

Shang Zhou

shz060@ucsd.edu | 858-933-4996 | Google Scholar | homepage

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego

Ph.D. in Computer Science

Advisor: Jingbo Shang

San Diego, CA

Sep 2025 – Jun 2029 (Expected)

University of California, San Diego

B.S. in Computer Science

Advisor: Jingbo Shang

San Diego, CA

Sep 2021 – Jun 2025

EXPERIENCE

Multi-Institutional Research

Research Assistant

Remote

Mar 2025 – Present

- Co-led a team of 20 researchers from NYU, Princeton, UCSD, and UW to benchmark LLMs on ICPC problems.
- Quantified the major gap to Grandmasters: LLMs score 0% on hard problems and fail observation-heavy problems.

CMU Li Lab

Research Assistant

Pittsburgh, PA

Jul 2024 – Oct 2024

- Pioneered a mixed-allocation strategy for LLM inference, formulating sample distribution as a learning problem.
- Developed OSCA algorithm, achieving superior accuracy with 128x less compute on code-gen and 25x on reasoning.

UCSD Shang Data Lab

Research Assistant

San Diego, CA

Nov 2023 – Feb 2024

- Pioneered a novel evaluation framework using GPT-4 and an Elo rating system for LLM attribute control.
- Quantified control calibration and consistency, evaluating prompting and RepE methods across 5 attributes.

UCSD Competitive Programming Club

President & ICPC Team Coach

San Diego, CA

Jul 2024 – Present

- Coached UCSD's ICPC teams, with the top team achieving 2nd Place in the SoCal Regional and 21st Place in NAC.
- Designed 3 team selection, 3 SoCal Regional, and 20+ NAC practice contests, boosting team performance.

Codeforces

Problem Setter

Remote

Jan 2021 – Jul 2024

- Authored and prepared a Codeforces Div 1 + 2 contest for over 25,000 participants as the 18th independent setter.
- Ranked among the Top 100 contributors on Codeforces for high upvotes on contest problems and tutorials.

HONORS AND AWARDS

22nd Place, ICPC World Finals

2023

5th Place, ICPC North America Championship

2023, 2024

Champion, ICPC North America West Division

2023

Champion, ICPC NSA Challenge

2024

8th Place, USACO Open Contest, Platinum Division

2020

International Grandmaster, Codeforces

2022

3rd Place, S.-T. Yau High School Science Award (Mathematics)

2020

Featured in *MIT Technology Review* for LiveCodeBench Pro

2025

7 Dan, American Go Association

2022

Champion, North American Ing Go Cup

2024

Champion, StarCraft II Grandmaster Tournament

2020

Rank 1 Legend, Hearthstone Standard Ladder

2018

- **LiveCodeBench Pro: How Do Olympiad Medalists Judge LLMs in Competitive Programming?**
Zihan Zheng^{*}, Zerui Cheng^{*}, Zeyu Shen^{*}, **Shang Zhou^{*}**, Kaiyuan Liu^{*}, Hansen He^{*}, Dongruixuan Li, Stanley Wei, Hangyi Hao, Jianzhu Yao, Peiyao Sheng, Zixuan Wang, Wenhao Chai, Aleksandra Korolova, Peter Henderson, Sanjeev Arora, Pramod Viswanath, Jingbo Shang, Saining Xie
Under review at *Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2025
- **Scaling LLM Inference with Optimized Sample Compute Allocation**
Kexun Zhang^{*}, **Shang Zhou^{*}**, Danqing Wang, William Yang Wang, Lei Li
Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2025
- **Evaluating the Smooth Control of Attribute Intensity in Text Generation with LLMs**
Shang Zhou^{*}, Feng Yao^{*}, Chengyu Dong, Zihan Wang, Jingbo Shang
Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2024