

Ying Fan

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EDUCATION

Department of Computer Sciences, UW-Madison

PhD Student, GPA: 3.9/4.0

Advisor: Kangwook Lee

Madison, WI, USA

Sep 2019 – May 2025 (expected)

Yuanpei College, Data Science Major, Peking University

Bachelor of Science, Overall GPA: 3.6/4.0; Major GPA: 3.8/4.0

Beijing, China

Sep 2015 – Jul 2019

PAPERS

Ying Fan, Yilun Du, Kannan Ramchandran, Kangwook Lee

Looped Transformers for Length Generalization

NeurIPS 2024 Workshop MATH-AI

Ying Fan, Steve Yadlowsky, Dimitris Papailiopoulos, Kangwook Lee

Transformers Learn Meta-Skills for Task Generalization

NeurIPS 2024 Workshop Compositional Learning

Ying Fan, Jingling Li, Adith Swaminathan, Aditya Modi, Ching-An Cheng

How to Solve Contextual Goal-Oriented Problems with Offline Datasets?

NeurIPS 2024

Zhenmei Shi*, Yifei Ming*, **Ying Fan***, Frederic Sala, Yingyu Liang

Domain Generalization with Nuclear Norm Regularization

CPAL 2024

Ying Fan*, Olivia Watkins, Yuqing Du, Hao Liu, Moonkyung Ryu, Craig Boutilier, Pieter Abbeel, Mohammad Ghavamzadeh, Kangwook Lee, Kimin Lee*

DPOK: Reinforcement Learning for Fine-tuning Text-to-Image Diffusion Models

NeurIPS 2023

Krishnamurthy Dj Dvijotham, Shayegan Omidshafiei, Kimin Lee, Katherine M. Collins, Deepak Ramachandran, Adrian Weller, Mohammad Ghavamzadeh, Milad Nasr, **Ying Fan**, Jeremiah Zhe Liu

Algorithms for Optimal Adaptation of Diffusion Models to Reward Functions

ICML 2023 Workshop Frontiers4LCD

Ying Fan, Kangwook Lee

Optimizing DDPM Sampling with Shortcut Fine-Tuning

ICML 2023

Dohyun Kwon, **Ying Fan**, Kangwook Lee

Score-based Generative Modeling Secretly Minimizes the Wasserstein Distance

NeurIPS 2022

Yifei Ming*, **Ying Fan***, Yixuan Li
POEM: Out-of-distribution Detection with Posterior Sampling
ICML 2022 (Long talk ~2%)

Ying Fan, Yifei Ming
Model-based Reinforcement Learning for Continuous Control with Posterior Sampling
ICML 2021, (Long talk ~3%)

(* equal contribution)

WORK EXPERIENCES

Research Intern, Google LLC Mentor: Qifei Wang	May 2024 – Aug 2024
Student Researcher, Google LLC Mentor: Kimin Lee	Feb 2023 – Nov 2023
Research Intern, Microsoft Research Mentor: Ching-An Cheng	Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Conference reviewer: ICML 2022, 2023, 2024, NeurIPS 2022, 2023, 2024, ICLR 2024, 2025

HONORS & AWARDS

Rising Stars in Machine Learning, University of Maryland (2024)
Research assistantship from Institute of Foundations of Data Science, UW-Madison
Founder Scholarship, Peking University (top 5%)
Award for Academic Excellence, Peking University (top 5%)