# Yuantao Zhang

**Tel**: 17850565385 (CHN), 87310540 (SIN)

Email: yuantaozhang@u.nus.edu

yuantaozhang@link.cuhk.edu.cn

Website: https://zyttt-coder.github.io/

Address: Blk 312C, Clementi Ave 4,

#25-193, Singapore, 123312 **Wechat Number**: zytttdwxh

#### Education

### **National University of Singapore**

Master of Computing (Artificial Intelligence Specialisation)

## Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Undergraduate Exchange Program

#### The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen)

Degree - Bachelor of Engineering with Honours, First Class

Major - Computer Science and Engineering

## 2023.1 - 2023.5

2024.8 - Present

GPA: 4.83/5

2020.9 - 2024.7 CGPA: 3.706 / 4 (top 10%)

MGPA: 3.798 / 4 (top 10%)

### **Publications**

M. Li\*, Y. Zhang\*, W. Wang, W. Shi, Z. Liu, F. Feng, T. Chua.

Self-Improvement Towards Pareto Optimality: Mitigating Preference Conflicts in Multi-Objective Alignment.

2025 ACL Findings (\*Equal contribution). [Arxiv, GitHub]

#### Y. Zhang, Z. Yang.

A Perplexity and Menger Curvature-Based Approach for Similarity Evaluation of Large Language Models. First submission to TACL received review scores of 5, 3, and 2 out of 5. [Arxiv, GitHub]

#### **Patents**

**B. Yang**, Z. Yang, Y. Zhang. (2024). An Approach for Generating Diverse Images Based on Latent Diffusion Models. CN Patent No. 202411135613.6.

#### Research Interests

Natural Language Processing LLM Alignment Reinforcement Learning

#### Research Experience

#### Research Intern in LLM Alignment at NExT++

2024.8 – Present

Mentor: Dr. Moxin Li, Prof. Wenjie Wang, Prof. Tat-Seng Chua

- Conducted preliminary experiments to analyze the impact of conflicting preference pairs on the Pareto Front in Multi-Objective Alignment, iteratively refined strategies for generating Pareto-optimal responses, performed ablation studies, and contributed to paper writing.
- (Present) Investigating data-centric alignment issues in LLMs, with a particular focus on Multi-Objective Alignment.

Research Intern at National Supercomputing Center in Shenzhen

2024.3 - 2024.7

Mentor: Dr. Zhankui Yang (Postdoc)

- Conceptualized a metric utilizing Perplexity Curves, which plot the perplexity of
  sub-sequences in a sentence against word indices, and Menger Curvature Difference of these
  curves to assess the similarity between LLMs. This metric can aid in detecting unethical
  practices in LLM usage, such as slightly altering an existing LLM to falsely claim a new
  development or covertly distilling domain-specific knowledge from one LLM to another.
- Assisted in developing the idea of a patent.

#### Large Language Model Research

2023.9 - 2023.12

Mentor: Dr. Feng Jiang (Postdoc), Prof. Haizhou Li

- Conducted literature review on popular open-source LLMs, including GLM and Baichuan; systematically organized findings and contributed to a public resource. [GitHub]
- Trained a 560M Phoenix LLM and applied it to various language processing tasks.

#### Data Distillation Using the Stable Diffusion Model

2023.5 - 2023.8

Mentor: Dr. Haonan Wang, Prof. Kenji Kawaguchi

- Reviewed key literature on Generative Models and Data Distillation techniques.
- Developed a pipeline to map images to token embeddings using Stable Diffusion, employing Gradient Matching Loss to optimize these embeddings for generating distilled images. [GitHub]

#### Convergence Rate Analysis of FedDualAvg

2022.9 - 2023.5

Mentor: Prof. Ming Yan

- Reviewed literature on **Federated Optimization**, with a focus on the integration of the Bregman Proximal Gradient Method and FedAvg, particularly in algorithms like FedDualAvg.
- Analyzed the convergence rate of FedDualAvg in different settings (different constraints of data heterogeneity, non-convex setting) and conducted experiments to verify theoretical results.

## Internships

#### Shenzhen Tibo Ruike Network Technology Co., LTD

2021.8 - 2022.1

Back-end Developer

- Developed and tested back-end APIs for web applications aimed at enhancing students' campus life experience, using Postman and unit testing frameworks.
- Contributed to the back-end development of "Yoummy," a food ordering mini-program in collaboration with CUPL, ensuring accurate processing of user requests. [GitHub]

#### Awards & Honors

#### AY2024-2025 Semester 1 Dean's List National University of Singapore, School of Computing 2025.1 AY2020-21, AY2021-22, AY2022-23, AY2023-24 SDS Dean's List The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), School of Data Science 2021.9-2024.9 AY2022-23 SDS TA/USTF Award The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), School of Data Science 2023.11 AY2021-22 Academic Performance Scholarship: Class C 20000 RMB The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), School of Data Science 2022.12 **Undergraduate Research Award** The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen), the URA Selection Committee 2022.8 35000 RMB **Bowen Scholarship** The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Shenzhen) 2020.9

#### Languages & Skills

**Languages** – English (**GRE**: 328 + 3.5, **TOEFL**: 102), Mandarin (native) **Skills** – Pytorch, Tensorflow, SQL, C++, Java, Linux, Latex