

# YUNXIANG ZHANG

Phone: (+1) 734-834-5492 ◊ Email: [yunxiang@umich.edu](mailto:yunxiang@umich.edu) ◊ Homepage: [yunx-z.github.io](https://yunx-z.github.io)

## EDUCATION

---

**University of Michigan – Ann Arbor**  
Ph.D. in Computer Science and Engineering  
Advisor: Prof. [Lu Wang](#)

09/2022 – 04/2027 (*Expected*)

**Peking University**  
B.S. in Geographic Information Science  
Advisor: Prof. [Xiaojun Wan](#)

09/2018 – 07/2022

## PUBLICATIONS

---

1. MLRC-Bench: Can Language Agents Solve Machine Learning Research Challenges?  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Muhammad Khalifa, Shitanshu Bhushan, Grant D Murphy, Lajanugen Logeswaran, Jaekyeom Kim, Moontae Lee, Honglak Lee, Lu Wang. Under review at *Proceedings of the 42nd International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2025)*.
2. Small Language Models Need Strong Verifiers to Self-Correct Reasoning  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Muhammad Khalifa, Lajanugen Logeswaran, Jaekyeom Kim, Moontae Lee, Honglak Lee, Lu Wang. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2024 (Findings of ACL 2024)*.
3. Merging Generated and Retrieved Knowledge for Open-Domain QA  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Muhammad Khalifa, Lajanugen Logeswaran, Moontae Lee, Honglak Lee, Lu Wang. In *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2023)*.
4. SituatedGen: Incorporating Geographical and Temporal Contexts into Generative Commonsense Reasoning  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Xiaojun Wan. In *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems 36: Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems 2023 (NeurIPS Datasets and Benchmarks 2023)*.
5. Investigating Zero- and Few-shot Generalization in Fact Verification  
Liangming Pan\*, **Yunxiang Zhang**\* and Min-Yen Kan. In *The 13th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing and the 3rd Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (IJCNLP-AAACL 2023)*.
6. MOVER: Mask, Over-generate and Rank for Hyperbole Generation  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Xiaojun Wan. In *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies (NAACL 2022)*.
7. Interpreting the Robustness of Neural NLP Models to Textual Perturbations  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Liangming Pan, Samson Tan, Min-Yen Kan. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: ACL 2022 (Findings of ACL 2022)*.
8. BiRdQA: A Bilingual Dataset for Question Answering on Tricky Riddles  
**Yunxiang Zhang**, Xiaojun Wan. In *Proceedings of the Thirty-Sixth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2022)*.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

---

### Research Intern at Microsoft Research, Montreal

May. 2024 – Aug. 2024

Mentor: Xingdi Yuan, Alessandro Sordoni, Tong Wang

Topics: reward model for LLM reasoning

### Graduate Student Research Assistant at University of Michigan

Sep. 2022 – Present

Advisor: Prof. Lu Wang

Topics: knowledge and reasoning in large language model

### Research Intern at National University of Singapore

Jun. 2021 – Jan. 2022

Advisor: Prof. Min-Yen Kan

Topics: robustness in NLP, fact verification

### Undergraduate Research Assistant at Peking University

Nov. 2020 – Jun. 2022

Advisor: Prof. Xiaojun Wan

Topics: question answering, text generation, computational creativity

## HONORS & AWARDS

---

Best Lightning Talk, 3rd Data Science Student Conference (DISC) at MSU

2023

AAAI-22 Student Scholarship

2022

May 4th Scholarship, Peking University

2020

Merit Student Pacesetter, Peking University

2020

Robin Li Scholarship, Peking University

2019

Merit Student, Peking University

2019

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

Student Volunteer, ACL 2024

Program Committee Member / Reviewer: ICML (2025), AISTATS (2025), ICLR (2025), NeurIPS (2024-25), ACL 2024 KnowledgeNLP Workshop, ACL Rolling Review, COLM (2024-25), EMNLP (2022-24), ACL (2023), CoNLL (2023-24), ML4Health (2023), ACM Computing Surveys

## TALKS

---

*Merging Generated and Retrieved Knowledge for Open-Domain QA.* EMNLP

Dec. 2023

*Merging Generated and Retrieved Knowledge for Open-Domain QA.* MSU

Nov. 2023

*MOVER: Mask, Over-generate and Rank for Hyperbole Generation.* NAACL

Jul. 2022

## MENTORING

---

Lechen Zhang (MS @ UMich 25'), Xinnuo Li (BS @ UMich 25'), Yufan Wu (BS @ UMich & SJTU 24' → PhD @ OSU), Fan Xu (BS @ PKU 23' → PhD @ PKU)

## SKILLS

---

**Programming:** Python, C/C++, SQL

**Tools & Frameworks:** Pytorch, Huggingface, NLTK, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Git, Vim, Linux