

# Yann Hicke

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<https://yannhicke.github.io>

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EDUCATION	<b>M.S. Computer Science, Cornell University</b> (exp.) 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Advised by <a href="#">Wen Sun</a> and <a href="#">Rene Kizilcec</a></li></ul> <b>M.Eng. Operations Research and Information Engineering, Cornell University</b> 2015 <b>B.S. Applied Mathematics and Industrial Engineering, Mines Nancy</b> 2014
COURSEWORK	Reinforcement Learning, Advanced Reinforcement Learning, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning in Feedback Systems, Deep Learning, Principles of Large-Scale Machine Learning Systems, Practicum in AI, Advanced Artificial Intelligence, Deep Probabilistic and Generative Models, Advanced Language Technologies, Learning Analytics, Operating Systems, Software Engineering
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<b>Research Assistant, Stanford University</b> Aug 2023–Present Supervised by <a href="#">Emma Brunskill</a> and <a href="#">Dora Demszky</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developing a contextual bandit algorithm for automatic feedback for teachers</li></ul> <b>Multimodal AI Research Intern, Educational Testing Service AI Labs</b> Jun 2023–Aug 2023 Supervised by <a href="#">Chee Wee (Ben) Leong</a> and <a href="#">Andrew Emerson</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Developed a predictive model for stress detection in a learning environment</li></ul> <b>Research Assistant, Massachusetts Institute of Technology</b> Mar 2022–Mar 2023 Supervised by <a href="#">Iddo Drori</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Worked on research using LLMs to solve undergraduate exam questions</li></ul> <b>Research Software Engineer, Cornell University</b> Jan 2022–May 2022 Assisted <a href="#">Ji Yong Cho</a> , supervised by <a href="#">Rene Kizilcec</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Created an educational coaching application for online learners (iOS and Android) designed to implement strategies for reducing learner dropout rates</li></ul>
TEACHING	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University</b> Jan 2023 – Present <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>CS 4789, Introduction to Reinforcement Learning</li><li>CS 4780, Introduction to Machine Learning</li></ul>
PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	<b>Actor, Theatre</b> May 2016–Jul 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Fully committed to didactic theatre</li></ul> <b>Junior Analyst, Ecosys Group</b> Sep 2015–Mar 2016 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Helped clients in the CleanTech Industry define strategic projects</li></ul>
SKILLS	Python, Pytorch, Scikit-Learn, Git, Huggingface, Docker, AWS, SQL, SLURM, C/C++
AWARDS	<b>Winner, CMU Gen AI Education and Future of Work Hackathon</b> Jun 2023–Aug 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Won \$20k as part of an LLM Hackathon hosted by Carnegie Mellon University</li></ul>
PUBLICATIONS	[1] Yann Hicke*, Anmol Agarwal*, Christina Ma*, Paul Denny, "ChaTa: Towards an Intelligent Question-Answer Teaching Assistant using Open-Source LLMs", <i>NeurIPS'23 Workshop: Generative AI for Education (GAIED)</i> , 2023: <a href="https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.02775">https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.02775</a> [2] Yann Hicke, Abhishek Masand, Wentao Guo, Tushaar Gangavarapu, "Assessing the efficacy of large language models in generating accurate teacher responses", <i>ACL, Innovative Use of NLP for</i>

*Building Educational Applications Workshop*, 2023: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2307.04274.pdf>

- [3] Yann Hicke, Tonghua Tian, Karan Jha, Frank Kim, "Automated Essay Scoring in Argumentative Writing: DeBERTeachingAssistant", *LAK'23: Workshop on Partnerships for Cocreating Educational Content*, 2023: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2307.04276.pdf>
- [4] Iddo Drori, ..., Yann Hicke, ..., Madeleine Udell, "From Human Days to Machine Seconds: Automatically Answering and Generating Machine Learning Final Exams", *International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)*, 2023: <https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3580305.3599827>
- [5] Iddo Drori, ..., Yann Hicke, ..., Armando Solar-Lezama, "A dataset for learning university STEM courses at scale and generating questions at a human level", *Educational Advances in Artificial Intelligence (EAAI)*, 2023: <https://ojs.aaai.org/index.php/AAAI/article/view/27091>
- [6] Vitali Petsiuk, ..., Yann Hicke, ..., Iddo Drori, "Human Evaluation of Text-to-Image Models on a Multi-Task Benchmark", *NeurIPS Workshop on Human Evaluation of Generative Models (HEGM)*. Oral, 2022: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.12112.pdf>