

# HANFEI YU

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## PERSONAL STATEMENT

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I'm a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, at Stevens Institute of Technology, advised by Prof. Hao Wang. I received my Master's Degree in Computer Science and Systems at University of Washington Tacoma and my Bachelor's Degree in Electronic Engineering at Shanghai Jiao Tong University. I was a Research Intern at Microsoft Azure Research Systems, working on improving the performance and resource efficiency of Azure container platforms.

My research interests lie in **Serverless Computing**, **Reinforcement Learning Systems**, **LLM serving Systems**, and **Large-Scale AI/ML Systems**. I develop efficient serverless ecosystems that integrate cloud and HPC resources to optimize AI workloads. My research has centered on enhancing the resource efficiency of serverless computing through AI/ML-driven techniques and designing optimized serverless infrastructures for AI/ML training and inference. I received the **ACM SoCC'24 Best Paper Award** and the recognition of the **ACM/IEEE SC'24 Best Student Paper Finalist**. I was selected as one of the **2025 MLCommons ML and Systems Rising Stars**.

## EDUCATION

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<b>Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA</b> Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Engineering	Sep 2024 - Present
<b>Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, USA</b> Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science (transferred out)	June 2021 - Aug 2024
<b>University of Washington, Tacoma, WA, USA</b> Master in Computer Science and Systems	Sep 2019 - Feb 2021
<b>Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China</b> Bachelor in Electronic Engineering	Sep 2015 - July 2019

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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<b>Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA</b> <i>Teaching Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· CPE 595 Applied Machine Learning</li></ul>	Jan 2025 - Present
<b>Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA</b> <i>Research Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· IntelliSys Lab</li></ul>	Sep 2024 - Present
<b>Microsoft Azure Research, Redmond, WA, USA</b> <i>Research Intern at Azure Research Systems</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Characterized production workloads of Azure container platforms.</li><li>· Optimized resource efficiency of container orchestration by designing new solutions.</li></ul>	May 2024 - Aug 2024
<b>Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, USA</b> <i>Research Assistant</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· IntelliSys Lab</li></ul>	June 2021 - Aug 2024

**Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, USA**

Jan 2020 - June 2020

*Teaching Assistant*

- CSC 4501 Computer Networks, CSC 3501 Computer Organization & Design, CSC 3102 Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms Analysis, CSC 2259 Discrete Structures, CSC 1350 Introduction to Computer Science

**University of Washington, Tacoma, USA**

Sep 2020 - Jan 2021

*Research Assistant*

- Cloud and Distributed Systems (CDS) Research Lab

**University of Washington, Tacoma, USA**

Jan 2020 - June 2020

*Teaching Assistant*

- TCSS 305 Programming Practicum, TCSS 422 Operating Systems

**Intel, Shanghai, China**

Aug 2018 - Feb 2019

*UEFI-BIOS Development Group*

- Software Developer Intern

## PUBLICATIONS

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[VLDB’25] [Hanfei Yu](#), Jacob Carter, Hao Wang, Devesh Tiwari, Jian Li, Seung-Jong Park. “Nitro: Boosting Distributed Reinforcement Learning with Serverless Computing.” *To be appeared in the International Conference on Very Large Data Bases, 2025*.

[ACM SoCC’24, Best Paper Award] Yifan Sui, [Hanfei Yu](#), Yitao Hu, Jianxun Li, Hao Wang. “Pre-Warming is Not Enough: Accelerating Serverless Inference With Opportunistic Pre-Loading.” *ACM Symposium on Cloud Computing, 2024*.

[IEEE TPDS] [Hanfei Yu](#), Hao Wang, Jian Li, Xu Yuan, Seung-Jong Park. “Freyr+: Harvesting Idle Resources in Serverless Computing via Deep Reinforcement Learning.” *IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems, 2024*.

[ACM/IEEE SC’24, Best Student Paper Finalist] [Hanfei Yu](#), Hao Wang, Devesh Tiwari, Jian Li, Seung-Jong Park. “Stellaris: Staleness-Aware Distributed Reinforcement Learning with Serverless Computing.” *ACM/IEEE The International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage, and Analysis, 2024*.

[AAAI’24] [Hanfei Yu](#), Jian Li, Yang Hua, Xu Yuan, Hao Wang. “Cheaper and Faster: Distributed Deep Reinforcement Learning with Serverless Computing.” *Thirty-Eighth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence, 2024*.

[ACM ASPLOS’24] [Hanfei Yu](#), Rohan Basu Roy, Christian Fontenot, Devesh Tiwari, Jian Li, Hong Zhang, Hao Wang, Seung-Jong Park. “RainbowCake: Mitigating Cold-starts in Serverless with Layer-wise Container Caching and Sharing.” *ACM International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems, 2024*.

[ACM HPDC’23] [Hanfei Yu](#), Christian Fontenot, Hao Wang, Jian Li, Xu Yuan, and Seung-Jong Park. “Libra: Harvesting Idle Resources Safely and Timely in Serverless Clusters.” *ACM International*

[**ACM WWW’22**] [Hanfei Yu](#), Hao Wang, Jian Li, Xu Yuan, Seung-Jong Park. “Accelerating Serverless Computing by Harvesting Idle Resources.” *ACM Web Conference, 2022.*

[**IEEE ACSOS’21**] [Hanfei Yu](#), Athirai A. Irissappane, Hao Wang, Wes J. Lloyd. “FaaSRank: Learning to Schedule Functions in Serverless Platforms.” *IEEE International Conference on Autonomic Computing and Self-Organizing Systems, 2021.*

[**ACM/SPEC ICPE’21**] Robert Cordingly, Navid Heydari, [Hanfei Yu](#), Varik Hoang, Zohreh Sadeghi, Wes Lloyd. “Enhancing Observability of Serverless Computing with the Serverless Application Analytics Framework.” *ACM/SPEC International Conference on Performance Engineering, 2021.*

[**WoSC 2020**] Robert Cordingly, [Hanfei Yu](#), Varik Hoang, Zohreh Sadeghi, David Foster, David Perez, Rashad Hatchett, Wes Lloyd. “The Serverless Application Analytics Framework: Enabling Design Trade-off Evaluation for Serverless Software.” *International Workshop on Serverless Computing, 2020.*

[**arXiv preprint**] Athirai A. Irissappane, [Hanfei Yu](#), Yankun Shen, Anubha Agrawal, Gray Stanton. “Leveraging GPT-2 for Classifying Spam Reviews with Limited Labeled Data via Adversarial Training.”

[**IEEE CBDDCom’20**] Robert Cordingly, [Hanfei Yu](#), Varik Hoang, David Perez, David Foster, Zohreh Sadeghi, Rashad Hatchett, Wes J Lloyd. “Implications of Programming Language Selection for Serverless Data Processing Pipelines.” *IEEE International Conference on Cloud and Big Data Computing, 2020.*

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

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ACM International Conference on Mobile Systems, Applications, and Services (MobiSys’25), Artifact Evaluation Program Committee

IEEE International Conference on High Performance Computing, Data, and Analytics (HiPC’25), Program Committee

USENIX Conference on File and Storage Technologies (FAST’25), Artifact Evaluation Program Committee

International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR’25), Reviewer

IEEE International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Systems (ICPADS’24), Technical Program Committee

ACM The Web Conference (WWW’24), Artifact Evaluation Program Committee

Performance Evaluation (PEVA), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Computers (TC), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Mobile Computing (TMC), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems (TPDS), Reviewer

IEEE Internet of Things Journal (IoTJ), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering (TNSE), Reviewer

Journal of Systems Architecture (JSA), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing (TCC), Reviewer

IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM’22), Reviewer

European Conference on Artificial Intelligence (ECAI’23), Reviewer

IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems (TPDS), Reviewer

EAI International Conference on Ad Hoc Networks (AdHocNets’21), Reviewer

## STUDENT MENTORING

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**Xingqi Cui**, Master student at University of Southern California, second-author paper in submission

**Jacob Carter**, PhD student at University of Florida, second-author paper accepted to VLDB'25

**Christian Fontenot**, PhD student at University of Colorado Boulder, third-author paper accepted to ACM ASPLOS'24 and second-author paper accepted to ACM HPDC'23