Yunyi Shen

32-D740
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA, 02139
✉ yshen99@mit.edu
🖥 http://yunyishen.ml

Education

2022 –   **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge, MA, United States
PhD, Computer Science (minor in Astronomy)

2022 – 2023   **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Cambridge, MA, United States
SM, Computer Science

2019 – 2021   **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Madison, WI, United States
MSc, Statistics

2018 – 2021   **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Madison, WI, United States
MSc, Wildlife Ecology

2014 – 2018   **Peking University**, Beijing, China
BSc, Integrated Science (Biology/Physics)

Publications and Preprints

Preprints/Under review

David R Burt, **Yunyi Shen**, and Tamara Broderick. Consistent validation for predictive methods in spatial settings. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.03527*, 2024

Yunyi Shen* , Erik R. Olson, and Timothy R. Van Deelen. Geometric theory on large-scale and local determination of density dependence of a recovering large carnivore population. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2311.14815*, 2023. (*under review*)

Erik R. Olson, **Yunyi Shen**, Parker J Matzinger, Evelyn Solano Mora, Guido Saborio-R, and Alejandro Azofeifa. Conservation crisis? Status of jaguars (*Panthera onca*) in Corcovado National Park, Costa Rica. (*submitted*), 2023+

Hongliang Bu and **Yunyi Shen*** . Identify local limiting factors of species distribution using min-linear logistic regression. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2302.09217*, 2023

Yunyi Shen and Sameer K. Deshpande. On the posterior contraction of the multivariate spike-and-slab LASSO. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2209.04389*, 2022. (*submitted*)

Yunyi Shen, Claudia Solís-Lemus, and Sameer K. Deshpande. Sparse Gaussian chain graphs with the spike-and-slab LASSO: Algorithms and asymptotics. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2207.07020*, 2022. (*under revision*)

Yunyi Shen and Claudia Solís-Lemus. The effect of the prior and the experimental design on the inference of the precision matrix in Gaussian chain graph models. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2107.01306*, 2021. (*revision under review*)

Yunyi Shen and Claudia Solís-Lemus. Bayesian chain graph LASSO models to learn sparse microbial networks with predictors. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2012.08397*, 2020. (*revision under review*)

Peer reviewed

Journals & Conferences

Xiaonan Chen, Jia Tian, Mingzhang Liu, **Yunyi Shen**, Jianping Yu, Feng Liu, Xiaoli Shen, and Li Sheng. Estimating the population size of wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) in Kaihua county, Zhejiang province using camera trap data. *Acta Theriologica Sinica, 43(5): 523-532*, 2023. (in Chinese)

Elyse C. Mallinger, Katy R. Goodwin, Alan Kirschbaum, **Yunyi Shen**, Erin H. Gillam, and Erik R. Olson. Species-specific responses to white-nose syndrome in the Great Lakes region. *Ecology and Evolution*, 13:e10267, 2023

Yunyi Shen, Mingzhang Liu, Dajun Wang, Xiaoli Shen, and Sheng Li. Using an integrative mapping approach to identify the distribution range and conservation needs of a large threatened mammal, the Asiatic black bear, in China. *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 31:e01831, 2021

Yunyi Shen* , Erik R Olson, and Timothy R Van Deelen. Spatially explicit modeling of community occupancy using Markov random field models with imperfect observation: Mesocarnivores in Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. *Ecological Modelling*, 459:109712, 2021

Jianping Yu, **Yunyi Shen**, Xiaoyou Song, Xiaonan Chen, Sheng Li, and Xiaoli Shen. Evaluating the effectiveness of functional zones for black muntjac (*Muntiacus crinifrons*) protection in Qianjiangyuan National Park pilot site. *Biodiversity Science*, 27(1):5, 2019. (in Chinese)

Workshops

Yunyi Shen, Lorenzo Masoero, Joshua Schraiber, and Tamara Broderick. Double trouble: Predicting new variant counts across two heterogeneous populations. *Learning Meaningful Representation of Life (LMLR) workshop at NeurIPS*, 2022

Awards and Honor

2020	Finalist of Janice Lee Fenske Memorial Award of The Wildlife Society (TWS)
2019	Conservation Leader for Tomorrow (CLfT) Scholarship
2017	Peking University Annual Award in Social Works

Travel awards

2023	BayesComp-2023 travel award
2023	ISBA travel award for BNP2023

Grants Funded

Co-PI

2024	NPS PMIS 322581,U.S. National Park Services (pending final approval), PI: Timothy Van Deelen (UW-Madison)

Co-Investigator

2020-2022	Hatch 142 Formula Fund 1023699, U.S. Department of Agriculture, PI: Claudia Solís-Lemus (UW-Madison)
2021-2023	DSI Catalyst Fund, University of Toronto, PI: Gwendolyn Eadie (U of Toronto)

Invited Talks

08/2022	"Conditional probabilities in some multispecies models", Merging statistical theory and analyses at the interface of microbial and "macrobial" ecology workshop. (NSF-funded) Concordia University, Montréal, Canada.
05/2022	"Stellar flare detection using HMM combined with Gaussian process", Stellar Stats Workshop, David A. Dunlap Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.
05/2022	"Use cases of high throughput computing in statistical ecology and astronomy", HTCondor week, Center of high throughput computing, UW-Madison, Madison, WI
03/2022	"HMMs in Astronomy", JSC 270/370 Seminar, Department of Statistical Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Selected Conference Talks

Yunyi Shen, Lorenzo Masoero, Joshua Schraiber, and Tamara Broderick. Double trouble: Predicting new variant counts across two heterogeneous populations. Joint Statistical Meeting 2023, Toronto, Canada (given by coauthor due to visa difficulty); BAYSM:O-2023, CT, USA, 2023

Yunyi Shen, Fan Fan, Sheng Li, and Claudia Solís-Lemus. Direct (conditional) and net (marginal) effects of environmental predictors in multivariate normal and autologistic models for multispecies modeling. 2022 International Statistical Ecology Conference, Cape Town, South Africa, 2022

Yunyi Shen, Dwayne Etter, and Timothy Van Deelen. Age structure effects and population control in urban/suburban white-tailed deer, Chicago, IL 1992-2006. 2020 Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, 2020

Software

R packages	`mSSL`: Collection of multivariate Spike-and-Slab regression models, GitHub
	`CARlasso`: Conditional autoregressive LASSO and extensions, CRAN
	`linconGaussR`: Sampling multivariate Gaussian under linear constraint, CRAN
	`robustcov`: Collection of robust precision estimation, CRAN
Stan	`CeleriteQFD`: Stellar flare detection using Gaussian process combined with HMM, GitHub

Teaching

2023 Spring	6.7830 (Bayesian Modeling and Inference) TA, MIT
2018-2019	Chemistry 103-104 TA, UW-Madison
2016-2017	Evolution of Human Intelligence TA, Peking University

Services

Reviewing

Statistics/ML	EJS(1), JMLR(1), NeurIPS-2023(3), ICML-2023(1), AISTATS-2023(3), Annals of Applied Statistics(2)
Ecology	J. Appl. Ecol.(1), GECCO(1), Ecology and Evolution(1), Biological Conservation(2), Biodiversity & Conservation(2), Ecosphere(1)

Departmental

MIT EECS Graduate Student Association Vice President in Academics, 2024

MIT EECS Graduate Student Association executive board, 2023

	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Mentoring	Student support network member, Undergraduate Network for Increasing Diversity of Ecologists (UNIDE)

	Miscellaneous
Consulting	Statistical consulting, Qianjiangyuan National Park, Zhejiang, China, Summer 2018
	Statistical and data management consulting, Corcovado and Piedras Blancas National Parks, Costa Rica, Summer 2023 (in collaboration with Northland College & UW-Madison, WI, USA)

Outreach

2021	PBS WI meet the lab "data decoder" program, as "data scientist", see website
2018	Peking University Biology Museum, as docent
2016	*Bo Wu*, Chinese National Geography Magazine, as editor