

Winston Chen

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RESEARCH INTEREST

I develop methods at the intersection of causal inference, reinforcement learning, and explainable AI, with a focus on enabling reliable AI-driven decision-making and scientific discovery in healthcare and other high-stakes domains.

EDUCATION

• University of Michigan

2023 - present

Ph.D. in Computer Science & Engineering

Ann Arbor, Michigan

- Advisor: Jenna Wiens

• University of Washington

2018 - 2022

B.S. in Electrical Engineering

Seattle, Washington

- Advisor: William Stafford Noble

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

• RealNetworks

Sept. 2022 - Sept. 2023

R&D Intern. Mentor: Reza Rassool

Seattle, Washington

- Designed facial recognition-based general encryption algorithm.
- Developed a mobile app for showcasing the encryption technology.

• NVIDIA

Jun. 2021 - Sept. 2021

Software Engineering Intern. Mentor: Johnny Israeli

Remote

- Designed and implemented a software log analysis framework for testing genomics data analysis software suites.

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

- Winston Chen, Michael W. Sjoding, Jenna Wiens, **Measuring Model Performance in the Presence of an Intervention**, *The 40th Annual AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, Jan. 2026.
- Winston Chen, Yifan Jiang, William Stafford Noble, Yang Young Lu, **Error-controlled Non-additive Interaction Discovery in Machine Learning Models**, *Nature Machine Intelligence* (Previously presented at *NeurIPS 2024 workshop on Interpretable AI: Past, Present, and Future* and *MLCB 2023*), Sept. 2025.
- Winston Chen, Trenton Chang, Jenna Wiens, **Conditional Front-door Adjustment for Heterogeneous Treatment Assignment Effect Estimation Under Non-adherence**, *Conference on Health Inference and Learning (CHIL)*, June 2025.
- Winston Chen, Michelle Neeley, Sean Meyer, Justin Ortwine, Matthew Luzum, Paul J. Grant, Antoinette Coe, Amy Thompson, Vikas Parekh, Michael W. Sjoding, Jenna Wiens, **Measuring the effect of an intervention bundle to prevent unplanned 30-day hospital readmission: a randomized quality improvement study**, *Under review*.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Rackham Graduate Research Fellowship** Autumn 2023
University of Michigan
 - Merit-based fellowship covering the first year tuition and stipends of the Ph.D. program.

- **Mary Gates Research Scholarship** Spring 2021
University of Washington
 - \$5000 award for excellent undergraduate research in interpretable machine learning.

- **Lawrence & Lucille Frey Endowed ECE Scholarship** Autumn 2020
University of Washington
 - \$1000 award for Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE) student with high academic excellence.

- **Herschel & Caryl Roman Scholarship** Summer 2020
University of Washington
 - \$2500 award for undergraduate research in genomics.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant, EE 241 (Programming for Signal and Information Processing)** Spring 2022
University of Washington
 - Held weekly office hours and lab sessions for around 40 students on Python programming.

- **Teaching Assistant, EE 215 (Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering)** Winter 2021 & 2022
University of Washington
 - Held weekly review sessions and graded homework for around 20 students on fundamental circuit analysis.

- **Teaching Assistant, EE 271 (Digital Circuit and System)** Autumn 2021
University of Washington
 - Held weekly lab sessions and graded projects for around 40 students on FPGA programming.

SERVICES

- **Program Sub-Chair**, Machine Learning for Health Symposium (ML4H) Symposium (2024)
- **Reviewer**, AISTATS (2025, 2026), AAAI (2026)
- **Secretary**, Computer Science & Engineering Graduate Student Organization, University of Michigan (2024 - 2025)