

# YINGSI QIN

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## Education

**Ph.D.** Electrical and Computer Engineering | **Carnegie Mellon University** | 2021-2026 Pittsburgh, PA  
*Advisor* Aswin C. Sankaranarayanan  
*Research Interests* Computational 3D Display, Virtual Reality, Augmented Reality

**B.S.** Computer Science | **Columbia University** | 2019-2021 | GPA: 3.98 New York, NY  
*Focus* Intelligence Systems, Deep Learning, Computer Vision

**B.A.** Physics | **Colgate University** | 2016-2021 | GPA: 3.93 Hamilton, NY  
*Focus* Optics, Physical Modelling

## Publications

1. E. J. Galvez, F. J. Auccapuclla, **Y. Qin**, K.L. Wittler, and J.M. Freedman, "Pendulum Beams: Optical Modes that Simulate the Quantum Pendulum," *Journal of Optics*, accepted for publication. [\[pdf\]](#)
2. E. J. Galvez, F. J. Auccapuclla, K.L. Wittler, and **Y. Qin**, "Pendulum beams: a window into the quantum pendulum" in *Proc. SPIE, Complex Light and Optical Forces XIII*, 2019, 1093509. [\[pdf\]](#)
3. E. J. Galvez, F. J. Auccapuclla, **Y. Qin**, and K. L. Wittler, "Simulating Quantum Mechanics with Light: The Quantum Pendulum Via Mathieu Beams," in *Frontiers in Optics APS, Optical Society of America Technical Digest*, 2019, paper JW3A.117. [\[pdf\]](#)

## Research Experience

**Snap Research** | Jun. 2020–Dec. 2020 (Remote) New York, NY  
*Research Intern, Computational Imaging*  
*Mentor: Professor Shree Nayar*

- Improved the end-to-end Snapcode scanning performance by 7.2 times on iPhone 10 image data through redesigning and implementing a deep learning-based solution
- Thoroughly investigated potential improvements in the physically-based synthetic image data generation algorithm which helps avoid gathering expensive labeled data
- Optimized the performance, runtime, and size of the neural networks by setting up and evaluating large-scale experiments on Google Cloud virtual machines
- Developed an Android app to showcase the enhanced performance and performed live testing

**Columbia Computer Graphics Group** | Mar.–May, Sep. 2020–Apr. 2021 New York, NY  
*Research Assistant, Computer Vision and Signal Processing*  
*Advisor: Professor Changxi Zheng*

- Performed optical experiments of a laser microphone array and iteratively adjusted the setup
- Wrote a Gaussian-fitted cross-correlation algorithm to reconstruct audio from a silent video of laser speckles
- Investigated potential causes of noises and improved the signal-to-noise ratio

**Columbia Digital Video and Multimedia (DVMM) Lab** | Feb. 2020–May 2020 New York, NY  
*Research Assistant, Computer Vision*  
*Advisor: Professor Shih-Fu Chang*

- Participated in developing a transformer-based autoregressive neural network model to predict a time series of facial landmarks from audio data (in TensorFlow 2)
- Read and summarized prior works on generative neural networks

**Colgate Physics Department | May 2018–May 2019**

Hamilton, NY

*Research Assistant, Optics**Advisor: Professor Enrique (Kiko) Galvez*

- Participated in building the optical setup and testing the optical pendulum states iteratively
- Presented the research poster at the Frontiers in Optics 2019

**Colgate Computer Science Department | May 2017–Mar. 2018**

Hamilton, NY

*Research Assistant, Web Application HCI**Advisor: Professor Madeline Smith*

- Designed and developed user-centered features of a web app to improve the video co-watching experience for geographically-separated users
- Presented the research poster at the ACM *GROUP* conference 2018

**Work Experience****Google Search | May 2019–Aug. 2019**

Mountain View, CA

*Software Engineering Intern*

- Developed full-stack a high-precision-low-recall recommendation feature on the mobile Search Engine Result Page
- Worked on query expansion, result retrieval/filtering/clustering, and class label extraction
- Delivered versions of the feature and analyzed their live experiment feedback through performing iterative quality improvement, designing flexible/extensible infrastructure, and implementing agile development strategies
- Extracted intuitions on user interaction patterns from large-scale live experiment results and presented them to the team for future feature development
- Worked cross-functionally with product managers, designers, and other teams
- Received a guaranteed return internship offer

**Honors and Awards**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2021 | Magna Cum Laude, Columbia Engineering   |
| 2021 | Summa Cum Laude, Colgate University   |
| 2020 | Elected to the Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society (13/778), Colgate University   |
| 2020 | Elected to the Sigma Pi Sigma Academic Honor Society in Physics, Colgate University |
| 2017 | Edwin Foster Kingsbury Prize for Excellence in Physics, Colgate University          |
| 2017 | Grace Hopper Celebration Research Scholar, Computing Research Association-Women     |
| 2016 | Bronze Medal (Team Competition), The University Physics Competition                 |

**Selected Coursework**

|  |  |                           |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| Computational Photography                              | Convex Optimization  | Machine Learning          |
| Deep Learning for Computer Vision                      | Differential Equations   | Discrete Mathematics      |
| Artificial Intelligence                                | Quantum Mechanics  | Electricity and Magnetism |
| Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics               | Computation and the Brain <a href="#">[project: Perception and Deep Learning]</a>    |                           |
| Digital Signal Processing                              | Quantum Computing <a href="#">[project: Quantum Image Classification]</a>            |                           |
| Electronics <a href="#">[project: car racing game]</a> | Computational Mechanics <a href="#">[project: Simulating 2D Incompressible Flow]</a> |                           |

**Skills**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Languages</b>  | Fluent (>10k l.o.c. on avg.): Python, Java, C++<br>Familiar (>1k l.o.c. on avg.): C, MATLAB, SQL, HTML, CSS, Protobuf, Bazel, JavaScript |
| <b>Frameworks</b> | PyTorch, TensorFlow2, Numpy, Opencv, Qiskit, Tensorflow Quantum, Sklearn, Pandas, Seaborn  |

**Teaching and Service**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 2019–2020 | Peer Mentor, Engineering Student Council, Columbia University     |
| 2017–2019 | Teaching Assistant, Data Structures in Java, Colgate University   |
| 2018      | Teaching Assistant, Electricity and Magnetism, Colgate University |