MATTHEW YANG

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EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University, Machine Learning Department   08/2024 – present
MS in Machine Learning. GPA: 4.17/4
Advisor: Aviral Kumar
Relevant coursework: Advanced Intro to ML (A+), Probabilistic Graphical Models (A+), Probability and Statistics (A+)

University of Waterloo   09/2019 – 04/2024
Bachelor of Computer Science, Statistics Minor. GPA: 94/100
Advisors: Gautam Kamath, Florian Kerschbaum, Yaoliang Yu, Jimmy Lin

PUBLICATIONS (*Equal contribution)

e3: Learning to Explore Enables Extrapolation of Test-Time Compute for LLMs· paper · code · website
A Setlur*, **M Yang***, C Snell, J Greer, I Wu, V Smith, M Simchowitz, A Kumar   ICML 2025 EXAIT (Best Paper)

Optimizing Test-Time Compute via Meta Reinforcement Fine-Tuning · paper · code · website
Y Qu*, **M Yang***, A Setlur, L Tunstall, E Beeching, R Salakhutdinov, A Kumar   ICLR 2025 FM-Wild (Oral) / ICML 2025

Disguised Copyright Infringement of Latent Diffusion Models · paper · code
Y Lu*, **M Yang***, Z Liu*, G Kamath, Y Yu   ICML 2024

Indiscriminate Data Poisoning Attacks on Pre-trained Feature Extractors · paper · code
Y Lu, **M Yang**, G Kamath, Y Yu   SaTML 2024

"Low-Resource" Text Classification: A Parameter-Free Classification Method · paper · code
Z Jiang, **M Yang**, M Tsirlin, R Tang, Y Dai, J Lin   ACL 2023

Integration of Text and Geospatial Search for Hydrographic Datasets · paper · code
M Yang, S Yang, J Lin   JCDL 2022

Improved Accuracy vs. Privacy Trade-off in Perturbed Nearest Neighbour Searches · code
M Yang, T Humphries, F Kerschbaum   Under Review

AWARDS & SERVICE

CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award Finalist, 2024   Top 24 in North America
Canadian Math Olympiad, 2018 and 2019   Top 50 in Canada
Reviewer   ICML 2025, ICLR 2025 Workshops, L4DC 2025

WORK EXPERIENCE

Machine Learning Engineer @ Needl (Y Combinator)   Seattle, WA, 09/2022 – 03/2023
· Designed and implemented strategies to collect and process user signals to improve the core search engine
· Hired as the company's first employee

Software Engineer Intern @ Rippling   San Francisco, CA, 05/2022 – 08/2022
· Built core feature to automatically manage IT requests, which significantly improved user experience for IT admins
· Gave team-wide tutorials on code architecture to onboard full-time engineers

Software Engineer Intern @ Wish (Back when it was alive)   San Francisco, CA, 09/2021 – 12/2021
· Developed internal tools that allow Wish's business team to handle withheld merchant payments

Machine Learning Engineer Intern @ Oanda   Toronto, ON, 01/2021 – 04/2021
· Built an end-to-end ML pipeline that includes data cleaning, feature selection, and model hyperparameter tuning
· Increased the precision of classifying high-value clients by over 30% compared to the previous model

Software Engineer Intern @ BorgIQ   Toronto, ON, 05/2020 – 09/2020
· Added a file storage feature to the core product; built a BorgIQ Slackbot; created the company's landing page

SKILLS

Languages: Python, C++/C, Java, Node.js, SQL   **Technologies:** PyTorch, vLLM, verl, torchtune, Django, React, MongoDB