MING FANG

+1 217-305-1769 • mingf2@illinois.edu 1615 Melrose Park Ct, Apt 2022, Urbana, IL 61801, US

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate | Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering

Jan 2020 – Present

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

Urbana, USA

• Cumulative GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

Master of Science | Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering

Aug 2018 – Dec 2019

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

Urbana, USA

• Cumulative GPA: 4.0 / 4.0

Bachelor of Engineering | Nuclear Engineering and Technology

Sept 2014 – June 2018

University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)

Hefei, China

• Cumulative GPA: 3.89 / 4.3

RESEARCH INTEREST

- Development of non-destructive assay methods of special material for the characterization of tri-structural isotropic particle (TRISO) fuel for pebble bed reactors.
- Development of single-volume scatter camera with SiPM scintillator readout.
- Radiation detector signal processing algorithms with a focus on accelerated Monte Carlo implementation and iterative linear inverse solver for image reconstruction.
- Application of advanced radiation detection techniques, such as positron lifetime spectroscopy.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Multi-Mode Imaging for TRISO-fueled Pebble IdentificationUIUC

Aug 2020 - Present

Urbana, USA

- Designed a boron-coated straw-based neutron multiplicity counter to perform non-destruction assay of fuel pebbles.
- Implemented an accelerated Monte-Carlo algorithm to simulate X-ray images of a pebble generated by an industrial CT scanner.
- Developed image reconstruction, image segmentation, and fuel pebble identification algorithms.
- Contributed to the writing of the awarded Phase II STTR DOE grant.

Quantitative Image Reconstruction in Passive Gamma Emission Tomography UIUC

Aug 2019 – Sept 2020

Urbana, USA

- Developed a linear forward model to characterize the imaging system response.
- Implemented an accelerated Monte Carlo algorithm to perform scattering correction.
- Developed a full set of software to reconstruct cross-sectional images of inspected fuel assemblies, identify missing fuel pins, and estimate fuel pin activities.

Active Interrogation Using a DD Neutron Generator

May 2019 – May 2020

UIUC

UIUC

Urbana, USA

- Implemented a shift-register algorithm to calculate the coincidence neutron count rate.
- Demonstrated the possibility of using a DD generator as a neutron active interrogation source based on the strong correlation between the time-dependent neutron count rate signature and uranium mass.

Positron Annihilation Lifetime Spectroscopy (PALS)

Jan 2019 – May 2019

Urbana, USA

- Developed and optimized a PALS experimental setup using organic scintillators and fast digitizers.
- Implemented an interpolation-based constant-fraction discrimination (CFD) timing algorithm to determine the pulse arrival time.

General-Purpose Pulse-Processing Program

Sept 2018 – Present Urbana, USA • Developed a fast and general-purpose pulse-processing program based on the CERN ROOT framework.

Implementation of Key Algorithms in Gamma Spectrum Analysis Software USTC

Jul 2017 – Mar 2018 Hefei, China

- Implemented pulse smoothing, peak finding and background subtraction algorithms in C++.
- Implemented energy calibration algorithm in C++.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

- 1. **Ming Fang** and Angela Di Fulvio. Boron coated straw-based neutron multiplicity counter for neutron interrogation of triso fueled pebbles (under review). *Annals of Nuclear Energy*, 2022
- 2. **Ming Fang**, Yoann Altmann, Daniele Della Latta, Massimiliano Salvatori, and Angela Di Fulvio. Quantitative imaging and automated fuel pin identification for passive gamma emission tomography. *Scientific reports*, 11(1):1–11, 2021
- 3. **Ming Fang**, Nathan Bartholomew, and Angela Di Fulvio. Positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy using fast scintillators and digital electronics. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 943:162507, 2019
- 4. Ahmed Karam Eldaly, **Ming Fang**, Angela Di Fulvio, Stephen McLaughlin, Mike E Davies, Yoann Altmann, and Yves Wiaux. Bayesian activity estimation and uncertainty quantification of spent nuclear fuel using passive gamma emission tomography. *Journal of Imaging*, 7(10):212, 2021
- 5. Zhihua Liu, **Ming Fang**, Jon George, Ling-Jian Meng, and Angela Di Fulvio. Neutron tomography of spent fuel casks. *Journal of Signal Processing Systems*, pages 1–11, 2021
- 6. Matthew Weiss, **Ming Fang**, Yoann Altmann, Marc G. Paff, and Angela Di Fulvio. Effect of natural gamma background radiation on portal monitor radioisotope unmixing. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 2021
- 7. Noah Rebei, **Ming Fang**, and Angela Di Fulvio. Quantitative and three-dimensional assessment of holdup material. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section A: Accelerators, Spectrometers, Detectors and Associated Equipment*, 984:164630, 2020

Proceedings at International Conferences

- 1. **Ming Fang** and Angela Di Fulvio. Simulation of charge collection in a boron-coated straw detector for emerging fuel cycles. In 2022 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC), 2022
- 2. **Ming Fang** and Angela Di Fulvio. Boron coated straw-based neutron multiplicity counter for neutron interrogation of triso fueled pebbles. In *Proceedings of the INMM 63rd Annual Meeting*, July 2022. **Overall best paper award**, second place
- 3. **Ming Fang**, Satwik Pani, and Angela Di Fulvio. Algorithms for triso fuel identification based on x-ray ct. In *Transactions of the American Nuclear Society*, volume 126, pages 245–247, 2022
- 4. **Ming Fang**, Satwik Pani, and Angela Di Fulvio. Enabling psd-capability for a high-density channel imager. In 2021 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC), pages 1–4, 2021
- 5. **Ming Fang** and Angela Di Fulvio. Multi-Mode Imaging for TRISO-fueled Pebble Identification. ANS Student Conference 2021, April 2021
- Ming Fang, Yoann Altmann, Daniele Della Latta, Massimiliano Salvatori, and Angela Di Fulvio.
 Attenuation and scattering correction in passive gamma emission tomography reconstruction. In 2020 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC), pages 1–4, 2020

- 7. **Ming Fang**, Daniele Della Latta, Yoann Altmann, Massimiliano Salvatori, and Angela Di Fulvio. Computational Methods for Pin Identification in Passive Gamma Emmission Tomography. In *Proceedings of the INMM 61st Annual Meeting*, July 2020
- 8. **Ming Fang**, Nathan Bartholomew, and Angela Di Fulvio. Timing performance of organic scintillators for positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy. In 2019 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC), pages 1–5. IEEE
- 9. Jacob Fritchie, **Ming Fang**, Jon Balajthy, Melinda Sweany, Thomas Weber, and Angela Di Fulvio. Comparison of sipm properties and their effect on organic-scintillator based detector performance. In 2022 *IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC)*, 2022
- 10. Jon Balajthy, Melinda Sweany, Thomas Weber, James Burkart, Joel Christiansen, Angela Di Fulvio, **Ming Fang**, Jacob Fritchie, and Darlene Udoni. Characterization and optimization of silicon photomultipliers for high temperature applications. In 2022 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference (NSS/MIC), 2022
- 11. Zhihua Liu, **Ming Fang**, and Angela Di Fulvio. Feasibility of fast neutron imaging of spent nuclear fuel dry storage casks. In *Proceedings of the INMM-ESARDA Joint Annual Meeting*, August 2021
- 12. Matthew Weiss, **Ming Fang**, Yoann Altmann, Marc Paff, and Angela Di Fulvio. Unmixing algorithms for the identification of radionuclide signatures in the presence of natural background and shielded materials. In *Proceedings of the INMM-ESARDA Joint Annual Meeting*, August 2021
- 13. Satwik Pani, **Ming Fang**, and Angela Di Fulvio. Pulse Shape Discrimination with Pulse Shaping through ASICs. ANS Student Conference 2021, April 2021
- 14. Zhihua Liu, **Ming Fang**, and Angela Di Fulvio. Fast Neutron Interrogation for Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage Cask Monitoring. ANS Student Conference 2021, April 2021

PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- 1. Boron-coated straw-based neutron multiplicity counter for emerging fuel cycles (oral). Milano, Italy, November 2022. 2022 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium, Medical Imaging Conference and Room Temperature Semiconductor Detector Conference
- 2. Boron coated straw-based neutron multiplicity counter for neutron interrogation of triso fueled pebbles (oral). Virtual Conference, July 2022. INMM 63rd Annual Meeting
- 3. Algorithms for TRISO Fuel Identification Based on X-ray CT (oral). Anaheim, CA, USA, June 2022. 2022 ANS Annual Meeting
- 4. Enabling psd-capability for a high-density channel imager (oral). Virtual Conference, December 2021. 2021 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference
- 5. Multi-mode imaging for triso-fueled pebble identification (oral). Virtual Conference, April 2021. ANS Student Conference 2021
- 6. Comparison of image reconstruction methods for simulated passive gamma emission tomography (oral). Virtual Conference, November 2020. 2020 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference
- 7. Computational methods for pin identification in passive gamma emmission tomography (oral). Virtual Conference, July 2020. INMM 61st Annual Meeting
- 8. Positron annihilation lifetime spectroscopy using fast scintillators and digital electronics (poster). Manchester, UK, November 2019. 2019 IEEE Nuclear Science Symposium and Medical Imaging Conference

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| APPOINTMENTS | |
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| Graduate Research Assistant Neutron Measurement Laboratory | Sept 2018 – Present Urbana, USA |
| TEACHING AND MENTORING | |
| Outreach Activities UIUC | Mar 2020 Urbana, USA |
| • Coordinated lab tour for the Academic Redshirt in Science and Engineering (ARISE). | |
| Mentor UIUC | Sept 2018 – Present Urbana, USA |
| Jacob Fritchie, Undergraduate student. Satwik Pani, Undergraduate student. Muzammil Siddiqui, Undergraduate student. Noah Rebei, High school student, University Laboratory High School. | |
| Undergraduate Teaching Assistant USTC | Sept 2017 – Jan 2018 Hefei, China |
| Course: Physics, Subject: Quantum Mechanics B. SKILLS | |
| Software: MCNP, MATLAB, Mathematica, ROOT, Git, CMake/Make, SOLIDWORD PCB Editor, Origin, Vivado HONORS AND AWARDS | KS, OrCAD Capture and |
| J.D. Williams Student Paper Award, Second Place Institute of Nuclear Materials Management 63rd Annual Meeting | July 2022 |
| ACDIS Summer 2022 Fellowship The Program in Arms Control & Domestic and International Security (ACDIS), UIUC | May 2022 |
| Fellow of Exotic Beam Summer School Oak Ridge National Laboratory | June 2019 |
| Outstanding Teaching Assistant USTC | Mar 2018 |
| Outstanding Student Scholarship USTC | May 2017 |
| Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences Scholarship USTC | Sept. 2017 |
| Outstanding Student Scholarship USTC | May 2016 |
| Institute of Modern Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences Scholarship USTC | Sept. 2015 |
| Outstanding Freshman Scholarship USTC | Sept. 2014 |
| Professional Societies | |
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- Student member of Institute of Nuclear Materials Management
- Student member of American Nuclear Society