Yufan Zhou

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Education

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (QS=60, USNEWS=50)   2025.10 - 2029.10(expected)
PhD in Computer Science   Leuven, BE
- **CSC scholarship**

University of Liverpool (Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University)   2022.09 - 2024.03
MSc in Human-Computer Interaction   SuZhou, CN
- **GPA**：3.76 / 4.0 (Pass with Merit)
- **Key Courses :** Human-Robot Interaction, Information Visualization, Interactive Systems

Nanjing Xiaozhuang University   2019.09 - 2021.06
B.Eng. in Software Engineering   Nanjing, CN
- **GPA**：3.62 / 5.0
- **Key Courses :** Operating System, Data Structures and Algorithms, Computer Networks, Database

Changzhou Vocational Institute of Engineering   2016.09 - 2019.06
College Diploma   ChangZhou, CN
- **GPA**：3.95 / 5.0 (Ranking 5/354)
- **Key Courses :** Cloud performance optimization, Data storage technology, Virtualization technology
- **Honors :** *National Scholarship, Merit Student of Jiangsu Province, Excellent Graduate*

Publications

- Lyumanshan Ye, Jiandong Jiang, Yuhan Liu, **Yufan Zhou**, Yihan Ran, Zhao Wang, Pengfei Liu, Danni Chang, Yipeng Yu, Yucheng Jin. Colin: A Multimodal Human-AI Co-Creation Storytelling System To Support Children's Culture Learning Skills (IUI2026 Under Review)

- Yirui Huang*, **Yufan Zhou***, Zhao Wang, Li Chen, Yucheng Jin. Explaining with Many Voices: Multi-Agent Conversational Explanations for Diverse Recommendations (Information Processing & Management [Q1] Under Review)

- Zhen Wang*, **Yufan Zhou***, Zhongyan Luo, Adam Wood, Man Yao, Luoshang Pan. DeepPersona: A Generative Engine for Scaling Deep Synthetic Personas [Neurips2025 Workshop accepted, ICLR2026 Under Review]

- Qianru Chen*, **Yufan Zhou***, Xintong Hou*, Kunze Jiang, Jincheng Li, Chao Wu. MRF: Multi-Attention Fusion Artistic Radiance Fields and beyond (IET Computer Vision accepted [Q4, CCF-C])

- Kunze Jiang*, **Yufan Zhou***, Chao Wu. ERF: Multi-Attention Fusion Artistic Radiance Fields (FedCSIS 2024 accepted)

- **Yufan Zhou**, Dingding Chen, Jiayin Li, Chengtao Ji, Chao Wu, Lingyun Yu.Visual Analysis of Heterogeneous Text Data based on Federated Learning. (Under Review)

- Software Copyright of "An accurate Commodity Recommendation System Under Big Data"; Registration Number:2020SR0802224 (First Authorizer)

- Yiling Zhang, Wei Xu, **Yufan Zhou**, Yalin Wang, Hao Zheng. Accurate Commodity Recommendation System Based On Face Recognition [J]. Intelligent Computer and Application. (Actual completion person).

Experience

Zhejiang University (Computational Social Science Center) 2023.03 - Now
Research Assistant *HangZhou, CN*

- **LLM Persona Project (Collaboration with UCSD and Meta)** 2024.11 - 2025.05

  Main participant

  ✧ Developed DeepPersona, a scalable generative engine that synthesizes realistic and narrative-rich synthetic personas through a novel taxonomy-guided approach. Constructed the largest human-attribute taxonomy to date from extensive user-chat data, achieving significant improvements in attribute diversity (+32%) and persona uniqueness (+44%). Applied DeepPersona to enhance personalized Q&A accuracy of GPT-4.1-mini by 11.6%, reducing the gap between simulated AI and genuine human survey responses by 32%.

- **Human-Computer Interaction Project (Collaboration with Duke Kunshan University)** 2024.06 - 2024.11

  Team Leader

  ✧ The purpose of this research is to mitigate the filter bubble problem in large language model-based recommendations. Without fine-tuning the model, we address this issue by configuring the LLM as multiple agents that interact and discuss with each other. This approach seeks to enhance the diversity of recommendation systems based on LLMs.

- **Vanguard Project - Metaverse** 2023.06 - Now

  Main participant / Algorithm developer

  ✧ Funded by the Zhejiang Provincial Department of Science and Technology, Project: Distributed Artificial Intelligence Platform for Metaverse Applications. (RMB 8,000,000)
  ✧ I developed an AR program for Rokid glasses to help stroke patients with walking and balance issues. Users can perform walking and hand movement exercises under remote doctor guidance.
  ✧ Using 3D diffusion models to edit scenes reconstructed by NeRF, achieving personalized scene. And I supervised undergraduate student to completed the paper "ERF: Multi-Attention Fusion Artistic Radiance Fields"

- **Vanguard Project (Metric7, 8) - Intelligent Computing System Software Platform** 2023.04 - 2023.07

  Algorithm developer

  ✧ In this project, I successfully ported deep learning algorithms based on Nvidia chips and Pytorch to the Huawei Ascend 910B chip and Mindspore framework.
  ✧ The first task was to implement a knowledge distillation model that maintains 90% accuracy while keeping the pruning rate, extraction rate, and quantization rate above 50%. The second task was to optimize a federated learning algorithm, enhancing its large-scale training efficiency by 50%.

The Nanjing Key Laboratory of Trusted Cloud Computing and Big Data 2019.09 - 2021.06
Research Assistant *Nanjing, CN*

- **Key Project of Jiangsu University Students Innovation Plan** 2019.09 - 2020.09

  Team leader

  ✧ Funded by the Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education, RMB 20,000
  ✧ Using C# to improve and beautify the functions and interfaces; using K-means and collaborative filtering to design and implement the recommendation algorithm independently;
  ✧ Taking the team's lead as the responsible person to participate in the Sixth Internet Plus College Students Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition of Jiangsu Province, completed most of the work from the first draft of the business plan to the last roadshow and won the best record in the provincial competition.
  ✧ The project received a software copyright and published a paper titled "Accurate Commodity Recommendation System Based on Face Recognition."

- **CERNET Innovation Project**   2019.12 - 2020.12

  Co-Applicant
  - ✧ Funded by CERNET (China Education and Research Network), Project: Campus IPv4/IPv6 Dual-Stack Address Translation (Number: NGII20190119), RMB 70,000
  - ✧ Learned IPv4/IPv6 dual-stack technology, became familiar with and configured the real campus network, and participated in testing and paper writing. Also handled communications and liaisons with CERNET network company, and managed financial reimbursement matters.
  - ✧ The results of this project have been officially implemented at Nanjing Xiaozhuang University.

Honours and Awards

- 2021   **Excellent Award** of the 11th Blue Bridge Cup JAVA Software Development University Group B National Competition
- 2021   **The First Prize** of the 11th Blue Bridge Cup JAVA Software Development University Group B Provincial Competition
- 2020   **The Third Prize** of the 6th "Internet +" College Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition in Jiangsu Province
- 2020   **The First Prize** of the 6th "Internet +" College Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition in Nanjing Xiaozhuang University
- 2018   **The Second Prize** of the 9th Blue Bridge Cup JAVA Software Development University Group C Provincial Competition
- 2016-2019   **The First Class Scholarship and Merit Student** of Changzhou Vocational Institute of Engineering for three consecutive years

Extracurricular Activities and Social Practices

Xi'an Jiaotong Liverpool University   Teaching Assistant   2023.03 - 2023.06

- Responsible for the experimental part of the CPT102 data structure course, helping students solve questions in the course

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University   Visiting Student   2017.07 - 2017.07

- Cultivated and exercised creative thinking, teamwork, and independent thinking skills

FTLife Insurance Company Limited   Intern   2017.07 - 2017.07

- Learned financial knowledge and enhanced my leadership skills

Work Experience

Shanghai XueMa Technology Co., Ltd.   Teen Programming Instructor   2022.02 - 2022.06

- Responsible for teaching Scratch, Python, and C++.

E-BLOCKS Education(Part Time)   Teen Programming Instructor   2022.07 - 2023.03

- Responsible for teaching Scratch, Python, and C++.

Led students to participate in programming certification exams and competitions.(The certification pass rate is over 90%.)

Abilities and Skills

- **Programming language skills:** Python, C++, Java, Javascript, C#, Matlab, Pytorch
- **Miscellaneous:** SPSS, Linux, Docker, Blender
- **Language skills:** LanguageCert Expert C1 high pass