

# Tyler H. Chang

Argonne National Laboratory  
Mathematics & Computer Science (MCS) Division  
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GitHub: <https://github.com/thchang>

## Interests

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Blackbox optimization, scientific machine learning, approximation theory, computational geometry, and scientific software

## Education

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Ph.D., May 2020, Computer Science, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University (Virginia Tech)

- *Advisor: Layne Watson*
- *Dissertation: Mathematical Software for Multiobjective Optimization Problems*

B.S., May 2016, Computer Science & Mathematics (double-major), Virginia Wesleyan University

- *Summa cum laude; 2x ACM ICPC site champion; 8x Dean's list; 4x all-ODAC (conference) for varsity tennis*

## Research Experience

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Jun 2020 - Present.      **Postdoctoral appointee: Argonne National Laboratory**, MCS Division

- Designed and implemented a Python framework for building and deploying multiobjective optimization solvers
- Deployed solvers for particle accelerator design, autonomous material discovery, and neural-network architecture search

Aug 2016 - May 2020.      **Cunningham fellow: Virginia Tech**, Dept. of Computer Science

- Designed parallel algorithms and software for predictive modeling, blackbox optimization, and computational geometry
- Applied solvers to model and tune HPC systems to control performance variability

Jun 2019 - Dec 2019.      **SCGSR awardee: Argonne National Laboratory**, MCS Division

- Conducting research in multiobjective optimization software via DOE SCGSR program (see awards)

Feb 2016 - Aug 2016.      **Research assistant: Old Dominion University**, Dept. of Computer Science

- Aided in parallelizing NASA's FUN3D CFD kernel on NVIDIA GPUs using CUDA and MPI

Dec 2015 - Jan 2016.      **Intern: US Army Research Labs**, Computational Science Division

May 2015 - Aug 2015.      **Intern: US Army Research Labs**, Computational Science Division

- Accelerating software for real-time optimal control (summer) & using AR technology for info viz (winter)

Dec 2014 - Jan 2015.      **Intern: US Army Research Labs**, Guidance Technology Branch

May 2014 - Aug 2014.      **Intern: US Army Research Labs**, Guidance Technology Branch

- Using OpenCV for real-time sensing (summer) & developing software for embedded systems (winter)

## Awards

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2021.      **Nominee for Outstanding Dissertation Award: Virginia Tech**, Graduate School

2019.      **Davenport Leadership Fellowship: Virginia Tech**, College of Engineering

2018.      **SCGSR Award: DOE Office of Science**, Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) Program

2018.      **Pratt Fellowship: Virginia Tech**, College of Engineering

- 2017. **Pratt Fellowship: Virginia Tech**, College of Engineering
- 2016. **Cunningham Doctoral Fellowship: Virginia Tech**, Graduate School
- 2016. **Davenport Leadership Fellowship: Virginia Tech**, College of Engineering
- 2016. **Outstanding Student in Computer Science & Mathematics: Virginia Wesleyan University**

## Publicly Available Software

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2023. **ParMOO**: Python library for parallel multiobjective simulation optimization. Release: 0.2.2

Devs: **T. H. Chang** (lead), S. M. Wild, and H. Dickinson<sup>1</sup> Primary Prog. Lang: Python 3

git: <https://github.com/parmoo/parmoo>

2022. **VTMOP**: Solver for blackbox multiobjective optimization problems.

Devs: **T. H. Chang** (sole) Primary Prog. Lang: Fortran 2008

git: <https://github.com/vtopt/VTMOP>

2020. **DelaunaySparse**: Interpolation via a sparse subset of the Delaunay triangulation.

Devs: **T. H. Chang** (lead) and T. C. H. Lux Primary Prog. Lang: Fortran 2003

git: <https://github.com/vtopt/DelaunaySparse>

2019. **QAML**: Quantum annealing math library.

Devs: T. C. H. Lux (lead), **T. H. Chang**, and S. S. Tipirneni Primary Prog. Lang: Python 3

git: <https://github.com/tchlux/qaml>

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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2023. **T. H. Chang**, J. R. Elias, S. M. Wild, S. Chaudhuri, and J. A. Libera. A framework for fully autonomous design of materials via multiobjective optimization and active learning: challenges and next steps. *In 11th Intl. Conf. on Learning Representation (ICLR 2023), Workshop on Machine Learning for Materials (ML4Materials)*. url: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=8KJS7RPjMqG>

2023. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, and W. I. Thacker. Algorithm 1031: MQSI—Monotone quintic spline interpolation. *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software* 49(1), Article 6, 17 pages. doi: 10.1145/3570157

2023. **T. H. Chang** and S. M. Wild. ParMOO: a Python library for parallel multiobjective simulation optimization. *Journal of Open Source Software* 8(82), Article 4468, 5 pages. doi: 10.21105/joss.04468

2023. N. Neveu, **T. H. Chang**, P. Franz, S. Hudson, and J. Larson. Comparison of multiobjective optimization methods for the LCLS-II photoinjector. *Computer Physics Communication* 283, Article 108566, 10 pages. doi: 10.1016/j.cpc.2022.108566

2023. Y. Wang, L. Xu, Y. Hong, R. Pan, **T. H. Chang**, T. C. H. Lux, J. Bernard, L. T. Watson, and K. W. Cameron. Design strategies and approximation methods for high-performance computing variability management. *Journal of Quality Technology* 55(1), pp. 88–103. doi: 10.1080/00224065.2022.2035285

2022. **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, J. Larson, N. Neveu, W. I. Thacker, S. Deshpande, and T. C. H. Lux. Algorithm 1028: VTMOP: Solver for blackbox multiobjective optimization problems. *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software* 48(3), Article 36, 34 pages. doi: 10.1145/3529258

2021. L. Xu, T. C. H. Lux, **T. H. Chang**, B. Li, Y. Hong, L. T. Watson, A. R. Butt, D. Yao, and K. W. Cameron. Prediction of high-performance computing input/output variability and its application to optimization for system configurations. *Quality Engineering* 33(2), pp. 318–334. doi: 10.1080/08982112.2020.1866203

2021. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, J. Bernard, B. Li, L. Xu, G. Back, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. Interpolation of sparse high-dimensional data. *Numerical Algorithms* 88(1), pp. 281–313. doi: 10.1007/s11075-020-01040-2

2020. **T. H. Chang**, J. Larson, and L. T. Watson. Multiobjective optimization of the variability of the high-performance Linpack solver. *In Proc. 2020 Winter Simulation Conference (WSC 2020)*, pp. 3081–3092. doi: 10.1109/WSC48552.2020.9383875

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<sup>1</sup>= DOE SULI at Argonne in my supervision

2020. **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, T. C. H. Lux, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. Algorithm 1012: DELAUNAYSPARSE: Interpolation via a sparse subset of the Delaunay triangulation in medium to high dimensions. *ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software* 46(4), Article 38, 20 pages. doi: 10.1145/3422818
2020. L. Xu, Y. Wang, T. C. H. Lux, **T. H. Chang**, J. Bernard, B. Li, Y. Hong, K. W. Cameron, and L. T. Watson. Modeling I/O performance variability in high-performance computing systems using mixture distributions. *Journal of Parallel and Distributed Computing* 139, pp. 87–98. doi: 10.1016/j.jpdc.2020.01.005
2020. **T. H. Chang**, J. Larson, L. T. Watson, and T. C. H. Lux. Managing computationally expensive blackbox multiobjective optimization problems with libEnsemble. *In Proc. 2020 Spring Simulation Conference (SpringSim '20)*, Article 31, 12 pages. doi: 10.22360/springsim.2020.hpc.001
2020. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, L. Xu, Y. Wang, and Y. Hong. An algorithm for constructing monotone quintic interpolating splines. *In Proc. 2020 Spring Simulation Conference (SpringSim '20)*, Article 33, 12 pages. doi: 10.22360/springsim.2020.hpc.003
2020. T. C. H. Lux and **T. H. Chang**. Analytic test functions for generalizable evaluation of convex optimization techniques. *In Proc. IEEE SoutheastCon 2020*, 8 pages. doi: 10.1109/SoutheastCon44009.2020.9368254
2020. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, L. Xu, Y. Wang, J. Bernard, Y. Hong, and K. W. Cameron. Effective nonparametric distribution modeling for distribution approximation applications. *In Proc. IEEE SoutheastCon 2020*, 6 pages. doi: 10.1109/SoutheastCon44009.2020.9368295
2019. **T. H. Chang**, T. C. H. Lux, and S. S. Tipirneni. Least-squares solutions to polynomial systems of equations with quantum annealing. *Quantum Information Processing* 18(12), Article 374, 17 pages. doi: 10.1007/s11128-019-2489-x
2018. **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, T. C. H. Lux, S. Raghvendra, B. Li, L. Xu, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. Computing the umbrella neighbourhood of a vertex in the Delaunay triangulation and a single Voronoi cell in arbitrary dimension. *In Proc. IEEE SoutheastCon 2018*, 8 pages. doi: 10.1109/SECON.2018.8479003
2018. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, J. Bernard, B. Li, X. Yu, L. Xu, G. Back, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, Y. Hong, and D. Yao. Nonparametric distribution models for predicting and managing computational performance variability. *In Proc. IEEE SoutheastCon 2018*, 7 pages. doi: 10.1109/SECON.2018.8478814
2018. **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, T. C. H. Lux, J. Bernard, B. Li, L. Xu, G. Back, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. Predicting system performance by interpolation using a high-dimensional Delaunay triangulation. *In Proc. 2018 Spring Simulation Conference (SpringSim '18)*, Article 2, 12 pages. doi: 10.22360/springsim.2018.hpc.003
2018. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, J. Bernard, B. Li, L. Xu, G. Back, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. Predictive modeling of I/O characteristics in high performance computing systems. *In Proc. 2018 Spring Simulation Conference (SpringSim '18)*, Article 8, 10 pages. doi: 10.22360/springsim.2018.hpc.009
2018. **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, T. C. H. Lux, B. Li, L. Xu, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, and Y. Hong. A polynomial time algorithm for multivariate interpolation in arbitrary dimension via the Delaunay triangulation. *In Proc. 2018 ACM Southeast Conference (ACMSE '18)*, Article 12, 8 pages. doi: 10.1145/3190645.3190680
2018. T. C. H. Lux, L. T. Watson, **T. H. Chang**, J. Bernard, B. Li, X. Yu, L. Xu, G. Back, A. R. Butt, K. W. Cameron, D. Yao, and Y. Hong. Novel meshes for multivariate interpolation and approximation. *In Proc. 2018 ACM Southeast Conference (ACMSE '18)*, Article 13, 7 pages. doi: 10.1145/3190645.3190687
2017. C. Raghunath, **T. H. Chang**, L. T. Watson, M. Jrad, R. K. Kapania, and R. M. Kolonay. Global deterministic and stochastic optimization in a service oriented architecture. *In Proc. 2017 Spring Simulation Conference (SpringSim '17)*, Article 7, 12 pages. doi: 10.22360/springsim.2017.hpc.023

## Funding Awarded

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Mar 2023 - Sep 2023. A Scalable Multi-Physics Optimization Framework for Particle Accelerator Design.  
 ANL LDRD: 2023 LDRD Seed (LDRD 2023-0246).  
 Type: institutional award (3 pages + appendices). Budget: \$50K/y.  
 Role: co-PI. PI: G. Chen (ANL).

## Teaching

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Jan 2022 - Present. **Adjunct Professor: College of DuPage**, Dept. of Computer and Info. Science

- Spring 2022. CIS 2531: Introduction to Python Programming (online)
- Summer 2023. CIS 2531: Introduction to Python Programming (in-person)

Jan 2020 - May 2020. **Instructor of Record: Virginia Tech**, Dept. of Computer Science

- Spring 2020. CS 3114: Data Structures and Algorithms (half in-person, half online)

## Summer Students Advised

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Jun 2022 - Aug 2022. Manisha Garg (Urbana-Champaign), NSF MSGI at Argonne

Jun 2022 - Aug 2022. Hyrum Dickinson (Urbana-Champaign), DOE SULI at Argonne

## Invited Talks and Colloquia

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Jun 2023. Exploiting structures in multiobjective simulation optimization problems. *SIAM Conference on Optimization (OP 2023)*, Seattle, WA, USA.

Mar 2023. ParMOO: a Python library for parallel multiobjective simulation optimization. *SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering (CSE 2023)*, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Oct 2022. An introduction to multiobjective simulation optimization with ParMOO. *The Science Academy, Science Circle Cohort, guest speaker*, virtual event. Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gQha8URLEHM>.

Sep 2022. Geometric considerations when surrogate modeling. *SIAM Conference on Mathematics of Data Science (MDS 2022)*, San Diego, CA, USA.

May 2022. An introduction to multiobjective simulation optimization with ParMOO. *University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Molecular Engineering, guest lecture*, virtual event.

Jul 2021. Surrogate modeling of simulations for multiobjective optimization applications. *SIAM Conference on Optimization (OP 2021)*, virtual event.

Mar 2021. Computing sparse subsets of the Delaunay triangulation in high-dimensions for interpolation and graph problems. *SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering (CSE 2021)*, virtual event.

Feb 2020. Algorithms and software for Delaunay interpolation and multiobjective optimization. *Sandia National Laboratory, Wind Energy Technology Division Seminar*, virtual event.

Feb 2020. Algorithms and software for Delaunay interpolation and multiobjective optimization. *Argonne National Laboratory, Mathematics and Computer Science Division Seminar*, Lemont, IL, USA.

Jan 2020. Algorithms and software for Delaunay interpolation and multiobjective optimization. *Sandia National Laboratory, Center for Computing Research Seminar*, Albuquerque, NM, USA.

## Professional Services and Activities

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### Journal Referee

- ACM Transactions on Mathematical Software (2021–Present)
- Quantum Information Processing (2021–Present)
- The Visual Computer Journal (2021)
- MDPI: Mathematical and Computer Applications (2021)
- Journal of Machine Learning Research (2019)

## Conference Reviewer

- Int. Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM) 2023
- Int. Conf. for HPC, Networking, Storage, and Analysis (Supercomputing) 2021
- IEEE SoutheastCon 2020
- IEEE SoutheastCon 2019
- IEEE SoutheastCon 2018

## Minisymposium Organizer

- SIAM Conference on Optimization (2021)
- SIAM Conference on Computational Science and Engineering (2021)

## Professional Membership

- ACM (2015–Present)
- SIAM (2016–Present)
- MOS (2022–Present)

## Technical Skills

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|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Languages:</b>        | Python, Fortran, C/C++, Java, Matlab  |
| <b>OS:</b>               | MacOS, Unix/Linux   |
| <b>Markup:</b>           | HTML/CSS, GNU Make, TeX/LaTeX/bibTeX  |
| <b>Libraries:</b>        | numpy, pandas, scipy, matplotlib, keras, sklearn, MPI, OpenMP, CUDA, BLAS, LAPACK |
| <b>Tools/Frameworks:</b> | pytest, sphinx, slurm, CI/CD, GitHub Actions, GitFlow                             |