# **YUE LIN**

# Assistant Professor Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign linyue@illinois.edu

## **EDUCATION**

2023	Ph.D., Geography
	The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
	*Graduate Certificate in College and University Teaching
2022	M.A., Geography
	The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
2019	B.S., Geographic Information Science
	Wuhan University, Wuhan, China

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

# Main Appointments

2025-present	Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science,
	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
2023-2025	Assistant Instructional Professor, Center for Spatial Data Science, University of Chicago

# Other Appointments

2024–2028 Board of Director, Cartography and Geographic Information Society

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Geographic Information Science, Computational Spatial Science, Social Justice, Location Privacy

#### **PUBLICATIONS** (MENTEE)

# Refereed Journal Articles

2025	Lin, Y., Bae, C., & Talen, E. How would AI define neighborhood boundaries? A comparison
	with human-crowdsourced data. Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science,
	In Press.
2025	Lin, Y. & Zhao, B. Posthuman cartography? Rethinking artificial intelligence, cartographic
	practices, and reflexivity. Annals of the American Association of Geographers, 115(3), 499–512.
2025	Lin, Y., Robinson, C., Yeap, Q.F., & Michael, H. Optimizing air pollution sensing for social
	and environmental justice. <i>Applied Geography</i> , 178, 103606.
2025	Xiao, N., Kim, M.J., & Lin, Y. A multistart and recombination algorithm for finding many
	unique solutions to spatial aggregation problems. Geoinformatica, 29, 53–91.

2025 Lin, Y. & Grekousis, G. Can geodemographic clustering be fair? Incorporating social fairness in crisp and fuzzy approaches through a unified framework. International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 39(6), 1270–1295. 2024 Lin, Y. You are where you live? Evaluating the racial and ethnic (mis)representation in geodemographic classification. Applied Geography, 165, 103244. 2024 Lin, Y. Moving beyond anonymity: Embracing a collective approach to location privacy in data-intensive geospatial analytics. Environment and Planning F, 3(1-2), 45-63. 2024 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Exploring the tradeoff between privacy and utility of complete-count census data using a multiobjective optimization approach. Geographical Analysis, 56(3), 427–450. 2024 Lin, Y. Synthetic population data for small area estimation in the United States. Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science, 51(2), 553–562. [data] Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Generating small areal synthetic microdata from public aggregated data 2023 using an optimization method. The Professional Geographer, 75(6), 905–915. Lin, Y. Geo-indistinguishable masking: Enhancing privacy protection in spatial point 2023 mapping. Cartography and Geographic Information Science, 50(6), 608-623. 2023 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Assessing the impact of differential privacy on population uniques in geographically aggregated data: The case of the 2020 U.S. Census. Population Research and Policy Review, 42(5), 81. 2023 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. A computational framework for preserving privacy and maintaining utility of geographically aggregated data: A stochastic spatial optimization approach. Annals of the American Association of Geographers, 113(5), 1035–1056. Lin, Y., Li, J., Porr, A., Logan, G., Xiao, N. & Miller, H. Creating building-level, 2023 three-dimensional digital models of historic urban neighborhoods from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps using machine learning. PLoS ONE, 18(6), e0286340. 2023 Lin, Y., Xu, C., & Wang, J. sandwichr: Spatial prediction in R based on spatial stratified heterogeneity. Transactions in GIS, 27(5), 1579–1598. [R package] 2022 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Identifying high accuracy regions in traffic camera images to enhance the estimation of road traffic metrics: A quadtree-based method. Transportation Research Record, 2676(12), 522-534. 2021 Zhang, X., Lin, Y., Cheng, C., & Li, J. Determinant powers of socioeconomic factors and their interactive impacts on particulate matter pollution in North China. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 18(12), 6261. Lin, Y., Kang, M., & He, B. Spatial pattern analysis of address quality: A study on the impact 2021 of rapid urban expansion in China. Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science, 48(4), 724–740. 2020 Lin, Y., Kang, M., Wu, Y., Du, Q., & Liu, T. A deep learning architecture for semantic address matching. International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 34(3), 559–576. 2020 Lin, Y., Wang, J., & Xu, C. Theoretical and empirical comparative evaluations on measures of map association. Journal of Geographical Systems, 22, 361–390.

#### **Refereed Conference Proceedings**

Science, 33(12), 2406-2423.

2019

2025 Otto, P. & Lin, Y. The Roaring '20s Project: Mapping pre-renewal built environments in Chicago from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps using a computational workflow. 32nd International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2025), August 16–22, Vancouver, CA.

**Lin, Y.**, Cai, Y., Gong, Y., Kang, M., & Li, L. Extracting urban landmarks from geographical datasets using a random forests classifier. *International Journal of Geographical Information* 

2024	Lin, Y. A multi-objective optimization approach to balancing utility and equity in
	location-allocation problems. CaGIS-UCGIS 2024 Symposium, June 3–6, Columbus, OH.
2023	Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Investigating MAUP effects on census data using approximately
	equal-population aggregations. 12th International Conference on Geographic Information Science
	(GIScience 2023), September 12–15, Leeds, UK.
2022	Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Developing synthetic individual-level population datasets: The case of
	contextualizing maps of privacy-preserving census data. AutoCarto 2022, November 2–4,
	Redlands, CA.

# **Book Chapters**

2025 Lin, Y. & Kim, J. Pillars of GeoAI in human geography. In Huang, X., Wang, S., Wilson, J., & Kedron, P. (Eds.), GeoAI and Human Geography - The Dawn of a New Spatial Intelligence Era. Springer.

## In Submission

[1]	Lin, Y., Yeap, Q.F., Zhang, H. Citizen science and geoprivacy: Empirical analysis of location
	masking in crowdsensing networks.
[2]	Otto, P. & Lin, Y. The Roaring '20s Project: Mapping pre-renewal built environments in
	Chicago from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps.
[3]	Zhao, B. & Lin, Y. GeoAI collapse? Ethical implications of synthetic geospatial data use.

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

External	
2025	Third Place (Team: Roof Mappers), I-GUIDE Spatial AI Challenge 2024-25, Institute for
	Geospatial Understanding through an Integrative Discovery Environment (I-GUIDE)
2024	ICA Scholarship (CaGIS-UCGIS 2024 Symposium), International Cartographic Association
2024	Honorable Mention, William L. Garrison Award for Best Dissertation in Computational
	Geography, American Association of Geographers
2023	CaGIS Doctoral Student Scholarship Award, Cartography and Geographic Information Society
2023	IJGI Travel Award, ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information
2023	Grad WINGS (Women+ in Geospatial Science) Fellow, Training and Retaining Leaders in
	STEM - Geospatial Sciences (TRELIS-GS) Program, University Consortium of Geographic
	Information Science
2022	Third Place Doctoral Student Paper Award, East Lakes Division of the American Association of
	Geographers
2022	ICA Scholarship (AutoCarto 2022), International Cartographic Association
2022	Third Place Student Lightening Talks Award, University Consortium for Geographic Information
	Science
2022	Student Travel Award, Spatial Analytics and Modeling Specialty Group, American Association of
	Geographers
2021	First Place Doctoral Student Paper Award, East Lakes Division of the American Association of
	Geographers
2021	First Place Student Paper Award, University Consortium for Geographic Information Science

<ul><li>2021</li><li>2020</li></ul>	First Place Award, AAG Robert Raskin Student Competition, <i>Cyberinfrastructure Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers</i> AAG Kauffman Runner-Up Award for Best Student Paper in Geography & Entrepreneurship,
	American Association of Geographers
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Internal	
2023	E. Willard and Ruby S. Miller Award, The Ohio State University
2022	Career Development Grant Award, Council of Graduate Students, The Ohio State University
2022	Fenburr Travel Scholarship for Outstanding PhD Student, The Ohio State University
2019	Outstanding Bachelor's Thesis Award, Wuhan University
2019	Outstanding Graduate Award, Wuhan University
2018	Wang Zhizhuo Innovative Talent Scholarship (First Class), Wuhan University
2017	Zhonghaida Scholarship (First Class), Wuhan University
2016-2018	Outstanding Student Award, Wuhan University
2016	Second Class Scholarship, Wuhan University

## **GRANTS**

2025-2026	University of Chicago, AI Initiative Teaching and Learning Seed Grant. "Fooling ourselves
	less with AI? Exploring AI-assisted scientific reasoning with students to improve, not
	diminish, their reasoning skills in final projects." \$9,540. Role: Co-PI.
2025	University of Chicago, Chicago Studies Experiential Learning Grant. "GIS Practicum."
	\$2,000. Role: PI.
2024	University of Chicago, Chicago Studies Experiential Learning Grant. "GIS Practicum."
	\$2,500. Role: PI.
2024	University of Chicago, Chicago Studies Experiential Learning Grant. "History of
	Cartography." \$2,500. Role: PI.
2022	University Consortium for Geographic Information Science, I-GUIDE Community
	Champions Program. "Location privacy and confidentiality: Towards ethical geospatial big
	data harnessing." \$3,000. Role: PI.
2020-2021	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, National Science Foundation Geospatial Fellows
	Program. "Human mobility: Understanding the impact of COVID-19 and its social and
	economic contexts in Columbus, OH using traffic camera feeds." \$2,400. Role: Key personnel.

# PRESENTATIONS ( $^{\dagger}$ presenting author)

# Conference and Workshop Organization

2025	Chair, "Spatial data science and GeoAI ethics: Bridging research and education." <i>The 2025</i>
	Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, March 24–28, Detroit, MI.
2024	Program Committee, CaGIS-UCGIS 2024 Symposium, June 3–6, Columbus, OH.
2024	Co-chair, "Responsible GeoAI: Privacy, fairness, and interpretability in spatial data science."
	The 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, April 16–20, Honolulu, HI.
2022	Co-chair, AAG 2022 Summer Series Graduate Forums. American Association of Geographers,
	June 14–August 9, virtual.

Responsible spatial data science: Privacy, fairness, and equity. Department of Earth, Atmosphere, and Environment, Northern Illinois University, September 19, DeKalb, IL.

Posthuman cartography? Rethinking artificial intelligence, cartographic practices, and reflexivity. UCGIS Webinar Series, May 15, virtual.

Reexamining geoprivacy: From anonymity to a harm-based approach. I-GUIDE Virtual Consulting Office Webinar Series, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, June 19, virtual.

Privacy and utility of geographic data: Revealing, evaluating, and mitigating the externalities of geographic privacy protection. Shijian Forum, Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences, August 10, Beijing, China.

## Papers Presented at Professional Meetings

2025	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> , Zhao, B. Posthuman cartography? Rethinking artificial intelligence, cartographic
	practices, and reflexivity. 2025 North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) Annual
	Meeting, October 14–18, Louisville, KY.
2025	Otto, P. <sup>†</sup> , Lin, Y. The Roaring '20s Project: Mapping pre-renewal built environments in
	Chicago from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps using a computational workflow. 32nd
	International Cartographic Conference (ICC 2025), August 16–22, Vancouver, CA.
2025	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> You are where you live? Evaluating the racial and ethnic (mis)representation in
	geodemographic classification. The 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Association of
	Geographers, March 24–28, Detroit, MI.

- 2024 Lin, Y.<sup>†</sup> Geo-indistinguishable masking: Enhancing privacy protection in spatial point mapping. *The 5th Spatial Data Science Symposium*, October 23–24, virtual.
- 2024 Lin, Y.\* A multi-objective optimization approach to balancing utility and equity in location-allocation problems. *CaGIS-UCGIS 2024 Symposium*, June 3–6, Columbus, OH.
- Lin, Y.\* Geo-indistinguishable masking: Enhancing privacy protection in spatial point mapping. *The 2024 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, April 16–20, Honolulu, HI.
- 2023 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N.<sup>†</sup> Investigating MAUP effects on census data using approximately equal-population aggregations. *12th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2023)*, September 12–15, Leeds, UK.
- Lin, Y.\* & Xiao, N. Exploring the tradeoff between privacy and utility of geographic data using a multiobjective optimization approach. *The 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, March 23–27, Denver, CO.
- Lin, Y., Li, J., Porr, A., Logan, G., Xiao, N. & Miller, H. Creating high resolution, three-dimensional digital models of historic urban neighborhoods from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps using machine learning. *The 2023 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, March 23–27, Denver, CO.
- Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Developing synthetic individual-level population datasets: The case of contextualizing maps of privacy-preserving census data. *AutoCarto 2022, The 24th International Research Symposium on Cartography and GIScience*, November 2–4, Redlands, CA.
- 2022 Lin, Y.\* & Xiao, N. Exploring tradeoffs between privacy and utility of geographic data using a multiobjective optimization approach. *The 2022 Annual Meeting of the East Lakes Division of the American Association of Geographers*, October 27–28, Muskegon, MI.
- Lin, Y.<sup>†</sup> & Xiao, N. Spatial optimization for protecting privacy and preserving utility of geographically aggregated data. *UCGIS Symposium 2022: GIScience Forward: Meeting the Challenge*, June 7–9, Syracuse, NY.

Lin, Y.\* & Xiao, N. Examining threats to location privacy in geographically aggregated data 2022 with the protection of differential privacy. The 2022 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, February 25-March 1, virtual. 2021 Lin, Y.\*, Xu, C., & Wang, J. Sandwich: An R package for spatial interpolation based on spatial stratified heterogeneity. The 2021 Joint Annual Meeting of Applied Geography Conference/East Lakes AAG/West Lakes AAG, October 14–16, virtual. Lin, Y. \* & Xiao, N. Traffic density estimation from camera feeds using deep learning and high 2021 accuracy regions. UCGIS Symposium 2021: Advancing GIScience-informed Policy Solutions, June 7–11, virtual. Lin, Y. \* & Xiao, N. Using deep learning and high accuracy regions for vehicle detection and 2021 traffic density estimation from traffic camera feeds. The 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, April 7–11, virtual. Lin, Y.\*, Kang, M., Wu, Y., Du, Q., & Liu, T. A deep learning architecture for semantic address 2021 matching. The 2021 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers, April 7–11, virtual. Lin, Y.\*, Cai, Y., Gong, Y., Kang, M., & Li, L. Extracting urban landmarks from geographical 2020 datasets using a random forests classifier. Symposium on AI and Social Good, Carnegie Mellon University, April 23–24, virtual. Panel Speaker

2025 AAG 2025 Symposium on Spatial AI & Data Science for Sustainability: Grand Challenges of Spatial AI and Data Science. *The 2025 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Geographers*, March 24–28, Detroit, MI.

# Campus and Departmental Talks

Lin, Y.<sup>†</sup>. Responsible spatial data science: Privacy and fairness in data and algorithms. GIS 2023 Day, University of Chicago, November 15, Chicago, IL. Lin, Y.\*, Li, J., Porr, A., Logan, G., Xiao, N. & Miller, H. Creating building-level, 2023 three-dimensional digital models of historic urban neighborhoods from Sanborn Fire Insurance maps using machine learning. Center for Spatial Data Science, University of Chicago, November 13, Chicago, IL. Lin, Y.\* Privacy and utility of geographic data. Graduate Colloquium, The Ohio State University, 2023 January 20, Columbus, OH. Lin, Y.\* Exploring tradeoffs between privacy and utility of geographic data. GeoWeek, The Ohio 2022 State University, November 14, Columbus, OH. 2022 Lin, Y. Navigating tradeoffs between privacy and utility in geographic data releases. Geography Grad Students' Reports from the Field, The Ohio State University, September 23, Columbus, OH. Lin, Y. Xiao, N. Does differential privacy protect location privacy in geographically 2021 aggregated data publication? 3C GIS Day(s), The Ohio State University, November 15–19, virtual. 2020 Lin, Y. & Xiao, N. Traffic density estimation from camera feeds: An approach using deep learning and high accuracy regions. GeoWeek, The Ohio State University, November 16, virtual. 2020 Lin, Y.\*, Cai, Y., Gong, Y., Kang, M., & Li, L. Extracting urban landmarks from geographical

#### **Poster Presentations**

20, virtual.

datasets using a random forests classifier. Geography Visit Day, The Ohio State University, March

2024	Mostafavisabet, M.*, Tokey, A., Alam, M., Lin, Y., Xiao N., & Miller, H. 3D urban modeling of
	historic Black neighborhoods using GIS and machine learning: Poindexter Village, Columbus,
	in 1940. CaGIS-UCGIS 2024 Symposium, June 3–6, Columbus, OH.
2023	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> & Xiao, N. Exploring tradeoffs between privacy and utility of geographic data using a
	multiobjective optimization approach. The 37th Edward F. Hayes Advanced Research Forum, The
	Ohio State University, February 24, Columbus, OH.
2022	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> & Xiao, N. Generating small area synthetic microdata for public use: Towards
	accessible and reproducible spatial data science. 2022 Interdisciplinary Research Fall Forum, The
	Ohio State University, November 7–9, Columbus, OH.
2022	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> , Li, J., Porr, A., Logan, G., Xiao, N. & Miller, H. Ghost neighborhoods of Columbus:
	Reconstructing historical neighborhoods from Sanborn maps using machine learning. 2022
	Interdisciplinary Research Fall Forum, The Ohio State University, November 7–9, Columbus, OH.
2022	Lin, Y. <sup>†</sup> & Xiao, N. A stochastic spatial optimization approach to privacy and utility of
	geographically aggregated data. UCGIS Symposium 2022: GIScience Forward: Meeting the
	Challenge, June 7–9, Syracuse, NY.

## MEDIA COVERAGE

2023	3D digital models are resurrecting lost neighborhoods. Axios. June 28.
2023	Turning old maps into 3D digital models of lost neighborhoods. <i>Ohio State News.</i> June 28.
2022	Lost Columbus communities reborn with Ghost Neighborhoods project. The Lantern.
	November 22.
2022	Recreating "ghost neighborhoods" destroyed by highways: Ohio State researchers studying
	impact on vulnerable communities. Ohio State News. September 15.

## **OUTREACH**

2024 Mapping Chicago's Past and Present. Chicago History Museum. May 11.

## **TEACHING**

# University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

2025–present GGIS 527: Geospatial Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (Autumn 2025) GGIS 403: Geographic Information Science and Systems (Spring 2026)

# University of Chicago

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2023-2025	GISC 28100: Introduction to Geocomputation (Winter 2024, Winter 2025)
	GISC 28300: Topics in Geographic Information Science (Autumn 2023)
	GISC 28400: GIScience Practicum (Spring 2024, Spring 2025)
	GISC 28800: History of Cartography (Winter 2024)
	GISC 25900: Introduction to Location Analysis (Winter 2025)
	GISC 27106: Geospatial Data Science for Urban Applications (Autumn 2024)
	SOCI 20253: Introduction to Spatial Data Science (Summer 2024, Autumn 2024)
	SOSC 13320: Social Science Inquiry: Spatial Analysis III (Spring 2024, Spring 2025)

# The Ohio State University

2022 Instructor of Record

GEOG 5201: Geovisualization (Spring 2022)

2019–2021 Graduate Teaching Associate

GEOG 4103: Introductory Spatial Data Analysis (Spring 2021) GEOG 5201: Geovisualization (Spring 2020, Autumn 2021) GEOG 5222: GIS Algorithms and Programming (Autumn 2019) GEOG 5226: Spatial Simulation and Modeling in GIS (Autumn 2020)

#### **MENTORSHIP**

#### Master's Thesis Advisor

2024–2025 Ashlynn Wimer, Computational Social Science, University of Chicago

## Undergraduate Research Advisor

2025	Na Nguyen, Brown University
2025	Enrico Madani, University of Chicago
2024-2025	Qian Fang Yeap, University of Chicago
2024	Helen Michael, University of Texas at Austin
2024	Yassir Atlas, University of Illinois Chicago
2024	Marcus Kuo, University of Chicago

## **SERVICE**

## **University Service**

2024-2025	Faculty Mentor, Data Science Institute Summer Lab Program, <i>University of Chicago</i>
2024	Faculty Partner, Summer Institute in Social Research Methods, <i>University of Chicago</i>
2020-2021	Ph.D. Representative on Graduate Studies Committee, Graduate Geography Organization,
	The Ohio State University

#### **Professional Service**

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#### Reviewer

Journals: Annals of the American Association of Geographers (2), Annals of GIS (1), Cartography and Geographic Information Science (3), China Population and Development Studies (1), Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science (1), Geographical Analysis (1), GeoHealth (1), Geo-spatial Information Science (1), ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information (5), International Journal of Digital Earth (1), International Journal of Geographical Information Science (1), Journal of Spatial Information Science (1), Journal of Spatial Science (1), Scientific Data (1), The Professional Geographer (3), Transactions in GIS (3), Urban Informatics (1)

Conferences: GIScience (2023), CaGIS-UCGIS Symposium (2024)

## **Professional Memberships**

American Association of Geographers Cartography and Geographic Information Society North American Cartographic Information Society

#### **SKILLS**

**Programming languages**: Python, R, C/C++, NetLogo

Geospatial software: ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS CityEngine, QGIS, GeoDa