

Kejun “Albert” Ying, Ph.D.

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Studying aging at the intersection of biology and AI

Education & Professional Training

Stanford University & University of Washington

Stanford, CA & Seattle, WA

Postdoctoral Researcher, Tony Wyss-Coray's Lab & David Baker's Lab (co-mentorship)

Jun 2025 – Present

- Co-advised by Dr. Wyss-Coray and Baker under NIH/NIA F99/Koo Fellowship
- Merging aging biology and protein design to tackle neurodegeneration
- Focused on the *de novo* design of disaggregase to act against protein aggregation in neurons
- Building advanced aging clock and the foundation model for proteomic data

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

Ph.D., Biological Science in Public Health

July 2019 – May 2025

- Dissertation: “On the Quantification of Aging”
- Advisor: Dr. Vadim Gladyshev, Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Dissertation Advisory Committee: Dr. Brendan Manning, Dr. David Sinclair, Dr. Shamil Sunyaev
- Focused on understanding the mechanism of aging through multi-omic modeling & causal inference
- Built the **first causality-enriched aging clock / current largest biological age database and agentic system (ClockBase, 2.5M+ samples) / first foundation model for the DNA methylome (MethylGPT)**

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

M.S., Computational Science Engineering

July 2022 – May 2024

- Secondary field during Ph.D. study

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Visiting Student, Integrative Biology

Aug 2017 – Dec 2017

Sun Yat-Sen University

Guangzhou, China

B.S., Life Science

Sep 2015 – Jun 2019

- Thesis: Screening for the Interactome of hTERC based on Molecular Fluorescence Complementation System in Living Cells
- Yat-Sen Honor School Program (Top 0.5%)
- National college admissions exam (Top 0.6%)

Professional Experience

Stanford University & University of Washington

Stanford, CA & Seattle, WA

Protein Design for Aging *Postdoctoral Researcher, Wyss-Coray's Lab & Baker's Lab*

Jun 2025 – Present

Visiting Scholar, Wyss-Coray's Lab & Baker's Lab

Nov 2024 – May 2025

Avinasi Labs

San Francisco, CA

Decentralized longevity data collection *Co-founder*

Jan 2025 – Present

Harvard Medical School, Brigham and Women's Hospital

Boston, MA

Biological Aging *Graduate Researcher, Vadim Gladyshev's Lab*

Mar 2020 – May 2025

Harvard Medical School, Boston Children's Hospital RNA Modifications <i>Graduate Researcher (Rotation), Eric Greer's Lab</i>	Boston, MA Jan 2020 – Mar 2020
Harvard Medical School Cell Reprogramming <i>Graduate Researcher (Rotation), David Sinclair's Lab</i>	Boston, MA Oct 2019 – Dec 2019
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health mTORC1 <i>Graduate Researcher (Rotation), Brendan Manning's Lab</i>	Boston, MA July 2019 – Oct 2019
Undergraduate Research	2015 – 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun Yat-Sen University, <i>Telomere & Telomerase</i> • University of Edinburgh, <i>Population genetics</i> • University of Washington, <i>Acarbose & Rapamycin</i> • Buck Institute for Research on Aging, <i>Senolytics</i> • University of California, Berkeley, <i>SIRT7</i> • Sun Yat-Sen University, <i>Telomere & DNA Methylation</i> 	Zhou Songyang's Lab Xia Shen's Lab Matt Kaerberlein's Lab Judith Campisi's Lab Danica Chen's Lab Yikang Rong's Lab

Grants

Using causal aging biomarkers and protein design to develop novel anti-aging interventions NIH/NIA F99/Koo, <i>Transition to Aging Research for Predoctoral Students</i>	2024 – 2028
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award Document Number: FAGO88431A (PI) • Received a <i>perfect</i> Impact Score of 10 	

Publications

† Corresponding author; * Co-first author; + Contributed as consortium author

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

Ying, K., Paulson, S., Eames, A., Tyshkovskiy, A., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2025). *A Unified Framework for Systematic Curation and Evaluation of Aging Biomarkers*. **Nature Aging (in press)**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.12.02.569722>

Wu, X.^{*}, Liu, H.^{*}, **Ying, K.**^{*†} (2025). Biological Age, Aging Clocks, and the Interplay with Lymphoid Neoplasms: Mechanisms and Clinical Frontiers. **Lymphatics**, 3(3), 19. <https://doi.org/10.3390/lymphatics3030019>

Ying, K.[†] (2024). Causal inference for epigenetic ageing. **Nature Reviews Genetics**, 1–1. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41576-024-00799-7>

Ying, K., Castro, J. P., Shindyapina, A. V., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Depletion of loss-of-function germline mutations in centenarians reveals longevity genes. **Nature Communications**, 15(1), 5956. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-50098-2>

Ying, K., Liu, H., Tarkhov, A. E., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Causality-enriched epigenetic age uncouples damage and adaptation. **Nature Aging (February Cover)**, 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43587-023-00557-0>

Ying, K., Zhai, R., Pyrkov, T. V., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2021). Genetic and phenotypic analysis of the causal relationship between aging and COVID-19. **Communications Medicine**, 1(1), 35. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43856-021-00033-z>

Ying, K.[†], Song, J., Cui, H., ..., Gladyshev, V. N.[†]. (2024). MethylGPT: a foundation model for the DNA methylome. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.30.621013>

Ying, K., Paulson, S., Reinhard, J., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). An Open Competition for Biomarkers of Aging. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.10.29.620782>

Ying, K., Tyshkovskiy, A., Chen, Q., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). High-dimensional Ageome Representations of Biological Aging across Functional Modules. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.09.21.570935>

Ying, K., Tyshkovskiy, A., Trapp, A., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2023). *ClockBase: A comprehensive platform for biological age profiling in human and mouse*. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.02.28.530532>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Farinas, A., Rutledge, J., Bot, V. A., Western, D., **Ying, K.**, Lawrence, K. A., Oh, H. S. H., ..., Wyss-Coray, T. (2025). Disruption of the cerebrospinal fluid–plasma protein balance in cognitive impairment and aging. **Nature Medicine**, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-025-03831-3>

Grzeczk, A., Iqbal, S., **Ying, K.**, Kordowitzki, P. (2025). Circular RNAs as regulators and biomarkers of mammalian ovarian ageing. **GeroScience**, 1–19. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11357-025-01798-0>

Jacques, E., Herzog, C., **Ying, K.**, ... Gladyshev, V. N. (2025). Invigorating discovery and clinical translation of aging biomarkers. **Nature Aging**, 1–5.

Goeminne, L. J. E., Vladimirova, A., Eames, A., Tyshkovskiy, A., Argentieri, M. A., **Ying, K.**, Moqri, M., & Gladyshev, V. N. (2025). Plasma protein-based organ-specific aging and mortality models unveil diseases as accelerated aging of organismal systems. **Cell Metabolism**, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmet.2024.03.007>

Gladyshev, V. N., Anderson, B., Barlit, H., ..., **Ying, K.**, Yunes, J., Zhang, B., & Zhavoronkov, A. (2024). Disagreement on foundational principles of biological aging. **PNAS Nexus**, 3(12), pga499. <https://doi.org/10.1093/pnasnexus/pgae499>

Lyu, YX.^{*}, Fu, Q.^{*}, Wilczok, D.^{*}, **Ying, K.**^{*}, King, A., ..., Bakula, D. (2024). Longevity biotechnology: Bridging AI, biomarkers, geroscience and clinical applications for healthy longevity. **Aging**, 16(1), 1–25. <https://doi.org/10.18632/aging.205397>

Biomarkers of Aging Consortium⁺, Herzog, C. M. S., Goeminne, L. J. E., Poganik, J. R., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Challenges and recommendations for the translation of biomarkers of aging. **Nature Aging**, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43587-024-00683-3>

Castro, J. P., Shindyapina, A. V., Barbieri, A., **Ying, K.**, ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Age-associated clonal B cells drive B cell lymphoma in mice. **Nature Aging**, 4(8), 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43587-024-00671-7>

Moqri, M., ..., de Sena Brandine, G., **Ying, K.**, Tarkhov, A., ..., Sebastiano, V. (2024). PRC2-AgeIndex as a universal biomarker of aging and rejuvenation. **Nature Communications**, 15(1), 5956. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-50098-2>

Tarkhov, A. E., Lindstrom-Vautrin, T., Zhang, S., **Ying, K.**, Moqri, M., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Nature of epigenetic aging from a single-cell perspective. **Nature Aging**, 1–17. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43587-023-00555-2>

Moqri, M., Herzog, C., Poganik, J. R., **Ying, K.**, ... Ferrucci, L. (2024). Validation of biomarkers of aging. **Nature Medicine**, 1–13. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-023-02784-9>

Griffin, P. T., ..., Kerepesi, C., **Ying, K.**, ..., Sinclair, D. A. (2024). TIME-seq reduces time and cost of DNA methylation measurement for epigenetic clock construction. **Nature Aging**, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1038/>

Moqri, M., Herzog, C., Poganik, J. R., **Biomarkers of Aging Consortium**⁺, ... Gladyshev, V. N. (2023). Biomarkers of aging for the identification and evaluation of longevity interventions. **Cell**, 186(18), 3758–3775. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2023.08.003>

Lieberman, N., Rothi, M. H., Gerashchenko, M. V., Zorbas, C., Boulias, K., MacWhinnie, F. G., **Ying, A. K.**, Flood Taylor, A., ..., Greer, E. L. (2023). 18S rRNA methyltransferases DIMT1 and BUD23 drive intergenerational hormesis. **Molecular Cell**, 83(18), 3268–3282.e7. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.molcel.2023.08.014>

Bitto, A., Grillo, A. S., Ito, T. K., Stanaway, I. B., Nguyen, B. M. G., **Ying, K.**, ... Kaeberlein, M. (2023). Acarbose suppresses symptoms of mitochondrial disease in a mouse model of Leigh syndrome. **Nature Metabolism**, 5(6), 955–967. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42255-023-00815-w>

Emmrich, S., Trapp, A., Tolibzoda Zakusilo, F., Straight, M. E., **Ying, A. K.**, Tyshkovskiy, A., ..., Gorbunova, V. (2022). Characterization of naked mole-rat hematopoiesis reveals unique stem and progenitor cell patterns and neotenic traits. **The EMBO Journal**, 41(15), e109694. <https://doi.org/10.15252/embj.2021109694>

Yang, Z., ..., Guo, H., **Ying, K.**, Gustafsson, S., ..., Shen, X. (2022). Genetic Landscape of the ACE2 Coronavirus Receptor. **Circulation**, 145(18), 1398–1411. <https://doi.org/10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.121.057888>

Li, T., Ning, Z., Yang, Z., Zhai, R., Zheng, C., Xu, W., Wang, Y., **Ying, K.**, Chen, Y., & Shen, X. (2021). Total genetic contribution assessment across the human genome. **Nature Communications**, 12(1), 2845. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-23124-w>

Zhu, J., Xu, M., Liu, Y., Zhuang, L., **Ying, K.**, Liu, F., ..., Songyang, Z. (2019). Phosphorylation of PLIN3 by AMPK promotes dispersion of lipid droplets during starvation. **Protein & Cell**, 10(5), 382–387. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13238-018-0593-9>

OTHER PREPRINTS

Mavrommatis, C., Belsky, D., **Ying, K.**, Moqri, M., Campbell, A., Richmond, A., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2025). *An unbiased comparison of 14 epigenetic clocks in relation to 10-year onset of 174 disease outcomes in 18,859 individuals.* **medRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2025.07.14.25331494>

Zhang, O., ..., Wang, J., **Ying, K.**, Kang, Y., Hsieh, C.-y., & Hou, T. (2025). *Graph Neural Networks in Modern AI-aided Drug Discovery.* **arXiv**. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2506.06915>

Galkin, F., ..., Tyshkovskiy, A., **Ying, K.**, Gladyshev, V. N., & Zhavoronkov, A. (2024). Precious3GPT: Multimodal Multi-Species Multi-Omics Multi-Tissue Transformer for Aging Research and Drug Discovery. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.07.25.605062>

Tyshkovskiy, A., Kholdina, D., **Ying, K.**, Davitadze, M., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Transcriptomic Hallmarks of Mortality Reveal Universal and Specific Mechanisms of Aging, Chronic Disease, and Rejuvenation. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.07.04.601982>

Moqri, M., Poganik, J. R., Herzog, C., **Ying, K.**, Chen, Q., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2024). Integrative epigenetics and transcriptomics identify aging genes in human blood. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.05.30.596713>

Rothi, M. H., Sarkar, G. C., Al Haddad, J., Mitchell, W., **Ying, K.**, Pohl, N., ..., Greer, E. L. (2024). The 18S rRNA Methyltransferase DIMT-1 Regulates Lifespan in the Germline Later in Life. **bioRxiv**. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2024.05.15.570935>

Zhang, B., Tarkhov, A. E., Ratzan, W., **Ying, K.**, Moqri, M., ..., Gladyshev, V. N. (2022). *Epigenetic profiling and incidence of disrupted development point to gastrulation as aging ground zero in Xenopus laevis.* **bioRxiv**.

Patents

V. N. Gladyshev, **K. Ying**, “High-dimensional measurement of biological age” (2024). *Provisional Patent Application*

V. N. Gladyshev, **K. Ying**, “Mapping CpG sites to quantify aging traits” (2024). *WO2024039905A2*

Software and Database

MethylGPT (2024)

<https://github.com/MethylGPT/MethylGPT>

Biolearn (2024)

<https://bio-learn.github.io/>

ClockBase (2023)

<https://www.clockbase.org/>

Presentations

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Keystone Symposia: Aging: New Frontiers in Rejuvenation and Gerotherapeutics Breckenridge, CO
MethylGPT: A Foundation Model for the DNA Methylome 2025

Biomarkers of Aging Symposium Boston, MA
Standardization of aging biomarkers and BoA challenge 2024

Harvard GRIP Presentations Boston, MA
Causal Aging Biomarker empowers Unbiased Anti-Aging Therapy Screening 2024

4th TimePie Longevity Forum Shanghai, China
Causal Aging Biomarker as a Tool for Unbiased Anti-Aging Therapy Screening 2023

Global Congress on Aesthetic and Anti-Aging (GCAA2023) Singapore
Causal Aging Biomarker as a Tool for Unbiased Anti-Aging Therapy Screening 2023

10th Aging Research and Drug Discovery conference (ARDD2023) Copenhagen, Denmark
Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation 2023

AGE 2023 51st Annual Meeting Oklahoma City, OK
Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation 2023

Broad Institute MPG Retreat Cambridge, MA
Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation 2023

Harvard GRIP Presentations Boston, MA
Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation 2022

Targeting Metabesity 2022, ‘Honorable Mention’ Virtual Conference
Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation 2022

GSA 2021 Annual Scientific Meeting Virtual Conference
Genetic and phenotypic evidence for causal relationships between aging and COVID-19 2021

INVITED TALKS

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital , hosted by Dr. Zhaoming Wang <i>MethylGPT and Causality-enriched Epigenetic Clock</i>	Memphis, TN 2025
The Alliance for Longevity Initiatives Scientist Spotlight , <i>Episode 14: Albert Ying</i>	Online Podcast 2024
BioAge Seminar , hosted by Dr. Robert Hughes & Dr. Paul Timmers <i>Ageome: Biological age with higher-dimensionality</i>	Boston, MA 2024
MRC Integrative Epidemiology Unit Seminar <i>Epigenetic Clocks and Mendelian Randomization</i>	Bristol, UK 2024
NIA EL Projects Joint Meeting , National Institute on Aging <i>Aging Clocks</i>	Online Webinar 2024
Biomarkers of Aging Challenge , Foresight Institute <i>Update Webinar with Foresight</i>	Online Webinar 2024
Everything Epigenetics , podcast hosted by Hannah Went <i>Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation</i>	Online Podcast 2024
Chinese University of Hong Kong , hosted by Dr. Xin Wang <i>Causal Aging Biomarker as a Tool for Systemic Anti-Aging Therapy Screening</i>	Hong Kong, China 2024
Everything Epigenetics , podcast hosted by Hannah Went <i>Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation</i>	Online Podcast 2023
Chinese University of Hong Kong , hosted by Dr. Xin Wang <i>Causal Aging Biomarker as a Tool for Systemic Anti-Aging Therapy Screening</i>	Hong Kong, China 2023
Peking University , hosted by Dr. Jingdong Han <i>Causal Aging Biomarker and ClockBase</i>	Beijing, China 2023
Chinese Academy of Sciences , hosted by Dr. Xuming Zhou <i>Causal Epigenetic Age Uncouples Damage and Adaptation</i>	Beijing, China 2022
Foresight Institute , hosted by Allison Duettmann <i>Genetic Variation, Aging & Relationship to COVID-19 Joris Deelen, Albert Ying</i>	Online Seminar 2020

Honors

Semifinalist , Harvard President's Innovation Challenge, Health Care and Life Sciences Track	2025
Best Poster Award , Inaugural Biomarker of Aging Symposium	2023
Best Poster Award , Gordon Research Conference, Systems Aging	2022
Hackathon Winner , Longevity Hackathon, VitaDAO	2021
Yan-Sen Honor School Program , Sun Yat-Sen University	2016 – 2019
Yan-Sen Scholarship , Sun Yat-Sen University	2016 – 2019

Professional Experience

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Core Member , Biomarkers of Aging Consortium	2024 – Present
Organizer , Biomarker of Aging Challenge	2024 – Present
President , Harvard Interdisciplinary Discussion on Disease and Health	2024 – 2025
Organizing Committee Member , Biomarker of Aging Symposium 2024	2024
Organizing Committee Member , Biomarker of Aging Symposium 2023	2023

TEACHING & MENTORING

Mentor , Yuanpei Young Scholars Program	2023 – 2024
Instructor , Harvard Public Health Symposium For Young Generation	2023

STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Predoctoral Students: Ali Doga Yucel, Siyuan Li, Hanna Liu, Donghyun Lee, Yikun Zhang

JOURNALS REVIEWED

Nature Aging, Nature Communications, BMC Nephrology, Lipids in Health and Disease, Clinical Proteomics, Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Scientific Report

References

Dr. Tony Wyss-Coray , Postdoctoral Co-Advisor D.H. Chen Distinguished Professor of Neurology and Neurological Sciences, Stanford University	twc@stanford.edu
Dr. David Baker , Postdoctoral Co-Advisor Professor of Biochemistry, University of Washington	dbaker@uw.edu
Dr. Vadim Gladyshev , Dissertation Advisor Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School	vgladyshev@bwh.harvard.edu
Dr. Steve Horvath , Collaborator Professor of Human Genetics, UCLA	shorvath@mednet.ucla.edu
Dr. David Sinclair , Dissertation Advisory Committee Professor of Genetics, Harvard Medical School	david_sinclair@hms.harvard.edu
Dr. Matt Kaeberlein , Advisor Professor of Pathology, University of Washington	kaeber@uw.edu