YI DING

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

AI/ML Systems, Sustainable Computing, Datacenter Computing, Healthcare

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Purdue University — West Lafayette, IN, USA
Assistant Professor in Elmore Family School of Electrical and Computer Engineering — 8/2023 – Present
PI, STYLE (**S**us**T**ainable computing s**Y**stems and **LE**arning) Lab

Massachusetts Institute of Technology — Cambridge, MA, USA
Postdoctoral Associate & NSF Computing Innovation Fellow. Mentor: Michael Carbin — 1/2021 – 8/2023

Meta — Cambridge, MA, USA
Visiting Researcher — 10/2021–12/2022

Google — Sunnyvale, CA, USA
Research Intern — 6/2019–9/2019

EDUCATION

University of Chicago — Chicago, IL, USA
Ph.D. & MS in Computer Science. Advisor: Henry Hoffmann. — 8/2015 – 12/2020

Nanyang Technological University — Singapore
Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science. Passed Qualification Exam. — 7/2013 – 7/2015

Beijing Jiaotong University — Beijing, China
B.E. in Electronic Science and Technology. Graduated with Highest Honor. — 9/2008 – 6/2012

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

Innovation Award, Quantum Computing for Drug Discovery Challenge at ICCAD	2023
CRA/CCC/NSF Computing Innovation Fellowship	2020-2023
Meta Research Award	2021
EECS Rising Stars at UC Berkeley	2020

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Google Scholar
† Purdue students advised by me; ⋆ Equal contribution; ‡ Corresponding faculty author

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

[C1] Meghna Roy Chowdhury†, **Yi Ding**, and Sheyres Sen. "SSL-SE-EEG: A Framework for Robust Learning from Unlabeled EEG Data with Self-Supervised Learning and Squeeze-Excitation Networks". In: *The 47th Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC)*. 2025.

[C2] Meghna Roy Chowdhury†, Wei Xuan, Sheyres Sen, Yixue Zhao, and **Yi Ding**‡. "Predicting and Understanding College Student Mental Health with Interpretable Machine Learning". In: *IEEE/ACM Conference on Connected Health: Applications, Systems and Engineering Technologies (CHASE)*. 2025.

[C3] Wei Xuan, Meghna Roy Chowdhury†, **Yi Ding**, and Yixue Zhao. "Unlocking Mental Health: Exploring College Students' Well-being through Smartphone Behaviors". In: *IEEE/ACM 12th International Conference on Mobile Software Engineering and Systems (MOBILESoft)*. 2025.

[C4] Leyi Yan, Linda Wang, Sihang Liu, and **Yi Ding**‡. "EnsembleCI: Ensemble Learning for Carbon Intensity Forecasting". In: *The 16th ACM International Conference on Future and Sustainable Energy Systems (e-Energy)*. 2025.

[C5] **Yi Ding**‡ and Tianyao Shi†. "Sustainable LLM Serving: Environmental Implications, Challenges, and Opportunities". In: *The 15th International Green and Sustainable Computing Conference (IGSC)*. 2024.

[C6] Amy Li, Sihang Liu, and **Yi Ding**‡. "Uncertainty-Aware Decarbonization for Datacenters". In: *ACM SIGENERGY Energy Informatics Review (EIR)*. 2024.
- Presented in the 3rd Workshop on Sustainable Computer Systems (HotCarbon), 2024.

[C7] Sophia Nguyen⋆, Beihao Zhou⋆, **Yi Ding**, and Sihang Liu. "Towards Sustainable Large Language Model Serving". In: *ACM SIGENERGY Energy Informatics Review (EIR)*. 2024.
- Presented in the 3rd Workshop on Sustainable Computer Systems (HotCarbon), 2024.

[C8] Gokul Subramanian Ravi, Pranav Gokhale, **Yi Ding**, William Kirby, Kaitlin Smith, Jonathan M Baker, Peter J Love, Henry Hoffmann, Kenneth R Brown, and Frederic T Chong. "CAFQA: A classical simulation bootstrap for variational quantum algorithms". In: *The 28th ACM International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (ASPLOS)*. 2023.
- 2023 Innovation Award, Quantum Computing for Drug Discovery Challenge at ICCAD.

[C9] Alex Renda, **Yi Ding**, and Michael Carbin. "Turaco: Complexity-Guided Data Sampling for Training Neural Surrogates of Programs". In: *The ACM on Programming Languages (OOPSLA)*. 2023.

[C10] **Yi Ding**, Avinash Rao, Hyebin Song, Rebecca Willett, and Henry Hoffmann. "NURD: Negative-Unlabeled Learning for Online Datacenter Straggler Prediction". In: *Machine Learning and Systems (MLSys)*. 2022.

[C11] **Yi Ding**, Ahsan Pervaiz, Michael Carbin, and Henry Hoffmann. "Generalizable and interpretable learning for configuration extrapolation". In: *The 29th ACM Joint Meeting on European Software Engineering Conference and Symposium on the Foundations of Software Engineering (ESEC/FSE)*. 2021.

[C12] Alex Renda, **Yi Ding**, and Michael Carbin. "Programming with neural surrogates of programs". In: *The ACM SIGPLAN International Symposium on New Ideas, New Paradigms, and Reflections on Programming and Software (Onward!)* 2021.

[C13] **Yi Ding** and Panos Toulis. "Dynamical systems theory for causal inference with application to synthetic control methods". In: *International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (AISTATS)*. 2020.

[C14] Ming Gao, **Yi Ding**, and Bryon Aragam. "A polynomial-time algorithm for learning nonparametric causal graphs". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*. 2020.

[C15] **Yi Ding**, Nikita Mishra, and Henry Hoffmann. "Generative and multi-phase learning for computer systems optimization". In: *The 46th International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA)*. 2019.

[C16] **Yi Ding**, Risi Kondor, and Jonathan Eskreis-Winkler. "Multiresolution kernel approximation for Gaussian process regression". In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*. 2017.
- Spotlight, top 4% submissions.

[C17] **Yi Ding**, Chenghao Liu, Peilin Zhao, and Steven CH Hoi. "Large scale kernel methods for online auc maximization". In: *IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM)*. 2017.
- Long oral, top 8% submissions.

[C18] **Yi Ding**, Peilin Zhao, Steven Hoi, and Yew-Soon Ong. "An adaptive gradient method for online auc maximization". In: *The AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*. 2015.
- Oral, top 10% submissions.

[C19] Pengcheng Wu, **Yi Ding**, Peilin Zhao, Chunyan Miao, and Steven Hoi. "Learning relative similarity by stochastic dual coordinate ascent". In: *The AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*. 2014.

Peer-reviewed Journals

[J1] Guillaume Basse, **Yi Ding**, and Panos Toulis. "Minimax designs for causal effects in temporal experiments with treatment habituation". In: *Biometrika*. 2023.

[J2] Kathryn E Schertz, James Saxon, Carlos Cardenas-Iniguez, Luís Bettencourt, **Yi Ding**, Henry Hoffmann, and Marc G Berman. "Neighborhood street activity and greenspace usage uniquely contribute to predicting crime". In: *Npj Urban Sustainability*. 2021.

Workshop Presentations

[W1] **Yi Ding**, Avinash Rao, and Henry Hoffmann. "Causal and Interpretable Learning for Datacenter Latency Prediction". In: *Women in Machine Learning Workshop co-located with NeurIPS (WiML)* (2020).

[W2] Ming Gao, **Yi Ding**, and Bryon Aragam. "A Polynomial-time Algorithm for Learning Nonparametric Causal Graphs". In: *Women in Machine Learning Workshop co-located with NeurIPS (WiML)* (2020).

[W3] Guillaume Basse, **Yi Ding**, and Panos Toulis. "Minimax Crossover Designs for Digital Experimentation". In: *Conference on Digital Experimentation at MIT (CODE@MIT)* (2019).

[W4] **Yi Ding**, Guillaume Basse, and Panos Toulis. "Minimax Crossover Designs". In: *NeurIPS Workshop on "Do the right thing": machine learning and causal inference for improved decision making (CausalML)* (2019).

[W5] **Yi Ding**, Nikita Mishra, and Henry Hoffmann. "Generative and Multi–phase Learning for Computer Systems Optimization". In: *Women in Machine Learning Workshop co-located with NeurIPS (WiML)* (2019).

[W6] **Yi Ding** and Panos Toulis. "Nonparametric Causal Inference in Dynamical Systems with Synthetic Controls". In: *Women in Machine Learning Workshop co-located with NeurIPS (WiML)* (2018).

RESEARCH ADVISING

PhD Students

Tianyao Shi, Purdue University — Fall 2024–
Yanran Wu, Purdue University — Fall 2023–

Master Students

Ashutosh Sharma, UIUC — Spring 2024–Fall 2024
Hyunji Kim, MIT — 2021–2022

Undergraduate Students

Jaewon Cho, Purdue University (DUIRI, awarded $1,000 fellowship) — Spring 2025
Isha Shamim, Purdue University (DUIRI, awarded $1,000 fellowship) — Spring 2025
Gavin Fortwendel, Purdue University (DUIRI, awarded $1,000 fellowship) — Fall 2024
- Won the **1st Place** in Research Talk in CoE at Fall 2024 Undergrad Research Expo
Sarah Deniz, Purdue University (DUIRI, awarded $1,000 fellowship) — Fall 2024
Leyi Yan, University of Waterloo (One e-Energy'25 paper published) — Fall 2024
Linda Wang, University of Waterloo (One e-Energy'25 paper published) — Fall 2024
Amy Li, University of Waterloo (One HotCarbon'24 paper published) — Spring 2024
Beihao Zhou, University of Waterloo (One HotCarbon'24 paper published) — Spring 2024
Sophia Nguyen, University of Waterloo (One HotCarbon'24 paper published) — Spring 2024
Avinash Rao, University of Chicago (One MLSys'22 paper published) — 2019–2020

GRANTS

Title:	Seed Funding for High-Impact Review Papers
Funder:	Purdue University
Duration:	2024–2025
People:	Inez Hua (PI), Yi Ding (Co-PI)
Awarded:	$10,000 (My share: 50%)

Title:	Conference: DESC: Type III: A Holistic AI Computing Framework: Incorporating the Water and Biodiversity Dimensions of Sustainability
Funder:	NSF
Duration:	2024–2025
People:	Inez Hua (PI), Yi Ding (Co-PI)
Awarded:	$9,9992 (My share: 50%)

Title:	Computing Innovation Fellows 2020 Project
Funder:	NSF
Duration:	2020–2023
People:	Michael Carbin (PI), Yi Ding
Awarded:	$295,704

Title:	Meta Research Award on Statistics for Improving Insights, Models, & Decisions
Funder:	Meta
Duration:	2021–2022
People:	Michael Carbin (PI), Yi Ding (Co-PI)
Awarded:	$46,000

TEACHING

Instructor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Python for Data Science (ECE 20875)	Spring 2025
Machine Learning in Cloud Computing (ECE 69500)	Fall 2024
Python for Data Science (ECE 20875)	Spring 2024
Python for Data Science (ECE 20875)	Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Machine Learning and Large Scale Data Analysis (CMSC 25025)	Spring 2017
Machine Learning (CMSC 25400)	Winter 2017
Machine Learning (MPCS 53111)	Spring 2016
Machine Learning for Public Policy (CAPP 30255)	Winter 2016

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Organizer

NSF Workshop on Sustainable Computing: AI, Water, and Biodiversity, Co-Chair	Aug. 2024

Invited Participant

Dagstuhl Perspectives Workshop: Climate Change: What is Computing's Responsibility?	Mar. 2025
NSF Workshop on Sustainable Computing for Sustainability	Apr. 2024

Program Committee

ACM International Conference on Architectural Support for PL and OS (ASPLOS)	2026
The 4th Workshop on Sustainable Computer Systems (HotCarbon)	2025
SIGOPS Asia-Pacific Workshop on Systems (APSys)	2025
IEEE/ACM International Symposium on Computer Architecture (ISCA)	2025
IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture (HPCA)	2025
USENIX Annual Technical Conference (ATC)	2024
Conference on Systems and Machine Learning (MLSys)	2024
ACM Student Research Competition at PACT	2023
SPLASH Onward!	2022
Conference on Systems and Machine Learning (MLSys)	2022
ACM Asia-Pacific Workshop on Systems	2022
Journal of Systems Research	2022

Technical Reviewing

Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)	2022
International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)	2022
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)	2022
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)	2021
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)	2021
AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)	2020
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)	2019
International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)	2019

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Seminars

Towards Sustainable Next Generation AI and Cloud Systems
Meta, Sunnyvale, USA — Sep. 2024

A Holistic View on Machine Learning for Systems
University of Waterloo, Department of Computer Science — Jun. 2023
Microsoft Research — Apr. 2023
Texas A&M University, Department of Computer Science & Engineering — Apr. 2023
University of Southern California, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering — Apr. 2023
University of Illinois, Department of Computer Science — Mar. 2023
Cornell Tech, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering — Mar. 2023
Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Computer Science & Engineering — Mar. 2023
Purdue University, School of Electrical & Computer Engineering — Mar. 2023
Purdue University, Department of Computer Science — Mar. 2023
Virginia Tech, Department of Computer Science — Mar. 2023
Indiana University Bloomington, Department of Computer Science — Feb. 2023
University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Computer Science — Feb. 2023
University of Massachusetts Amherst, College of Information and Computer Sciences — Feb. 2023

Conference Presentations

Sustainable LLM Serving: Environmental Implications, Challenges, and Opportunities
Conference presentation at IGSC, Austin, USA — Oct. 2024

Uncertainty-Aware Decarbonization for Datacenters
Conference presentation at HotCarbon, Santa Cruz, USA — Jul. 2024

Uncertainty-Aware Carbon Optimization in Cloud Computing
Conference presentation at SoDec Workshop at E-Energy, Singapore — Jun. 2024

NURD: Negative-Unlabeled Learning for Online Datacenter Straggler Prediction
Conference presentation at MLSys, Santa Clara, USA — Aug. 2022

Predictable Maintenance Job Planning in Datacenters
Meta Infrastructure Data Science Faculty Workshop at KDD, DC, USA — Aug. 2022

Generalizable and Interpretable Learning for Configuration Extrapolation
Conference presentation at ESEC/FSE, Virtual — Nov. 2021

Dynamical Systems Theory for Causal Inference with Application to Synthetic Controls
Causal Data Science Meeting, Virtual — Nov. 2020
Conference presentation at AISTATS, Virtual — Aug. 2020

Generative and Multi–phase Learning for Computer Systems Optimization
Conference presentation at ISCA, Phoenix, USA — Jun. 2019

Multiresolution Kernel Approximation for Gaussian Process Regression
Conference presentation at NeurIPS, Long Beach, USA — Dec. 2017

Large Scale Kernel Methods for Online AUC Maximization
Conference presentation at ICDM, New Orleans, USA — Nov. 2017

An Adaptive Gradient Method for Online AUC Maximization
Conference presentation at AAAI, Austin, USA — Jan. 2015

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