
- 2019 National IC Design Competition - First Prize for Undergraduate Group
- 2018 SCSK Corporation Scholarship (1/122)
- 2018 Undergraduate Excellence Scholarship of FDU

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages:** Chinese (Native), English (Proficient)
- Programming:** Python, C/C++, Verilog, Java, Perl
- Software & Platforms:** MATLAB, Tensorflow, Pytorch, Gurobi, Z3, Latex, Cadence, Vivado