Hongkun Yang

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Education

Ocean University of China (OUC), Qingdao, China — Sep. 2023 – Present

B.S. in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

GPA: 86/100 (3.5/4.0)

Core Coursework: Data Structures (99/100), Mathematical Analysis (98/100), Higher Algebra (97/100)

Publications

1. **DeAR: Fine-Grained VLM Adaptation by Decomposing Attention Head Roles**
   Yiming Ma*, **Hongkun Yang***, *et al.* (*Equal Contribution)
   Accepted to CVPR 2026 [Paper]
   Contribution: Refined the core framework, led most experiments, and co-authored the manuscript.
2. **PerDFKD: Source-Data-Free Knowledge Distillation for Efficient Personalized ECG Adaptation**
   Hongkun Yang, Yilin Song, Wei Qiu
   Under Review at KDD 2027
   Contribution: Designed the complete PerDFKD algorithm, implemented all experiments, and wrote the manuscript.
3. **AppellateGen: A Benchmark for Appellate Legal Judgment Generation**
   Hongkun Yang, *et al.*
   Under Review [Paper]
   Contribution: Built the benchmark, developed the SOP-based multi-agent system, and led evaluations and writing.
4. **NüshuVoice: Reviving the Voice of Endangered Nüshu with Pitch-Aware Text-to-Speech**
   Hongkun Yang*, Xinhui Yi*, Xiyan Zhao*, Yibo Meng*, *et al.* (*Equal Contribution)
   Under Review [Paper]
   Contribution: Built the first Nüshu TTS benchmark and contributed to the pitch-aware Nüshu-PitchVITS framework.

Research Experience

Rice University, Houston, TX, USA — Jun. 2026 – Present

Research Assistant, Adviser: Prof. Wei Qiu

- **ECG Knowledge Distillation:** Developed PerDFKD, a source-data-free knowledge distillation framework that reconstructs personalized ECG teachers and transfers their knowledge to lightweight student models for efficient deployment.

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore — Jul. 2025 – Sep. 2025

Research Assistant, Adviser: Prof. Wei Dong

- **Multimodal Data Protection:** Proposed a Non-Transferable Learning framework for Vision-Language Models to prevent unauthorized fine-tuning and intellectual-property exploitation while preserving utility on authorized tasks.

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Ocean University of China (OUC), Qingdao, China — Sep. 2025 – Jan. 2026

Teaching Assistant, Algorithms and Data Structures

- Conducted weekly office hours and Q&A sessions to explain complex algorithmic concepts, provide debugging guidance, and mentor students; evaluated programming assignments and written examinations, offering detailed feedback on data structure implementation and algorithmic efficiency.