

# ZHIYU NI

University of Southern California

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Southern California**

Ph.D. *Computer Engineering*, Advisor: Pierluigi Nuzzo

*Los Angeles, United States*

*2022.8 - Present*

**University of Science and Technology of China (USTC)**

B.S. *Physics*, **Outstanding Graduates**

*Hefei, China*

*2018.8 - 2022.6*

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Finding Adversarially Robust Graph Lottery Tickets**

Subhajit Dutta Chowdhury\*, **Zhiyu Ni\***, Qingyuan Peng\*, Souvik Kundu<sup>†</sup>, Pierluigi Nuzzo\*

Submitted to **International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2024)**

**Analyzing Adversarial Vulnerabilities of Graph Lottery Tickets**

Subhajit Dutta Chowdhury\*, **Zhiyu Ni\***, Qingyuan Peng\*, Souvik Kundu<sup>†</sup>, Pierluigi Nuzzo\*

Submitted to **International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP 2024)**

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Finding Adversarial Robust Graph Lottery Tickets**

*2022.12 - present*

- Finding an adversarially robust graph sparsification technique to address the problem that the performance of GLTs collapses against structure perturbation poisoning attacks.
- Proposed ARGLTs which are highly sparse yet achieve competitive performance under different structure poisoning attacks by iteratively applying ARGS

**Risk-Aware Cost-Effective Design Methodology of Logic Locking**

*2022.9 - present*

- Proposing a risk-aware IC locking strategy that can protect integrated circuits (IC) from state-of-art and future attacks.
- Illustrated the effectiveness of our two-level optimization-based methodology on a set of case studies, showing high-security levels at significantly lower risk.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**iFlytek**

Machine Learning Engineer Intern, *AI Research Institute*

*Hefei, China*

*2022.2 - 2022.6*

- Independently carried out machine translation tasks utilizing seamless bidirectional translation among English, German, Italian, and Portuguese languages.
- Surpassed Google Translation by attaining a superior BLEU score, demonstrating exceptional translation performance.

## PROJECTS

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**Image Segmentation of Seismic Fault**

- Employed Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) for precise fault segmentation in seismic imaging.
- **Championship in the final project on Kaggle**

## SKILLS

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Python, PyTorch, Unix shell,  $\text{\LaTeX}$