

# YU XIANG

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## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy in Physics, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

**Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2019**

GPA: 3.88 of 4.00 | Relevant Courses: *Quantum Mechanics, Statistical Mechanics*

Troy, NY

**Bachelor of Science in Physics, Wuhan University**

**Sep. 2010 – Jun. 2014**

GPA: 3.43 of 4.00 | Relevant Courses: *Advanced Mathematics, Linear Algebra, Probability*

Wuhan, China

## SKILLS

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

**Packages:** Scikit-learn, TensorFlow, PyTorch, Pandas, XGBoost, Qt, CUDA, NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib

**Tools:** AWS, Hadoop/Spark, Git, Docker, UNIX utilities

**Modeling:** Machine Learning (SVM, Regression, Decision Trees, Clustering), Time Series (ARIMA, HMM, LSTM), Deep Learning (CNN, GCN, RNN, Transformer), Natural Language Processing (word2vec, seq2seq, BERT)

## EXPERIENCE

**Data Scientist, Amazon** | Bellevue, WA

**May 2021 – Present**

- Hosted meetings with the leaderships from Amazon operational team to understand their business scope, establish project timeline, and negotiate on the final deliveries.
- Performed exploratory data analysis to identify any data quality issues, and feature engineering to pre-process the data.
- Created the multivariate encoder-decoder attention model with two-head outputs to overcome the conventional time series methods' limitations in long-term forecasting and sparse inputs.
- Setup the data pipeline and deployed the models on native Amazon web service (NAWS) to retrain and make predictions on the weekly basis, saving at least \$2MM operational cost per year.

**Seismic Imager, CGG** | Houston, TX

**Jan. 2020 – Feb. 2021**

- Provided optimal quality control for the input seismic raw data by analyzing the statistics from billions of seismic records using SQL and mapping out key metrics using Hadoop/Spark big-data tools.
- Processed petabytes of seismic data by detecting anomalies using sparse transformation, removing seismic echoes using adaptive subtraction, and imputing missing features with compressed sensing techniques.
- Helped the client save almost \$30MM per production well by providing unbiased interpretation of the geological features using machine learning techniques including SVM and boosted trees.

## PROJECTS

**Open-Source Software Development for Electron Diffraction Image Processing**

**Jul. 2018 – Dec. 2019**

- Designed the object-oriented architecture, implemented the software with Python (Github repository: [PyRHEED](https://github.com/yux1991/PyRHEED)), and provided technical support to users from several research groups across the world.
- Improved the average computational efficiency of the back-end processing module by about 100 times through NumPy vectorization and CUDA parallel computing.
- Built the data pipeline from raw reflection high energy electron diffraction (RHEED) images to processing-ready datasets through autonomous labeling, noise reduction, standardization and featurization.

**RHEED Data Analysis With Machine Learning**

**May 2016 – Dec. 2019**

- Extracted the three-dimensional probability density distribution of the diffracted electron waves from the preprocessed RHEED datasets by learning the parameters of a Gaussian mixture model.
- Simulated thousands of crystal domains based on the Voronoi tessellation using Monte Carlo methods, in order to be combined with the experimentally extracted features for model parameter estimation.
- Estimated the unknown statistics such as the lattice constant, grain size, and preferred orientations from the RHEED images with a Bayesian regression approach.

## AWARDS

*The Karen & Lester Gerhardt Prize in Science and Engineering* at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**May 2020**

*Paul S. Ho '65 Prize in Physics* at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**May 2019**

*Hillard B. Huntington Award (1976)* at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**May 2017**

*Presidential Graduate Research Fellowship Award* at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

**Oct. 2015**