Yi Ding

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

 My research interests lie at the intersection of cyber-physical systems, mobile computing, and machine learning. I am interested in combining wireless sensing and machine learning on mobile devices in cyber-physical systems (CPS) and cyber-human systems (CHS) like location-based services, urban delivery, and smart cities.

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor in Computer Science

Aug. 2023 - Now

Oct. 2022 - Jul. 2023

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX, USA

Postdoctoral Associate

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), MA, USA

Advisor: Prof. Alex "Sandy" Pentland (MIT Media Lab, MIT IDSS)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. of Computer Science Sep. 2016 - Oct. 2022

University of Minnesota, USA

Advisor: Prof. Tian He (IEEE/ACM Fellow)

Visiting Student Feb. 2022 - Oct. 2022

Rutgers University, USA Host: Prof. Desheng Zhang

Master of Control Science and Engineering Sep. 2013 - Jun. 2016

Zhejiang University, China Advisor: Prof. Zuhua Xu

Visiting Student Aug. 2015 - Oct. 2015

IMT Lucca, Italy

Host: Prof. Alberto Bemporad (IEEE Fellow)

Bachelor of Control Science and Engineering Sep. 2009 - Jun. 2013

Zhejiang University, China with Outstanding Thesis Award

HONORS & AWARDS

- CPS Rising Star, CPS Rising Stars Workshop, University of Virginia, 2022
- Outstanding Paper Award, IEEE RTSS, 2021
- Outstanding Thesis Award, Zhejiang University, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Highlights: 25 papers, featuring 17 papers in top-tier conferences, including NSDI, SIGCOMM, MobiCom, UbiComp, RTSS, VLDB, SIGKDD, and WWW, with 1 outstanding paper award. The authors with * are the students working primarily with me.

Conference Papers

[C20] WWW'25	Wenjun Lyu, S. Zhong, G. Yang, H. Wang, Yi Ding, S. Wang, Y. Liu, T. and Desheng Zhang InCo: Exploring Inter-Trip Cooperation for Efficient Last-mile Delivery ACM The Web Conference 2025
[C19] PerCom'25	Anlan Yu*, X. Wang, P. Wang, J. Li, X. Ma, Z. Hong, Haotian Wang, Yi Ding, Daqing Zhang FineSat: Enhancing GNSS Signals for High-precision Sensing 2025 IEEE International Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom)
[C18] CIKM'24	Guang Yang*, Meiqi Tu, Z. Li, J. Hang, T. Liu, R. Liu, Yi Ding, Yu Yang and Desheng Zhang Behavior-Aware Hypergraph Convolutional Network for Illegal Parking Prediction with Multi-Source Contextual Information 33rd ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management
[C17] UbiComp'24	Zhiqing Hong, Zelong Li, S. Zhong, W. Lyu, Haotian Wang, Yi Ding, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. CrossHAR: Generalizing Cross-dataset Human Activity Recognition via Hierarchical Self-Supervised Pretraining In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C16] UbiComp'24	Zhiqing Hong, Haotian Wang, Yi Ding, Guang Wang, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. SmallMap: Low-cost Community Road Map Sensing with Uncertain Delivery Behavior In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C15] VLDB'24	Sijing Duan, Feng Lyu, Xin Zhu, Yi Ding, H. Wang, Desheng Zhang, Xue Liu, Y. Zhang, Ju Ren VeLP: Vehicle Loading Plan Learning from Human Behavior in Nationwide Logistics System International Conference on Very Large Data Bases
[C14] SIGSPATIAL'22	Zhiqing Hong, Guang Wang, W. Lyu, B. Guo, Yi Ding, H. Wang, S. Wang, Y. Liu, D. Zhang CoMiner: Nationwide Behavior-driven Unsupervised Spatial Coordinate Mining ACM SIGSPATIAL International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems
[C13] SIGKDD'22 195/753=26%	Wei Liu*, Yi Ding , Shuai Wang, Yu Yang, Desheng Zhang. Para-Pred: Addressing Heterogeneity for City-Wide Indoor Status Estimation ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining
[C12] UbiComp'22	Baoshen Guo, Weijian Zuo, Shuai Wang, W. Lyu, Z. Hong., Yi Ding, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. WePos: Weak-supervised Indoor Positioning with Unlabeled WiFi for On-demand Delivery In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C11] MobiCom'22 16/91=18%	Pengfei Zhou, Yi Ding, Yang Li, Mo Li, Guobin Shen, Tian He. Experience: Adopting Indoor Outdoor Detection in On-demand Food Delivery Business In Annual International Conference on Mobile Computing and Networking
[C10] UbiComp'22	Yi Ding, Dongzhe Jiang, Yu Yang, Yunhuai Liu, Desheng Zhang, Tian He. P2-Loc: A Person-2-Person Indoor Localization System in On-Demand Delivery In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C09] UbiComp'22	Yi Ding, Dongzhe Jiang, Yunhuai Liu, Desheng Zhang, Tian He. SmartLOC: Indoor Localization with Smartphone Anchors for On-Demand Delivery In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing

[C08] ICPADS'21	Zhigang Dai, Wenjun Lyu, Yi Ding , Yiwei Song OPTI: Order Preparation Time Inference for On-demand Delivery In IEEE International Conference on Parallel and Distributed System
[C07] RTSS'21	Baoshen Guo, Shuai Wang, Yi Ding, Guang Wang, Suining He, Desheng Zhang, Tian He. Concurrent Order Dispatch for Instant Delivery with Time-Constrained Actor-Critic Reinforcement Learning In IEEE Real-Time Systems Symposium (Outstanding Paper Award)
[C06] UbiComp'21	Dongzhe Jiang, Yi Ding, Hao Zhang, Yunhuai Liu, Tian He, Yu Yang, Desheng Zhang. ALWAES: an Automatic Outdoor Location-Aware Correction System In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C05] UbiComp'21	Yi Ding, Baoshen Guo, Lin Zheng, M. Lu, Desheng Zhang, S. Wang, Sang H. Son, Tian He. A City-Wide Crowdsourcing Delivery System with Reinforcement Learning In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
[C04] SIGCOMM'21 55/241=22%	Yi Ding, Yu Yang, Wenchao Jiang, Yunhuai Liu, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. Nationwide Deployment and Operation of a Virtual Arrival Detection System in the Wild In the Annual Conference of the ACM Special Interest Group on Data Communication
[C03] NSDI'21 19/114=17%	Yi Ding, Ling Liu, Yu Yang, Yunhuai Liu, Desheng Zhang, Tian He. A Lifetime Story of a 3-Year-Old Operational Wireless Beacon System in the Wild In USENIX Symposium on Networked Systems Design and Implementation
[C02] MobiCom'20 62/384=16%	Yu Yang, Yi Ding, D. Yuan, G. Wang, X. Xie, Yunhuai Liu, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. Transparent Indoor Localization with Uncertain Human Participation for Instant Delivery In Annual International Conference on Mobile Computing and Networking
[C01] UbiComp'19	Yan Zhang, Yunhuai Liu, Yi Ding, G. Li, N. Chen, H. Zhang, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. Route Prediction for Instant Delivery In ACM International Joint Conference on Pervasive & Ubiquitous Computing
Journal Article	
[J05] TKDE'24	Zhiqing Hong, G. Wang, W. Lyu, B. Guo, Yi Ding, H. Wang, S. Wang, Yunhuai Liu, Desheng Zhang Nationwide Behavior-Aware Coordinates Mining from Uncertain Delivery Events In IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering
[J04] TMC'23	Shuai Wang, Baoshen Guo, Yi Ding, Guang Wang, Suining He, Desheng Zhang, Tian He <i>Time-Constrained Actor-Critic Reinforcement Learning for Concurrent Order Dispatch in On-demand Delivery</i> In ACM Transactions on Mobile Computing
[J03] TOSN'23	Zhigang Dai, Wenjun Lyu, Yi Ding , Yiwei Song, Yunhuai Liu <i>OPTI: Order Preparation Time Inference for On-demand Delivery</i> In ACM Transactions on Sensor Network
[J02] ToN'22	Yi Ding, Yu Yang, Wenchao Jiang, Yunhuai Liu, Tian He, Desheng Zhang. Nationwide Deployment and Operation of a Virtual Arrival Detection System in the Wild In IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking
[J01] ToN'21	Yi Ding, Ling Liu, Yu Yang, Yunhuai Liu, Desheng Zhang, Tian He. A Lifetime Story of a 3-Year-Old Operational Wireless Beacon System in the Wild In IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Invited Talks

- Invited Talk at the University of North Dakota, U.S., August 2024
- Invited Talk at MIT (Media Lab), U.S., August 2022
- Invited Talk at Kargo (Logistics Startup), U.S., July 2022
- Invited Talk at Location-Based Service Team, ByteDance, China, June 2022
- Invited Talk at Zhongshan Workshop, China Computer Federation (CCF), Nanjing, China, December 2021

Program Committee for Conferences

- ACM MobiSys 2025
- Track Chair for 2025 IEEE Cloud Summit
- ACM Special Interest Group on Data Communication Posters and Demos (SIGCOMM'25,'24, '23)
- ACM SenSys IoT-MMLM Workshop 2024
- ACM MobiCom Picasso Workshop 2024
- International Conference on Algorithms and Architectures for Parallel Processing (ICA3PP 2024, 2023)

(External) Reviewer

- Proceedings of the ACM on Interactive, Mobile, Wearable and Ubiquitous Technologies (IMWUT)
- ACM Transactions on Sensor Networks (TOSN)
- IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering (TNSE)
- IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters (RA-L)
- IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems
- ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (SIGKDD)
- Annual AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Panelist

- NSF CPS, 2024
- NSF SBIR, 2024
- NSF SCC, 2024

University and Department Service

- CS Department Admission Committee 2023-2025
- CS Department K-12 Outreach Committee 2023-2025

TEACHING

- Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024: Computer Networks (UTD CS/CE 4390)
- Spring 2025: Research, Inquiry, Design Experience (RIDE) (UTD ECS1192/2192/3192/4192)
- Fall 2023: Special Topics in CS: Data Science for Smart Cities (UTD CS 6301)

MENTORING

- PhD: Ziqi Liu, Xiao Yan, Tong Liu (Visiting)
- · Master: Pei Zeng
- · Undergraduate: Anindo Majumdar, Dishita Thathapuram, Sanskriti Aripineni, Hishita Rakesh Shah

DATA-SET RELEASE

• aBeacon: collected from a citywide physical beacon system, including the data of Bluetooth, manual report, and location from 31,131 couriers at 2,466 merchant locations in one month. [Link]

- VALID: collected from a nationwide virtual beacon system, including the data of Bluetooth, manual report, and manual feedback from 55,000 couriers at 113,000 merchant locations in ten cities in one month. [Link]
- RL-Dispatch: collected from a citywide crowdsourcing delivery system, including the on-demand delivery order data in one month. [Link]
- P2Loc: collected in a encounter-based localization project, including the BLE-based indoor encounter data and reported data of 176 couriers at 54 merchant locations in a mall in one month.. [Link]

MEDIA EXPOSURE

- · MIT Technology Review
- · Alibaba Technology

PATENTS

- Embedded MPC method based on convergence depth control [Link]
- Indoor positioning method and apparatus, electronic device and computer readable storage medium. [Link]
- Information processing method and device. [Link]
- Position state acquisition method and device, readable storage medium and electronic equipment. [Link]
- Order processing method and device, storage medium and electronic equipment [Link]
- Beacon association method and device. [Link]
- Task execution method and device based on gesture interaction. [Link]