

Fully-Funded Ph.D. Positions

Spring/Fall 2026 @ Computer Science Department, Illinois Tech

About the Advisor



Yue Dai

I am a tenure-track Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Illinois Institute of Technology (Illinois Tech). Before join Illinois Tech, I received my Ph.D. in Computer Science from the University of Pittsburgh in 2025.

My research focuses on **efficient and trustworthy machine learning systems**, with an emphasis on efficient deep graph learning and scalable LLM serving. My work has been published in top-tier conferences in systems, architecture, and machine learning areas, such as ISCA, ASPLOS, HPCA, ICML, and ICLR, etc.

Research Areas

- ➤ Efficient Dynamic Graph Learning: Dynamic graphs are prevalent in real-world applications such as social networks, recommendation, and agent-based systems. We develop efficient and scalable frameworks for dynamic and temporal graph neural networks (TGNNs) to enable efficient deep graph learning on large-scale, real-time dynamic graphs.
- ➤ Efficient System for LLM + Graph: Large language models can be enhanced with structured knowledge from graphs, but this requires efficient integration. We build low-latency and scalable infrastructures for LLM+Graph applications such as GraphRAG and graph-based AI agents, enabling complex reasoning and retrieval over massive graphaugmented systems.
- Adversarial Robustness in Dynamic Graphs: Ensuring robustness is critical for deploying graph neural networks in real-world, dynamic environments. We investigate security challenges in deep graph learning, develop novel adversarial attacks to reveal vulnerabilities, and design defense strategies that strengthen the resilience of dynamic graph models.

About Illinois Tech

Illinois Institute of Technology (Illinois Tech) is a private research university in Chicago, the third-largest U.S. city and a major hub for technology and innovation. Its Computer Science graduate program is ranked among the Top 100 in the U.S. (CS Ranking & U.S. News), and the university is consistently recognized globally in QS and THE rankings. With strengths in engineering, computing, and applied sciences, and its prime location in Chicago, IIT offers excellent opportunities for research, internships, and career development



Illinois Tech Campus View



Department of Computer Science @ Illinois Tech

Who We Are Looking For

- Bachelor's or Master's in CS/CE/EE or related fields, with foundations in ML or computer systems.
- Proficiency in Python, C/C++, and preferably experiences in CUDA Programming and PyTorch.
- Prior research/project experience in ML systems, graph learning, or related areas is a
 plus.
- Strong motivation for research, curiosity, and commitment to a long-term Ph.D. journey.

How to Apply

Send the following ydai21@illinoistech.edu:

- CV or resume
- Academic transcripts (unofficial is okay)
- Brief statement of research interest (informal is okay)

Email subject: Fall 2026 Application – Your Name – University



Scan the code (link: https://yud42.github.io/) to learn more about me and my ongoing research.

Join us to advance efficient and trustworthy AI through fullstack solutions across algorithms, systems, and architectures!