

Pingbang Hu



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RESEARCH INTEREST

Machine Learning

- Trustworthy Machine Learning, Data-Centric AI, Statistical Learning Theory, Manifold and Graph Learning

Theoretical Computer Science

- Fast Graph Algorithm, Approximation Algorithm, Learning Theory

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Ph.D. Candidate in Information Science, School of Information Science

- Advisor: Jiaqi Ma

Illinois

Aug. 2023–Present

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

M.S. in Applied Mathematics, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

- Concentration: Optimization and Algorithms

Illinois

Aug. 2023–Aug. 2025

University of Michigan

B.S. in Computer Science with **Summa Cum Laude**, College of Engineering

- Minor: Mathematics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Michigan

Aug. 2021–May 2023

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

B.E. in Electrical and Computer Engineering, UM-SJTU Joint Institute

- Minor: Computer Science, UM-SJTU Joint Institute

Shanghai, China

Aug. 2019–Aug. 2023

RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Deep Learning Research, Susquehanna International Group

Machine Learning Ph.D. Intern

Pennsylvania

(Incoming) June 2026–Aug. 2026

Alignment Science Team, Anthropic

AI Safety Research Fellows

San Francisco

Jan. 2026–May 2026

AWS AI Lab, Amazon

Applied Scientist Intern

New York

May 2025–Aug. 2025

Sugiyama Laboratory, National Institute of Informatics

Research Intern

- Advisor: Mahito Sugiyama

Tokyo, Japan

May 2024–Aug. 2024

SURE Program, University of Michigan

Undergraduate Researcher

Michigan

May 2022–Apr. 2023

- Advisor: Wei Hu

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

(* denotes equal contribution)

- [C1] **Pingbang Hu**, Mahito Sugiyama, “Pseudo-Nonlinear Data Augmentation: A Constrained Energy Minimization Viewpoint”. In *Proceedings of the 14th International Conference on Learning Representations* (ICLR 2026)
- [C2] **Pingbang Hu**, Joseph Melkonian, Weijing Tang, Han Zhao, Jiaqi W. Ma, “GRASS: Scalable Data Attribution with Gradient Sparsification and Sparse Projection”. In *Proceedings of the 39th Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS 2025)
- [C3] Yiwen Tu*, **Pingbang Hu***, Jiaqi W. Ma, “A Reliable Cryptographic Framework for Empirical Machine Unlearning Evaluation”. In *Proceedings of the 39th Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS 2025)
- [C4] Xinhe Wang, **Pingbang Hu**, Junwei Deng, Jiaqi W. Ma, “Adversarial Attacks on Data Attribution”. In *Proceedings of the 13th International Conference on Learning Representations* (ICLR 2025)
- [C5] Yuzheng Hu, **Pingbang Hu**, Han Zhao, Jiaqi W. Ma, “Most Influential Subset Selection: Challenges, Promises, and Beyond”. In *Proceedings of the 38th Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS 2024)
- [C6] Junwei Deng*, Ting-Wei Li*, Shiyuan Zhang, Yijun Pan, Hao Huang, Xinhe Wang, **Pingbang Hu**, Xingjian Zhang, Jiaqi W. Ma, “**dattri**: A Library for Efficient Data Attribution”. In *Proceedings of the 38th Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems Datasets and Benchmarks Track* (NeurIPS 2024) (**Spotlight**)

[P1] Junwei Deng*, Yuzheng Hu*, **Pingbang Hu***, Ting-Wei Li*, Shixuan Liu*, et al., “A Survey of Data Attribution: Methods, Applications, and Evaluation in the Era of Generative AI”. *In submission*

[T1] **Pingbang Hu**, “Travel the Same Path: A Novel TSP Solving Strategy”. *Technical Report*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	Illinois
Hold discussion and office hours weekly, design assignments and exam problems, grade and guide projects.	
◦ Network Analysis : A graduate-level course on the M.S. IS track.	<i>Spring 2025, Spring 2026</i>
Instructional Aide, University of Michigan	Michigan
Hold discussion and office hours weekly, design assignments and exam problems, grade and guide projects.	
◦ Introduction to Cryptography : An upper-level course on the main undergraduate CS track.	<i>Winter 2023</i>
◦ Randomness and Computation : A graduate-level course on the M.S. CS theory track.	<i>Fall 2022</i>
Teaching Assistant, Shanghai Jiao Tong University	Shanghai, China
Hold discussion and office hours weekly, design and grade assignments and exams.	
◦ Honor Mathematics III : An undergraduate-level course on the main B.Eng. ECE track.	<i>Summer 2021</i>
* Competition : Hold the 1 st UM-SJTU JIntegration Bee competition.	
◦ Honor Mathematics II : An undergraduate-level course on the main B.Eng. ECE track.	<i>Fall 2020</i>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Anthropic AI Safety Research Fellowship	San Francisco
Fellows (32 out of 2000+ applicants worldwide) for AI Safety Research at Anthropic	<i>Oct. 2025</i>
Graduate Conference Travel Award	Illinois
Graduate College’s Competition at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	<i>Nov. 2024</i>
NeurIPS 2024 Scholar Award	British Columbia, Canada
Financial Aid Award for NeurIPS 2024	<i>Oct. 2024</i>
Excellent Internship Award	Tokyo, Japan
Excellent (best) internship evaluation at National Institute of Informatics	<i>Aug. 2024</i>
Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship	Shanghai, China
First Prize (Ranked #2) among all HK, MC, and TW students at Shanghai Jiao Tong University	<i>Oct. 2021</i>
Undergraduate Excellent Scholarship	Shanghai, China
Third Prize among all students at UM-SJTU Joint Institute	<i>Nov. 2020</i>
Bao Gang Excellent Scholarship	Shanghai, China
Second Prize (Ranked #3) among all Taiwan students at Shanghai Jiao Tong University	<i>June 2020</i>
Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Overseas Chinese Student Scholarship	Shanghai, China
First Prize (Ranked #1) among all HK, MC, and TW students at UM-SJTU Joint Institute	<i>Dec. 2019</i>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Program Committee	
AAAI 2025	
Conference Reviewer	
ICLR 2026, NeurIPS 2025, ICLR 2025, ICML 2024, IEEE BigData 2023	
Journal Reviewer	
TMLR	