Yann Hicke

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EDUCATION | **M.S. Computer Science**, Cornell University | (exp.) 2025
- Advised by Wen Sun and Rene Kizilcec — GPA: 3.98

M.Eng. Operations Research and Information Engineering, Cornell University — 2015

B.S. Applied Mathematics and Industrial Engineering, Mines Nancy — 2014

COURSEWORK | Reinforcement Learning, Advanced Reinforcement Learning, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning in Feedback Systems, Deep Learning, Principles of Large-Scale Machine Learning Systems, Advanced Artificial Intelligence, Deep Probabilistic and Generative Models, Advanced Language Technologies, Learning Analytics, Operating Systems, Software Engineering

EXPERIENCE | **Multimodal AI Research Intern**, Educational Testing Service AI Labs — Jun 2023–Aug 2023
Supervised by Chee Wee (Ben) Leong and Andrew Emerson
- Developed a predictive model for stress detection in a learning environment

Research Assistant, Stanford University — May 2023–Present
Supervised by Emma Brunskill and Dora Demszky
- Developing a contextual bandit algorithm for automatic feedback for teachers

Research Assistant, Massachusetts Institute of Technology — Mar 2022–Mar 2023
Supervised by Iddo Drori
- Worked on research using LLMs to solve undergraduate exam questions

Research Software Engineer, Cornell University — Jan 2022–May 2022
Assisted Ji Yong Cho, supervised by Rene Kizilcec
- Created an educational coaching application for online learners (iOS and Android) designed to implement strategies for reducing learner dropout rates

Actor, Theatre — May 2016–Jul 2020

SKILLS | Python, Numpy, Pandas, Pytorch, Scikit-Learn, Huggingface, Git, Docker, AWS, SLURM, SQL, C/C++

AWARDS | **Winner**, CMU Gen AI Education and Future of Work Hackathon — Jun 2023–Aug 2023
- Won $20k as part of an LLM Hackathon hosted by Carnegie Mellon University

PUBLICATIONS

[1] Yann Hicke*, Anmol Agarwal*, Christina Ma*, Paul Denny, "ChaTa: Towards an Intelligent Question-Answer Teaching Assistant using Open-Source LLMs", *NeurIPS'23 Workshop: Generative AI for Education (GAIED), 2023* [paper]

[2] Yann Hicke, Abhishek Masand, Wentao Guo, Tushaar Gangavarapu, "Assessing the efficacy of large language models in generating accurate teacher responses", *ACL, Innovative Use of NLP for Building Educational Applications Workshop, 2023* [paper]

[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* [paper]

[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 [paper]

[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 [paper]