

Ian Yang

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EDUCATION

University of Washington 2025 - Present
Ph.D., Information Science

Advisor: Aylin Caliskan

Georgia Institute of Technology 2020 - 2024
B.S., Computer Science, *summa cum laude*
Threads: Intelligence and Theory

Advisor: Mark Riedl

Thesis: *Relationship Extraction via Language Models for Normativity Analysis*

AWARDS & HONORS

ACCESS Grant, 1.5M Compute Units (~\$11,860), National Science Foundation 2025

Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP), National Science Foundation 2025

Gell Mason Endowed Fellowship, University of Washington 2025

Zell Miller Scholarship (Full Tuition), Georgia Institute of Technology 2020

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Georgia Institute of Technology 2022 - 2025
Research Assistant | Advisor: Mark Riedl

University of Minnesota 2024 - 2025
Visiting Researcher | Advisors: Dongyeop Kang and Mingyi Hong

Carnegie Mellon University 2023 - 2025
Research Assistant | Advisor: Norman Sadeh

Carnegie Mellon University Summer 2023
REU Student | Advisor: Norman Sadeh

The Ohio State University 2021 - 2022
Research Assistant | Advisor: Dong Xuan

PUBLICATIONS

* equal contribution

Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

Yongxu Sun, Michael Saxon, **Ian Yang**, Anna-Maria Gueorguieva, and Aylin Caliskan. 2026. "VEAT Quantifies Implicit Associations in Text-to-Video Generator Sora and Reveals Challenges in Bias Mitigation". *The International Association for Safe & Ethical AI (IASAI 2026)*.

Full Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2601.00996>

Lea Duesterwald, **Ian Yang**, and Norman Sadeh. 2025. "Can a Cybersecurity Question Answering Assistant Help Change User Behavior? An In Situ Study". *15th Usable Security and Privacy Symposium (USEC 2025)*.

Full Paper: https://usableprivacy.org/static/files/duesterwald_2024.pdf

Kaige Xie, **Ian Yang**, John Gunerli, and Mark Riedl. 2025. "Making Large Language Models into World Models with Precondition and Effect Knowledge". *31st International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2025)*.

Full Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2409.12278>

Ananya Balaji*, Lea Duesterwald*, **Ian Yang***, Aman Priyanshu, Costanza Alfieri, and Norman Sadeh. 2024. "Generating Effective Answers to People's Everyday Cybersecurity Questions: An Initial Study". *Twenty-Fifth International Web Information Systems Engineering Conference (WISE 2024)*.
Full Paper: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-0576-7_27

Abhilasha Ravichander*, **Ian Yang***, Rex Chen, Shomir Wilson, Thomas Norton, and Norman Sadeh. 2024. "Incorporating Taxonomic Reasoning and Regulatory Knowledge into Automated Privacy Question Answering". *Twenty-Fifth International Web Information Systems Engineering Conference (WISE 2024)*.
Full Paper: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-0579-8_31

Peer-Reviewed Journal Papers

David Rodríguez, **Ian Yang**, José M. Del Álamo, and Norman Sadeh. 2024. "Large Language Models: A New Approach for Privacy Policy Analysis at Scale". *Springer Computing*, 1-25.
Full Paper: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00607-024-01331-9>

Submissions Under Review

Ryan Koo, **Ian Yang**, Vipul Raheja, Mingyi Hong, Kwang-Sung Jun, and Dongyeop Kang. 2025. "Learning Explainable Dense Reward Shapes via Bayesian Optimization". *Under Review*.
Full Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2504.16272>

Preprints

Louis Castricato, Alexander Havrilla, Shahbuland Matiana, Michael Pieler, Anbang Ye, **Ian Yang**, Spencer Frazier, and Mark Riedl. 2022. "Robust Preference Learning for Storytelling via Contrastive Reinforcement Learning". *arXiv*.
Full Paper: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.07792>

POSTERS/PRESENTATIONS

Ian Yang and Norman Sadeh. 2023. "You Shouldn't Know That! Natural Language Processing Towards Enhancing Android Privacy Label Disclosures". *REU research symposium, Carnegie Mellon University*.

TEACHING/MENTORSHIP

CSE 6040, Computing for Data Analytics Tutor Georgia Tech	2022 – 2024
CS 1100, Freshman Leap Seminar Teaching Assistant Georgia Tech	2021 – 2024
Peer Mentor Georgia Tech	2021 – 2024
AP Computer Science A Tutor	2021 – 2022

SERVICE

Reviewer

Conferences: IASEAI 2026

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Software Development Intern | FlightBridge, Inc. **2021 – 2022**
FlightBridge is the technology platform connecting Private Aviation with their trusted network of trip service vendors and partners. One-stop online to book and manage FBO and handling requests, hotel reservations, rental car bookings with FBO delivery, catering, fuel, ground transportation, aircraft detailing, security, and much more.