

Yeyang (Benson) Zu

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1539 Beloit Ave
Los Angeles, CA

Education

University of California, Los Angeles

Sep 2017- June 2021

Bachelor of Environmental Science, Minors in Environmental Engineering and Statistics

Dean's List (Fall 2017 – Spring 2020); GPA: 3.88

Relevant Coursework: Solar Energy Harvesting; Thermodynamics & Fluid Mechanics; Machine Learning;
Data Analysis with R; Regression and Classification Modelling with R/Python/MATLAB

Publication:

1. Valenca, R., Le, H., **Zu, Y.**, Dittrich, T., Tsang, D., Dutta, R., Sarkar, D., Mohanty, S.K. "Nitrate Removal Uncertainty in Stormwater Control Measures: Is the Design or Climate a Culprit?" *Water Research*, Pergamon, 24 Dec. 2020, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2020.116781>
2. Valenca, R., Borthakur, A., **Zu, Y.**, Matthiesen, E. A., Stenstrom, M., Mohanty, S. K. "Biochar Selection for Escherichia Coli Removal in Stormwater Biofilters." *Journal of Environmental Engineering*, 24 Nov. 2020, [ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/\(ASCE\)EE.1943-7870.0001843?ai=tq](https://doi.org/10.1061/(ASCE)EE.1943-7870.0001843?ai=tq).

Research & Professional Experience

Dongda Institute of Smart Environment and Energy, Los Angeles, CA

Sep 2020 – Present

Renewable Energy Network Design Intern

- Design Photovoltaic/Thermal systems by adding DC compressor to improve its heating water efficiency
- Collaborate with the integrator on the installation plan with different research infrastructures
- Explore remote monitoring approaches to oversee and fix the solar hybrid system

UCLA Institute of Environmental Science, Los Angeles, CA

Oct 2019 – Jun 2020

Patagonia Reservation Team Lead Data Analyst

- Analyzed satellite images to predict the extent of invasive willow populations along the Limay River
- Modelling remote sensing data with the Random Forest model with open public sources
- Designed a R script for the classification of willows to our partner the Neuquén Center for Applied Ecology
- Fundraised more than \$13,000 to support traveling cost of ground-truth process in Argentina

UCLA Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Los Angeles, CA

Mar 2019 – Present

The SEALab Research Assistant Undergraduate Intern

- Design "NTO Removal with Fungal Biofilter" experiment under the supervision of a Ph.D. candidate
- Conduct contaminants removal project to improve VOCs removal efficiency by adding biochar
- Explore models that link biochar properties with its bacterial removal capacity by data mining
- Produce Agar plates and Quantifying the *E.coli* data samples by using spread-plate methods

Santa Monica Mountain Stations, Los Angeles, CA

Jan 2019 – July 2019

Mountains Restoration Trust Data Collector for Post-fire Research Project

- Ground-truthed the recovery states of flora and fauna with plot method on the Santa Monica Mountains
- Collected plant samples twice a month to confirm and evaluate the biodiversity of mountains
- Updated modelling database of the central repository to track the short-term ecological recovery

Additional Information

Skills

Computer Programming: Python, R language, MATLAB, ArcGIS, SQL, TRNSYS
Lab: Enzyme Assays; Spectroscopy; Plate-plot, Centrifuge; Autoclave; pH/DO Meter
Languages: English (fluent); Mandarin (native)

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); Environmental Student Network (ESN) ;
American Water Works Association (AWWA); Carbon Neutrality Initiative Campaign;

UCLA Chapters

RYE Fraternity