

WILLIAM YIK

Ph.D. Student, Department of Atmospheric and Climate Science, University of Washington

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EDUCATION

University of Washington

Ph.D. Atmospheric and Climate Science, Advanced Data Science Option

Seattle, WA

Expected 2029

Harvey Mudd College

B.S. Mathematics and Computer Science, Emphasis in Environmental Analysis

Claremont, CA

2024

Graduated with High Distinction, Honors in Mathematics

PUBLICATIONS

- [6] **Yik, W.**, Silva, S. J. (Submitted). Enforcing Equity in Neural Climate Emulators. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.19636>
- [5] **Yik, W.**, Sonnewald, M., Clare, M. C. A., Lguensat, R. (2023). Southern Ocean Dynamics Under Climate Change: New Knowledge Through Physics-Guided Machine Learning. *NeurIPS Workshop: Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.13916>
- [4] Hom, C., **Yik, W.**, Montañez, G. D. (2023). Finite-Sample Bounds for Two-Distribution Hypothesis Tests. *IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics (DSAA)*. <https://doi.org/10.1109/DSAA60987.2023.10302643>
- [3] **Yik, W.**, Silva, S. J., Geiss, A., Watson-Parris, D. (2023). Exploring Randomly Wired Neural Networks for Climate Model Emulation. *Artificial Intelligence for the Earth Systems (AIES)*. <https://doi.org/10.1175/AIES-D-22-0088.1>
- [2] **Yik, W.**, Silva, S. J., Geiss, A., Watson-Parris, D. (2022). Exploring Randomly Wired Neural Networks for Climate Model Emulation. *NeurIPS Workshop: Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning*. <https://www.climatechange.ai/papers/neurips2022/36/paper.pdf>
- [1] **Yik, W.**, Serafini, L., Lindsey, T., Montañez, G. D. (2022). Identifying Bias in Data Using Two-Distribution Hypothesis Tests. *AAAI/ACM Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society (AIES)*. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3514094.3534169>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Washington, Seattle

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Atmospheric and Climate Science

Seattle, WA

2024 - Present

- Advisor: Dale Durran
- Deep learning for Earth system modeling

University of California, Davis

Student Researcher, Computational Climate and Ocean Group

Davis, CA

2023 - 2024

- Advisor: Maike Sonnewald
- Identifying and tracking Southern Ocean dynamics under climate change using neural networks

University of Southern California

Undergraduate Researcher, Atmospheric Composition and Earth Data Science Group

Los Angeles, CA

2022 - 2024

- Advisor: Sam Silva
- Exploring the utility of randomly wired neural networks for climate model emulation
- Investigating methods for enforcing fairness and equity in neural climate emulators

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Clinic Project Team Member, Harvey Mudd College Clinic Program

Livermore, CA

2023 - 2024

- Liaison: Robert Blake, Advisor: Naim Matasci
- Investigated empirical scaling of scientific machine learning emulators
- Designed software to conduct neural network scaling studies in parallel on high-performance computing clusters

NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory

Princeton, NJ

Research Intern, Ocean and Cryosphere Division

2023

- Advisors: Maike Sonnewald, Stephen Griffies
- Applied deep ensemble learning methods for inferring subsurface ocean dynamics
- Improved the interpretability of models using explainable AI techniques such as layer-wise relevance propagation and Shapley additive explanations

Harvey Mudd College

Claremont, CA

Undergraduate Researcher, AMISTAD Machine Learning Lab

2021 - 2023

- Advisor: George Montañez
- Implemented novel hypothesis tests to systematically identify bias in machine learning training data
- Derived mathematical finite-sample bounds for two-distribution hypothesis tests

Idaho National Laboratory

Idaho Falls, ID

Research Intern, Energy Innovation Laboratory

2020

- Advisor: Christopher Zarzana
- Tested separation and content analysis methods for ligands and biomass using gas chromatography and pyrolysis
- Utilized liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry to accelerate ligand sample production

CONTRIBUTED TALKS AND POSTERS

- [9] Ocean Sciences Meeting, *Talk: Explainable Machine Learning for Inferring Subsurface Ocean Dynamics*, 2024.
- [8] NeurIPS Workshop: Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning, *Poster: Southern Ocean Dynamics Under Climate Change: New Knowledge Through Physics-Guided Machine Learning*, 2023.
- [7] American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, *Talk: Enforcing Equity in Neural Climate Emulators*, 2023.
- [6] IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics, *Talk: Finite-Sample Bounds for Two-Distribution Hypothesis Tests*, 2023.
- [5] Harvey Mudd College Student Symposium, *Poster: Explainable Machine Learning for Inferring Subsurface Ocean Dynamics*, 2023.
- [4] NOAA Science and Education Symposium, *Talk: Explainable Machine Learning for Inferring Subsurface Ocean Dynamics*, 2023.
- [3] NeurIPS Workshop: Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning, *Poster: Exploring Randomly Wired Neural Networks for Climate Model Emulation*, 2022.
- [2] Harvey Mudd College Student Symposium, *Poster: Exploring Randomly Wired Neural Networks for Climate Model Emulation*, 2022.
- [1] AAAI/ACM Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, and Society, *Talk and Poster: Identifying Bias in Data Using Two-Distribution Hypothesis Tests*, 2022.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Computational Science Graduate Fellowship

2024

Department of Energy

Rampyari Bahethi Graduate Fellowship

2024

American Meteorological Society

James Holton Endowed Graduate Support Fund

2024

University of Washington

Jan and Conway Leovy Endowed Graduate Support Fund 2024

University of Washington

Don Chamberlin Computer Science Research Award 2024

Harvey Mudd College

Graduate Research Fellowship (declined) 2024

National Science Foundation

Finalist, Hertz Fellowship 2024

Hertz Foundation

Finalist, Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award 2023

Computing Research Association

Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship 2022

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Harvey Mudd College

Claremont, CA

Mathematics Academic Excellence Facilitator

Aug 2022 - May 2024

- Courses: Differential Equations, Discrete Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Probability and Statistics, Calculus
- Nominated by faculty to hold weekly tutoring sessions for groups of 10-50 students
- Hosted weekly facilitator meetings to improve mentor and tutor sessions across the college

Harvey Mudd College

Claremont, CA

Teaching Assistant

Aug 2021 - Aug 2022

- Courses: Computability and Logic, Discrete Mathematics, Introduction to Computer Science
- Held weekly tutoring sessions for groups of 5-30 students and graded homework assignments

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Journal Referee: Geophysical Research Letters

SKILLS

Programming Languages

Python, R, MATLAB, C++, Java, Haskell

Machine Learning/Data Science

Tensorflow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn, SciPy, NumPy, Pandas, Xarray

Software/Web Development

Git, Docker, Visual Studio Code, Eclipse, Flask, HTML, CSS