

Chen Yaonan (Edison Chen)

Shantou, Guangdong, China

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Personal information

Academic Homepage: <https://edisonchen3.github.io>

English level: IELTS Academic overall score 7.5 (reading 9.0/ writing 7.0)

Research interests: digital humanities, contemporary Chinese literature and culture, science fictions

Education

Shantou University Sep. 2023 – Jun. 2026(Expected)

Master of Modern and Contemporary Chinese Literature, GPA: 3.9/4.0 Shantou, China

- Main Course: An attempt at interdisciplinary research: literature and the city(99), 20th Century Chinese Literature Thoughts(96), Special Topic on Western Literary Theory: 17th-19th Century(96), Taiwanese Women's Literature Research(96), Historical Materials of Chinese Modern Literature(95), etc.

Shantou University Sep. 2016 – Jun. 2020

Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering Shantou, China

- Excellent Undergraduate Graduation Thesis

Journal Articles

- Chen Yaonan, Jiang Tao. "The Female Universe in Science Fiction : A Study of Social Network in The Three Body Problem", *Journal of North University of China (Social Sciences Edition)*, vol. 42, no.3, 2025, pp.172-177.
- Jiang Tao, Chen Yaonan. "Regional Cultural Spirit and Guangdong Chaoshan Network Literature Creation", *Journal of Tongren University*, vol.26, no.4, 2024, pp.121-128.
- Jiang Tao, Chen Yaonan. "On Chaoshan Online Literature: Its Present State, Bottleneck and Direction", *Journal of Shantou University (Humanities and Social Sciences Edition)*, vol.39, no.7, pp.16-24+94.

Conference Papers

"Leftist Cultural Production in the Anti-Japanese War: Practices and Paradoxes of the Xinyuandi Literary Supplement (1935-1937)" Dec. 2024

"Literary Supplement and Chinese Modern Literature Studies" Conference Forum Shantou, China

- The paper has been included in the monograph "Chinese Literary Supplement and Chinese Modern Literature".

"The Perspective of Three Lives and Digital Humanities —— A Study on the Visualization of Zheng Xiaoqiong's Poetry" Apr. 2025

2025 Tsinghua University School of Humanities Doctoral Forum Beijing, China

- This paper has been submitted to a journal and is currently under review.

Research experience

Master Thesis Dec. 2024 – Apr. 2026(expected)

Advisor: Dr. Jiang Tao

- **Thesis title:** "Writing of extraterrestrial civilizations in Chinese science fiction novels in the 21st Century"
- At present, I have collected **nearly 70 Chinese science fiction novels since the 21st century, forming a corpus of nearly 5 million words**, and classified and summarized the images of alien civilizations in them. Based on the quantitative analysis of digital humanities (word frequency statistics, topic modeling, network analysis), combined with the research perspective of cultural anthropology, the writing of alien civilizations is discussed. Then, the writing of this literary phenomenon is traced back to the source, including from the aspects of prototypes, "Fermi Paradox" and the influence of Western science fiction. Finally, the value and significance of the writing of extraterrestrial civilizations in Chinese science fiction novels in the new century are deeply explored, and constructive suggestions are put forward.

Participated in the major project of National Social Science Fund of China

Dec. 2023 – Dec.2024

Project Title: *Compilation, Research and Database Construction of Chinese Literary Supplement Literature (1898-1949)*

- My specific contribution involved **Independently completed the manual digitization of the entire catalog of the *Nanjing Xinmin Daily*’s “New Garden” supplement (1935-1937, a total of 389 issues)**, and established an Excel database containing information on authors, genres, themes, and special issues. On this basis, a comprehensive analysis of the stylistic value and contemporary limitations of the supplement’s left-wing literary and artistic movement was conducted. This study fills the academic gap in the supplement’s documents that have not been included, and provides a key case for the construction of the basic document library of the subject. At present, the database has been uploaded to the *Zenodo* website for public review and download.

Participated in the Youth Fund of the Ministry of Education of China

Oct. 2023 – Jun.2025

Project Title: *A Study on the Transmedia Narrative and Communication Effects of Chinese Online Literature from the Perspective of Gender Studies*

- Within this project, I was responsible for constructing a multi-dimensional database of character relationships within *The Three-Body Problem*. Using Python and Gephi, I **performed social network centrality calculations and visualized the data**. This allowed me to demonstrate the pivotal position of female characters within the work’s social network through metrics such as betweenness centrality and weighted degree. Furthermore, I interpreted the behaviors of key characters like Ye Wenjie and Cheng Xin, integrating Luo Jiade’s theory of “trust mechanisms” into my analysis.

Applied for and led the Social Science Project of Shantou City

Jun. 2024 – Jun. 2025

Project Title: *“New Southern Writing” and Contemporary Chaoshan Young Writers Studies*

- I **established a creative archives database featuring representative writers under 45, including *Chen Chongzheng, Lin Zhao, Chen Qiufan, and Huang Shoutan***. This involved compiling their biographies, work lists, awards, and critical reviews, culminating in the “Basic Information Compendium of Chaoshan Young Writers.” Furthermore, by incorporating concepts from “literary geography” and “liminality theory”, along with Stephen King’s insights into regional writing, I explored the profound influence of Chaoshan’s overseas Chinese culture, clan traditions, and Wu-nuo folk beliefs on these writers.

Participated in the Project of Digital Humanities in Shantou University

Sep. 2023 – Dec. 2024

Project Title: *“Database consumption” and “Character setting” in network literature*

- I used Gephi to **conduct a social network analysis of the core character designs** in popular works on online literature platforms such as *Jinjiang* and *Qidian*. This involved quantitatively analyzing the correlation between these character designs and story complexity, emotional tone, and reader interaction data. Based on these data visualization results and textual case studies, I successfully completed the writing of the final project report.

Participated in the General Social Science Project of Guangdong Province

Sep. 2023 – Sep. 2024

Project Title: *Research on the creation, development, dissemination and database construction of Guangdong network literature*

- I focused on data collection and organization, which included compiling author profiles, literary texts, and critical reviews. I **systematically organized representative works by internet writers from the Chaoshan region**, such as *A Bo, Jiayu Bushi Gui, and Jing Jiangxiao*. This process led to the creation of a typical case study database, providing empirical support for research into the unique regional characteristics of Guangdong’s online literature.

Academic activities

Member of “Youth Science Fiction Research Lab”

Nov. 2024 – Present

- I am mainly responsible for the planning of the “Science Fiction and Future Cities” workshop. In addition, I conduct weekly literature readings, academic lectures and other interdisciplinary dialogues.

Member of the China Committee on Science Fiction Communication

Apr. 2025 – Present

- I am mainly responsible for operating the committee’s new media platform and participating in the publicity of science fiction professional information released by the committee.

Honors and Awards

The second prize of 20th National College Students’ Literature Works Competition	Mar. 2025
The bronze prize of National College Students’ English Speech Competition	Nov. 2024
The bronze prize of National College Students’ English Comprehensive Ability Competition	Nov. 2024
The second prize of 6th National College Students’ Language and Character Competition	Jun. 2024
The first prize of 2024 Shantou University Graduate Academic Excellence Scholarship	Sep. 2024