

# Pingzhi Li

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Scholar: 

## Education

**The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC

Ph.D. in Computer Science, GPA: 4.0

Sep. 2024 – Jun. 2028

**University of Science and Technology of China**

Hefei, China

B.Eng. in Computer Science, GPA: 3.6

Sep. 2019 – Jul. 2023

## Experience

**Apple AI/ML**

Cupertino, CA

Research Intern

May – Aug. 2025

Advisor: Dr. Xianzhi Du

**The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Remote

Research Intern

June 2023 – June 2024

Advisor: Prof. Tianlong Chen

**University of Science and Technology of China**

Hefei, China

Teaching Assistant

Sep. 2022 – Jan. 2023

CS1001A Computer Programming A (C/C++)

**University of Science and Technology of China**

Hefei, China

Undergrad Intern

July 2021

Advisors: Prof. Qi Liu, Prof. Enhong Chen

## Publications

(\* Equal Contribution) (^ Equal Supervision)

**Occult: Optimizing Collaborative Communications across Experts for Accelerated Parallel MoE Training and Inference**

Shuqing Luo, **Pingzhi Li**, Jie Peng, Yang Zhao, Yu Cao, Yu Cheng, Tianlong Chen

*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2025*

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**Advancing MoE Efficiency: A Collaboration-Constrained Routing (C2R) Strategy for Better Expert Parallelism Design**

Mohan Zhang\*, **Pingzhi Li**\*, Jie Peng, Mufan Qiu, Tianlong Chen

*Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2025 (SAC Award)*

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**PortLLM: Personalizing Evolving Large Language Models with Training-Free and Portable Model Patches**

Rana Shahroz, **Pingzhi Li**<sup>\*</sup>, Sukwon Yun<sup>\*</sup>, Zhenyu Wang, Shahriar Nirjon, Chau-Wai Wong, Tianlong Chen

*International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2025*

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**Model-GLUE: Democratized LLM Scaling for A Large Model Zoo in the Wild**

Xinyu Zhao<sup>\*</sup>, Guoheng Sun<sup>\*</sup>, Ruisi Cai<sup>\*</sup>, Yukun Zhou<sup>\*</sup>, **Pingzhi Li**<sup>\*</sup>, Peihao Wang<sup>\*</sup>, Bowen Tan, Yexiao He, Li Chen, Yi Liang, Beidi Chen, Binhang Yuan, Hongyi Wang<sup>^</sup>, Ang Li<sup>^</sup>, Zhangyang Wang<sup>^</sup>, Tianlong Chen<sup>^</sup>

*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2024*

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**Revisiting Zeroth-Order Optimization for Memory-Efficient LLM Fine-Tuning: A Benchmark**

Yihua Zhang<sup>\*</sup>, **Pingzhi Li**<sup>\*</sup>, Junyuan Hong<sup>\*</sup>, Jiaxiang Li<sup>\*</sup>, Yimeng Zhang, Wenqing Zheng, Pin-Yu Chen, Jason D. Lee, Wotao Yin, Mingyi Hong, Zhangyang Wang, Sijia Liu, Tianlong Chen

*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2024*

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**Merge, Then Compress: Demystify Efficient SMoE with Hints from Its Routing Policy**

**Pingzhi Li**, Zhenyu Zhang, Prateek Yadav, Yi-Lin Sung, Yu Cheng, Mohit Bansal, Tianlong Chen

*International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2024 (Spotlight)*

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**Awards**

1st Place of ACM/IEEE Quantum Computing for Drug Discovery Challenge	Nov., 2023
Outstanding Graduates Scholarship, USTC	June, 2023
Silver Medal in Kaggle Feedback Prize - Evaluating Student Writing	March, 2022
Outstanding Student Scholarship, USTC	Nov., 2020/21/22

**Services**

**Reviewer:** NeurIPS (2024-), ICLR (2025-), ICML (2025-), CVPR (2025-), CPAL (2025-)  
**Tutorial Organizer:** [Zeroth-Order ML \(AAAI 2024\)](#), [MoE \(ICML 2024\)](#)

**Skills**

**Languages:** Mandarin (native), English (professional), German (junior)  
**Programming Languages:** Python, C/C++, Bash  
**Deep Learning:** PyTorch, Jax/Flax