# Howard Yen

Website: howard-yen.github.io Email: hyen@cs.princeton.edu Google Scholar: Howard Yen GitHub: github.com/howard-yen

### EDUCATION

**Princeton University** 

Princeton, NJ

Ph.D. in Computer Science, Advisor: Danqi Chen

2024--Current

**Princeton University** 

Princeton, NJ

M.S.E. in Computer Science, GPA: 4.00/4.00

2023 - 2024

Thesis: "Long-Context Language Modeling with Parallel Context Encoding", Advised by Danqi Chen.

#### **Princeton University**

Princeton, NJ

B.S.E. in Computer Science, Highest Honors (summa cum laude), GPA: 3.99/4.00

2019-2023

Thesis: "How to Answer a Question? Rethinking Open-Domain Question Answering with Multi-Type Questions", Advised by Danqi Chen.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- \* denotes equal contribution.
- 1. Tianyu Gao\*, Alexander Wettig\*, **Howard Yen**, and Danqi Chen. "How to Train Long-Context Language Models (Effectively)". In *Proceedings of the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2025. [Paper] [Code]
- 2. **Howard Yen**, Tianyu Gao, Minmin Hou, Ke Ding, Daniel Fleischer, Peter Izsak, Moshe Wasserblat, and Danqi Chen. "HELMET: How to Evaluate Long-Context Language Models Effectively and Thoroughly". In *Proceedings of The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2025. [Paper] [Code] [Site]
- 3. Hongjin Su\*, **Howard Yen**\*, Mengzhou Xia\*, Weijia Shi, Niklas Muennighoff, Han-yu Wang, Haisu Liu, Quan Shi, Zachary S. Siegel, Michael Tang, Ruoxi Sun, Jinsung Yoon, Sercan O. Arik, Danqi Chen, Tao Yu. "BRIGHT: A Realistic and Challenging Benchmark for Reasoning-Intensive Retrieval". In *Proceedings of The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2025. **Spotlight, top 5.1%.** [Paper] [Code] [Site]
- 4. Kenneth Enevoldsen, Isaac Chung, Imene Kerboua, ..., **Howard Yen**, ..., Orion Weller, Siva Reddy, Niklas Muennighoff. "MMTEB: Massive Multilingual Text Embedding Benchmark". In *Proceedings of The International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)*, 2025. [Paper] [Code]
- 5. Ryan Liu, **Howard Yen**, Raja Marjieh, Thomas L. Griffiths, and Ranjay Krishna. "Optimizing Interpersonal Communication by Simulating Audiences with Large Language Models". In *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society*, 2025. [Paper] [Code]
- 6. Xi Ye, Fangcong Yin, Yinghui He, Joie Zhang, **Howard Yen**, Tianyu Gao, Greg Durrett, and Danqi Chen. "LongProc: Benchmarking Long-Context Language Models on Long Procedural Generation". In *Proceedings of the Second Conference on Language Modeling*, 2025. [Paper] [Code] [Site]
- 7. Wuwei Zhang, Fangcong Yin, **Howard Yen**, Danqi Chen, Xi Ye. "Query-Focused Retrieval Heads Improve Long-Context Reasoning and Re-ranking". In *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025. [Paper] [Code]
- 8. Jacqueline He, **Howard Yen**\*, Margaret Li\*, Shuyue Stella Li, Zhiyuan Zeng, Weijia Shi, Yulia Tsvetkov, Danqi Chen, Pang Wei Koh, Luke Zettlemoyer "Precise Information Control in Long-Form Text Generation". *Preprint*, 2025. [Paper] [Code]

- 9. **Howard Yen**, Tianyu Gao, and Danqi Chen. "Long-Context Language Modeling with Parallel Context Encoding". In *Proceedings of the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2024. [Paper] [Code]
- 10. Tianyu Gao, **Howard Yen**, Jiatong Yu, and Danqi Chen. "Enabling Large Language Models to Generate Text with Citations". In *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- 11. **Howard Yen**, Tianyu Gao, Jinhyuk Lee, and Danqi Chen. "MoQA: Benchmarking Multi-Type Open-Domain Question Answering". In *Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop on Dialogue and Conversational Question Answering* (DialDoc) @ ACL, 2023. [Paper] [Code]

# INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Samaya AI	Mountain View, California
PhD ML Research Intern	Summer 2025
Meta Reality Labs Software Engineering Intern	Seattle, Washington Summer 2022
Facebook AI Applied Research	Menlo Park, California
Software Engineering Intern	Summer 2021

## TEACHING

• Graduate Teaching Assistant at Princeton University Natural Language Processing (COS484)	Spring 2024
• Graduate Teaching Assistant at Princeton University Introduction to Machine Learning (COS324)	Fall 2023
• Research Instructor at Princeton University Princeton AI4ALL Summer Camp	Summer 2023
• Undergraduate Course Assistant at Princeton University Natural Language Processing (COS484)	Spring 2022, Spring 2023
• Undergraduate Course Assistant at Princeton University  Algorithms and Data Structures (COS226)	Spring 2020 – Fall 2022

## Honors and Awards

• The William A. Dippel '50 *55 Graduate Fellowship	2025
• Tau Beta Pi	2023
• Sigma Xi	2023
• Sigma Xi Book Award	2023
• Phi Beta Kappa	2022-2023
• Outstanding Student Teaching Award	2023
• International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) North America Finalist	2021
• Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence	2021
• Citadel Terminal Live 2nd Place	2020
• North Dallas Toyota Scholarship	2019

# INVITED TALK

- NVIDIA, "HELMET: How to Evaluate Long-Context Language Models Effectively and Thoroughly"
- 2024/10

• Sierra.AI, "Enabling Large Language Models to Generate Text with Citations"

2023/08

# PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### Organizer

- ICML 2025 Workshop on Long Context Foundation Models (ICFM).

#### Reviewer

- Conference on Language Modeling (COLM): 2025.
- International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR): 2025.
- ACL Rolling Review (ARR): February 2025.
- ICML 2024 Workshop on Long Context Foundation Models (ICFM).