

# Yating Wu

PhD Student

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## Research Overview

My research primarily concentrates on **text generation, evaluation, and their applications**. My experience includes:

- 💡 Enhancing text comprehension through discourse relationships within documents. Specifically, I work on problems related to **"Questions Under Discussion"**.
- 💡 Enhancing the planning and tool using ability of LLM agents.

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## Education

- 2022 – Now **Ph.D. in Computer Engineering**, *The University of Texas at Austin*  
Advisors: Jessy Li, Alex Dimakis
- 2020 – Now **M.S. in Computer Engineering**, *The University of Texas at Austin*  
Advisors: Jessy Li, Alex Dimakis
- 2014 – 2019 **B.Eng. in Computer Science & B.A. in Japanese**, *Dalian University of Technology*
- 2017 - 2018 **Exchange student in Computer Science**, *The University of Tokyo*  
Advisor: Toshihiko Yamasaki

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## Selected Publications

- [1] **Yating Wu\***, Ritika Rajesh Mangla\*, Alexandros G. Dimakis, Greg Durrett, Junyi Jessy Li. [Which questions should I answer? Saliency Prediction of Inquisitive Questions](#). Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (**EMNLP**), Miami, 2024. **Outstanding Paper Award**.
- [2] **Yating Wu**, Ritika Rajesh Mangla, Greg Durrett, Junyi Jessy Li. [QUDeval: The Evaluation of Questions Under Discussion Discourse Parsing](#). Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (**EMNLP**), Singapore, 2023. **(Oral)**
- [3] **Yating Wu\***, William Sheffield\*, Kyle Mahowald, and Junyi Jessy Li. [Elaborative Simplification as Implicit Questions Under Discussion](#). Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (**EMNLP**), Singapore, 2023.
- [4] Wei-Jen Ko, **Yating Wu**, Cutter Dalton, Dananjay Srinivas, Greg Durrett and Junyi Jessy Li. [Discourse Analysis via Questions and Answers: Parsing Dependency Structures of Questions Under Discussion](#). Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**ACL**), Toronto, 2023.

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## Professional Experience

- May - Aug. 2024 **Applied Scientist Intern**, *Amazon Alexa AGI*, Sunnyvale, CA
  - Worked on research problem for enhancing the planning and tool-using capabilities of LLM agents.

- Jun. - Aug. 2023 **Software Engineer Intern**, *Amazon Prime Video*, Austin, TX
- Implemented an in-game notification system using Rule Engine.
- Jun. - Sept. 2021 **Software Engineer Intern**, *Amazon Prime Video*, Austin, TX
- Implemented a Java-based Ranking System for live events.

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## Teaching Experience

- CS391L **Machine Learning (graduate level)**, *Head Teaching Assistant*, Summer 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024
- CS391L **Machine Learning (graduate level)**, *Teaching Assistant*, Fall 2021, Spring 2022
- EE422C **Software design & implementation II (Java)**, *Teaching Assistant*, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021

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## Mentoring Experience

- Master's student **Ritika Mangla**, 2022-2024, co-authored paper [1] and [2]

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## Honors

- Nov. 2024 **Outstanding paper award in EMNLP 2024**
- Jul. 2021 **1st place in VMware Codehouse Palo Alto**
- Jun. 2019 **Outstanding graduates of Dalian University of Technology**

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## Skills

- Programming Python, Java, C/C++, JavaScript(TypeScript), Bash, SQL, HTML/CSS, Kotlin, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X
- Tools Tensorflow, PyTorch, Stanford CoreNLP, NLTK, Amazon Web Service, Cuda Programming, Mockito, Guice, DynamoDB
- Languages English (fluent), Japanese (business level - JLPT N1), Chinese (native)