

Xunjian Yin

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Duke University, Durham - 27705, US.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

#Agent #World Model #Continuous Learning #RL

EDUCATION

• Duke University	08.2025 - 06.2029 (expected)
<i>Ph.D. in Computer Science, supervised by Prof. Shuyan Zhou</i>	
• Peking University	09.2022 - 06.2025
<i>M.S. in Computer Science, supervised by Prof. Xiaojun Wan</i>	GPA: 3.81/4.00
• Peking University	09.2018 - 06.2022
<i>B.S. in Computer Science</i>	GPA: 3.64/4.00

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Preprints:

- [1] **From Atomic to Composite: RL Enables Generalization in Complementary Reasoning** *Arxiv* [\[link\]](#)
Sitao Cheng, Xunjian Yin, Ruiwen Zhou, ..., Liangming Pan, William Yang Wang, Victor Zhong.
- [2] **Reverse Language Model** *Arxiv* [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin, Sitao Cheng, Yuxi Xie, ..., Xinyi Wang, Liangming Pan, William Wang, Xiaojun Wan.
- [3] **ContraSolver: Self-Alignment of LLMs by Resolving Internal Preference Contradictions** *Arxiv* [\[link\]](#)
Xu Zhang*, Xunjian Yin*, Xiaojun Wan.

Conference paper:

- [1] **The Geometry of Reasoning: Flowing Logics in Representation Space**
ICLR 2026 [\[link\]](#)
Yufa Zhou*, Yixiao Wang*, Xunjian Yin*, Shuyan Zhou, Anru R. Zhang.
- [2] **DAMON: A Dialogue-Aware MCTS Framework for Jailbreaking Large Language Models**
EMNLP 2025 [\[link\]](#)
Xu Zhang, Xunjian Yin, Dinghao Jing, Huixuan Zhang, Xinyu Hu, Xiaojun Wan.
- [3] **Gödel Agent: A Self-Referential Agents Framework for Recursively Self-Improvement**
ACL 2025 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin, Xinyi Wang, Liangming Pan, Xiaojun Wan, William Wang.
- [4] **ChemAgent: Self-updating Memories in LLMs Improves Chemical Reasoning**
ICLR 2025 [\[link\]](#)
Xiangru Tang, Tianyu Hu, Muyang Ye, Yanjun Shao, Xunjian Yin, ..., Arman Cohan, Mark Gerstein
- [5] **Benchmarking Knowledge Boundary for LLMs: A Different Perspective on Model Evaluation**
ACL 2024 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin*, Xu Zhang*, Jie Ruan, Xiaojun Wan.
- [6] **History Matters: Temporal Knowledge Editing in Large Language Models**
AAAI 2024 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin, Jin Jiang, Liming Yang, Xiaojun Wan.
- [7] **Error-Robust Retrieval for Chinese Spelling Check**
COLING 2024 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin, Xinyu Hu, Jin Jiang, Xiaojun Wan.
- [8] **ALCUNA: Large Language Models Meet New Knowledge**
EMNLP 2023 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin*, Baizhou Huang*, Xiaojun Wan.
- [9] **How Do Seq2Seq Models Perform on End-to-End Data-to-Text Generation?**
ACL 2022 [\[link\]](#)
Xunjian Yin, Xiaojun Wan.
- [10] **Themis: A Reference-free NLG Evaluation Model with Flexibility and Interpretability**
EMNLP 2024 [\[link\]](#)
Xinyu Hu, Li Lin, Mingqi Gao, Xunjian Yin, Xiaojun Wan.
- [11] **DSGram: Dynamic Weighting Sub-Metrics for Grammatical Error Correction in the Era of LLMs**
AAAI 2025 [\[link\]](#)
Jinxiang Xie, Yilin Li, Xunjian Yin (as Mentor), Xiaojun Wan.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **University of California, Santa Barbara (NLP Group)** 06.2024 - 02.2025
Advisor: Prof. William Wang Role: Visiting Research Scholar California, USA
 - Project 1: Reverse Language Model (RLM) Pre-training, Evaluation, Analysis and Applications
 - * We trained RLMs (2B-7B) from scratch, using a 500 billion tokens and the last-token prediction approach.
 - Project 2: Gödel Agent: A Self-Referential Agents Framework for Recursively Self-Improvement
 - * We developed a self-referential agent, which is capable of reading and modifying its own logic and code.
- **Microsoft Research Asia (NLC Group)** 02.2022 - 08.2022
Advisor: Dr. Shuming Ma and Dr. Kai Chen Role: Research Intern Beijing, China
 - Project: Pre-training with Curriculum Learning (CL)
 - * We investigated the application of CL during pretraining, which accelerates the convergence of the pretraining.
- **Wangxuan Institute of Computer Technology, Peking University** 10.2020 - 06.2022
Advisor: Prof. Xiaojun Wan Role: Research Assistant Beijing, China
 - Project 1: Analysis of Seq2Seq Models on End-to-End Data-to-Text Generation
 - * We find that the most advanced models do not always yield the best performance and larger models are better.
 - Project 2: Enhancing Language Models with kNN for Grammar Error Correction (GEC)
 - * A kNN algorithm with robust information derived from character phonetics and shapes to augment LMs.
- **Institute of Computational Linguistics, Peking University** 04.2020 - 11.2021
Advisor: Prof. Yunfang Wu Role: Research Assistant Beijing, China
 - Project: Multi-Task Learning for Grammar Error Correction
 - * We introduced a dependency tree recovery task to enhance the performance of the BART model in grammar.
- **Institute of Computational Linguistics, Peking University** 07.2019 - 12.2019
Advisor: Prof. Sujian Li Role: Research Assistant Beijing, China
 - Project: Building Benchmark for Mathematical Olympiad Problems
 - * We create a benchmark using middle-school-level mathematical Olympiad problems as the testbed.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Outstanding Graduate of Beijing, Beijing Municipality 06.2025
- Outstanding Graduate of Peking University, Peking University 06.2025
- Outstanding Master's Thesis Award of WICT, Peking University 06.2025
- Merit Student, Peking University 09.2024
- Guotai Junan Scholarship, Peking University 09.2024
- Wang Xuan Scholarship, Peking University 09.2022
- Award for Research Excellence, Peking University 09.2021, 09.2022, 09.2023
- Award for Academic Excellence, Peking University 09.2019, 09.2020
- Outstanding Student of Shandong Province, Shandong Province 04.2018

SERVICE

- **Teaching Assistant:** 2026
Duke University
 - Natural Language Processing (2026 spring, with Prof. Bhuvan Dhingra)
- **Teaching Assistant:** 2021 - 2023
Peking University
 - Web Data Mining (2023 fall, with Prof. Xiaojun Wan)
 - Introduction to Computing (Python, 2023 fall, with Prof. Xifeng Deng)
 - Data Structures and Algorithms (2022 spring, with Prof. Zhao Wang)
 - Introduction to Computing (C++, 2021 fall, with Prof. Yibo Lin)
- **Reviewer:** 2022 - Present
 - ACL-ARR (2023 - Now), ICLR (2024 - 2026), NeurIPS (2024 - 2025), ICML (2025), AAAI (2024 - 2025), COLM (2025), COLING (2024), JCST (2025)
- **Volunteer:** 2023 - Present
 - AAAI'24, ACL'24, NLPCC'23 Shared Task 8 track chair

SKILLS

- Pytorch, Transformers, Distributed Training, Accelerated Inference
- Python, C++, HTML, JavaScript