

# YAOGUANG ZHAI

yazhai@ucsd.edu (858)-247-8194

github.com/yazhai

www.linkedin.com/in/yaoguangzhai109244

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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- Search and optimization algorithms with a focus on derivative-free nonlinear optimization.
- Learning-based design and optimization in molecular dynamics modeling and protein design.

## EDUCATION

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- **University of California, San Diego** *Sep. 2018 - Present*  
Ph.D. student in Computer Science and Engineering  
Advisors: Sicun Gao and Francesco Paesani
- **University of California, San Diego** *Sep. 2016 - June 2018*  
M.S. in Computational Science, Mathematics, and Engineering (CSME)
- **Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden** *Sep. 2006 - Nov. 2008*  
M.S. in Sustainable Energy Engineering
- **Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, P.R.China** *Sep. 2002 - Jun. 2006*  
B.S. in Sustainable Energy Engineering

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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- **Amazon Development Center U.S., Inc.** *Jun. 2022 – Sep. 2022*  
Applied scientist intern on optimization algorithms for the nonlinear SMT solver
- **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory** *Jun. 2020 – Sep. 2020*  
Data scientist intern on Gaussian process and active learning algorithms
- **Interpreta** *Jun. 2019 – Sep. 2019*  
Data scientist intern on time series data analysis
- **Veritone Inc.** *Jun. 2018 – Sep. 2018*  
Data scientist intern on speech and speaker recognition modeling
- **Siemens Industrial Turbomachinery AB** *Dec. 2008 – Sep. 2016*  
Mechanical engineer on mechanical integrity analysis and dynamic analysis

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Zhai, Y., Gao, S., Monte Carlo Tree Descent for Black-Box Optimization, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 2022
- Zhai, Y., Caruso, A., Gao, S., Paesani, F., Active Learning of Many-Body Configuration Space: Application to the Cs Water MB-nrg Potential Energy Function as a Case Study, *Journal of Chemical Physics*, 2019
- Zhai, Y., Goetz, A., Parallel Implementation of Machine Learning Based Many-Body Potentials on CPU and GPU, *ACM/IEEE Supercomputing Conference (Poster)*, 2018
- Zhai, Y., Bladh, R., Dyverfeldt, G., Mistuned Aeroelastic Stability Assessment of an Industrial Compressor Blade, *Journal of Turbomachinery*, 2012

## SKILLS

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- Languages: C++, Python, FORTRAN, SQL, Matlab, ABAQUS, ANSYS
- Platforms: OpenMP, CUDA