

MATTHEW PEIZHI YAN

Ph.D. Candidate at UBC

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Computer Vision:** 3D face and general object reconstruction from 2D images; image generation.
- **Computer Graphics:** NeRF; 3D Gaussian Splatting (3DGS); 3D face modeling.
- **Machine Learning:** Large-Language-Models; foundational 3D generation models; explainable ML.

EDUCATION

- **The University of British Columbia** Jan. 2021 – May 2026
 - 📍 Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
 - Ph.D. Candidate in Electrical and Computer Engineering
 - Supervisors:** [Dr. Rabab Ward](#), [Dr. Shan Du](#)
 - Thesis:** Towards Realism, Controllability, and Affordability in Learning-Based 3D Head Creation
 - Research Focus:** 3D Computer Vision and Graphics, 3D Head Avatar, 3D Reconstruction
 - GPA:** 4.0 / 4.0 (Average Grade: 95%, Letter: A+)
- **Lakehead University** Sept. 2018 – May 2020
 - 📍 Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada
 - M.Sc. in Computer Science
 - Supervisor:** Dr. Salimur Choudhury
 - Thesis:** Towards Machine Learning Enabled Future-Generation Wireless Network Optimization
 - Research Focus:** Machine Learning, Optimization Problems
 - GPA:** 4.0 / 4.0 (Average Grade: 98%, Letter: A+)
 - Distinction:** Governor-General's Gold Medal
- **Algoma University** Sept. 2016 – May 2018
 - 📍 Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada
 - B.Sc. in Computer Science
 - Supervisors:** Dr. Yi Feng, Dr. George Townsend
 - Research Focus:** Machine Learning, Game AI
 - GPA:** 4.0 / 4.0 (Average Grade: 96%, Letter: A+)
- **University of Jinan** Sept. 2014 – June 2019
 - 📍 Jinan, Shandong, China
 - B.Eng. in Computer Science

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

The University of British Columbia	Research Assistant	Jan. 2021 – Present
BC Cancer Research Centre	Research Assistant	Jun. 2024 – Oct. 2024
Lakehead University	RA and Graduate TA	Sept. 2018 – May 2020
Algoma University	RA at BCI Lab	2017 - 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lakehead University

- Guest Lecturer (9 hours): Optimization Method (2020 Spring), graduate-level, 29 students
 - Guest Lecturer (6 hours): Deep Learning (2020 Winter), graduate-level, 83 students
 - Guest Lecturer (6 hours): Computer Vision (2019 Fall), graduate-level, 70 students
 - Guest Lecturer (9 hours): Deep Learning (2019 Spring), graduate-level, 59 students
 - Guest Lecturer (6 hours): Optimization Method (2019 Spring), graduate-level, 19 students
 - Tutor: Assembly Language (2019 Winter), undergraduate-level, 38 students
 - Tutor: Data Base Management Systems (2018 Fall), undergraduate-level, 25 students
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ACADEMIC SERVICE

Organizational Roles

- (ICIP 2025) Session Chair: Biomedical Signal and Image Processing 3
- (GI 2025) Program Committee Member for Graphics Interface Conference
- (CCECE 2025) Volunteer at IEEE Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering
- (2015-2016) Vice President of Turing Computer Association (S/W Dept.), Univ. of Jinan, China

Journal Reviewing

- IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology (TCSVT) 25 reviews
- IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (TPAMI) 3 reviews
- IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG) 4 reviews
- IEEE Transactions on Image Processing (TIP) 1 review
- IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (TMM) 6 reviews
- IEEE Canadian Journal of Electrical and Computer Engineering (CJECE) 4 reviews
- IEEE Transactions on Cybernetics 1 review
- ACM Trans. on Multimedia Computing, Communications, and Application (TOMM) 2 reviews
- Elsevier Neurocomputing 13 reviews
- Springer Neural Computing and Applications 1 review

Conference Reviewing

- (2026) CVPR 2026
- (2025) Graphics Interface (GI 2025) Conference
- (2022) Asian Conference on Computer Vision (ACCV 2022)
- (2021 to 2023, & 2025) IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP)
- (2020) The 17th IEEE International Conference on Ubiquitous Intelligence and Computing

Talks and Presentations

- (2025) Presenter at UBC ECE Research Day
 - (2024) Speaker at BC Cancer Summit on Skin Lesion Image Synthesis with Controllable Skin Tone
 - (2023) Guest Speaker at Consortium for Advancement of MRI Education and Research in Africa
 - (2023) Invited Talk on Machine Learning in 3D Face Modeling at UBC (Okanagan) COSC Seminar
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PUBLICATIONS

Citations: 204

h-index: 9

i10-index: 9

(statistics are from Google Scholar)

Journal

1. **Yan, P.**, Ward, R., Wang, D., Tang, Q., & Du, S. (2025), "StyleMorpheus: Learning a StyleGAN-Based 3D-Aware Morphable Face Model with a Disentangled Style Space". *Elsevier Neurocomputing*, 131329. (SCI Journal, IF: 6.5)

2. **Yan, P.**, Ward, R., Tang, Q., & Du, S. (2025), "Neural 3D Face Shape Stylization Based on Single Style Template via Weakly Supervised Learning", *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics (TVCG)*, 31(10), 9522 – 9529. (SCI Journal, [IF: 4.7](#))
3. Liu, W., Hopkins, A. M., **Yan, P.**, Du, S., Luyt, L. G., Li, Y., & Hou, J. (2023), "Can Machine Learning 'Transform' Peptides/Peptidomimetics into Small Molecules? A Case Study with Ghrelin Receptor Ligands", *Molecular Diversity*, 27(5), 2239-2255. (SCI Journal, [IF: 3.364](#))
4. **Yan, P.**, & Choudhury, S. (2021), "Deep Q-Learning Enabled Joint Optimization of Mobile Edge Computing Multi-Level Task Offloading", *Elsevier Computer Communications*, 180, 271-283. (SCI Journal, [IF: 3.923](#))
5. **Yan, P.**^F, Paul, A.^F, Yang, Y., Zhang, H., Du, S. & Wu, J. (2021), "Non-Iterative Online Sequential Learning Strategy for Autoencoder and Classifier", *Springer Neural Computing and Applications (NCAA)*, 33(23), 16345-16361. (SCI Journal, [IF: 6.106](#))
6. Tassone, J., **Yan, P.**, Simpson, M., Mendhe, C., Mago, V., & Choudhury, S. (2020), "Utilizing Deep Learning and Graph Mining to Identify Drug Use on Twitter Data". *BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making*, 20(11), 304. (SCI Journal, [IF: 3.546](#))
7. **Yan, P.**, Al-Turjman, F., Al-Oqily, I., & Choudhury, S. (2020), "An Energy-Efficient Topology Control Algorithm for Optimizing the Lifetime of Wireless Ad-hoc IoT Networks in 5G and B5G". *Elsevier Computer Communications*, 159, 83-96. (SCI Journal, [IF: 3.923](#))
8. **Yan, P.**, Choudhury, S., & Wei, R. (2020), "A Machine Learning Auxiliary Approach for the Distributed Dense RFID Readers Arrangement Algorithm". *Intelligent and Cognitive Techniques for Internet of Things, IEEE Access Journal*, 8, 42270-42284. (SCI Journal, [IF: 5.456](#))
9. **Yan, P.**, & Feng, Y. (2018), "Using Convolution and Deep Learning in Gomoku Game Artificial Intelligence". *Modern Physics Letters A*, 28(03), 1850011. (SCI Journal, [IF: 1.367](#))

Conference

10. **Yan, P.**, Ward, R., Tang, Q., & Du, S., "ArchitectHead: Continuous Level of Detail Control for 3D Gaussian Head Avatars". *IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)*. 2026. (Accepted Paper)
11. **Yan, P.***, Ward, R., Tang, Q., & Du, S., "Estimating Virtual Camera FOV to Reduce Perspective Shape Distortion in 2D-to-3D Face Reconstruction". In Proceedings of the *International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP)*. 2025.
12. **Yan, P.***, Ward, R., Tang, Q., & Du, S., "Gaussian Deja-vu: Creating Controllable 3D Gaussian Head Avatars with Enhanced Generalization and Personalization Abilities". In Proceedings of the *IEEE/CVF Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)*. 2025. (**Oral; Accepted in Round 1; Acceptance rate 12%**)
13. Qiu, Z., **Yan, P.**, & Cai, Z., "Large Language Models for Second Language English Writing Assessments: An Exploratory Comparison". In Proceeding of the *38th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation (PACLIC 38)*. 2024.
14. **Yan, P.***, Ward, R., Wang, D., Tang, Q., & Du, S., "Learning Disentangled Features for NeRF-based Face Reconstruction". In Proceedings of the *International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP)*. 2023.
15. **Yan, P.***, Gregson, J., Tang, Q., Ward, R., Xu, Z., & Du, S. "NEO-3DF: Novel Editing-Oriented 3D Face Creation and Reconstruction". In Proceedings of the *Asian Conference on Computer Vision (ACCV)*. 2022.
16. Mehajabin, N., **Yan, P.**, Kaur, S., Song, J., Pourazad, M. T., Wang, Y., ... & Nasiopoulos, P. An Efficient Refocusing Scheme for Camera-Array Captured Light Field Video for Improved Visual Immersiveness. In Proceedings of the 55th *Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences*. 2022
17. **Yan, P.***, & Choudhury, S., "Optimizing Mobile Edge Computing Multi-Level Task Offloading via Deep Reinforcement Learning". In Proceedings of the *IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC)*. IEEE. 2020.
18. Emu, M., **Yan, P.**, Choudhury, S., "Latency Aware VNF Deployment at Edge Devices for IoT Services: An Artificial Neural Network Based Approach". In Proceedings of the *IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC) on Convergent IoT*. IEEE. 2020
19. **Yan, P.***, Choudhury, S., & Wei, R. "A Distributed Graph-Based Dense RFID Readers Arrangement Algorithm". In Proceedings of the *IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC)* (pp. 1-6). IEEE. May, 2019.
20. **Yan, P.***, & Feng, Y. "A Hybrid Gomoku Deep Learning Artificial Intelligence". In Proceedings of the *2018 Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Computing Conference* (pp. 48-52). ACM. December, 2018.

Submitted

21. Yu, X., **Yan, P.^c**, Liu, S. & Wu, C. “MMFashion+: Multimodal Federated Learning for Personalized Clothing Recommendation”. Submitted to *IEEE Transactions on Consumer Electronics*.

* presenter.

^F co-first authorship.

^c correspondence author.

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

Canada

- (2020) The Governor-General’s Gold Medal Award (Canada’s highest award in graduate level)
- (2018) Vector Scholarship in Artificial Intelligence (VSAI) by Vector Institute, CA\$17,500

University of British Columbia

- (2023) ICICS Travel Award
- (2021, 2022, 2023) Graduate Support Initiative (GSI) Award

Other

- (2025) IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS) Travel Grant

PROJECTS

Research-Oriented

- (2024-2025) 3D Head Reconstruction and Tracking <https://github.com/PeizhiYan/flame-head-tracker>
☆ GitHub 134 Stars
Developed a 3D head tracking pipeline capable of performing 3D head reconstruction from a single image or tracking the 3D head from a monocular video. The results can be used in 3D head avatar training, video aftereffects, etc.
- (2024) Gaussian Deja-vu: 3DGS-based 3D Head Creation <https://peizhiyan.github.io/docs/dejavu>
☆ GitHub 60+ Stars
Developed a 3D Gaussian-based method for creating animatable head avatars using monocular video as training data. This work was accepted at WACV 2025 in the first round.
- (2024) Mesh-based Neural 3D Face Style Transfer <https://peizhiyan.github.io/docs/style>
- (2023) StyleMorpheus: NeRF-based 3D Face <https://github.com/ubc-3d-vision-lab/StyleMorpheus>
- (2022) NEO-3DF: 3D Face Creation and Editing <https://peizhiyan.github.io/docs/neo3df>
- (2019) Deep Learning 4X Video Super-Resolution <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8Tx>

Other Open-Source Projects

- (2025) Gmesh: Differentiable Hybrid 3D Rendering Pipeline <https://github.com/PeizhiYan/gmesh>
Developed a pipeline for differentiable hybrid rendering of scenes that contains both 3D Gaussians and 3D meshes. It supports end-to-end learning and seamless integration with Pytorch pipelines.
- (2021) ZenFlow: Open-Source Machine Learning Demo <https://github.com/PeizhiYan/zenflow>
- (2021) Light-Field Refocusing Algorithm Demo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRxXQcuVQSs&t=9s>
- (2019) Open-Source Whiteboard Web App. <https://peizhiyan.github.io/www/draw.html>
- (2018) Convolution-Based Gomoku Game AI https://peizhiyan.github.io/js_codes/gomoku

SUPERVISED AND MENTORED STUDENTS

- **Haoyu Wang** (supervised Ph.D. student at UBC Okanagan, research assistant, Sept – Dec. 2024)
Projects: 3D face and head tracking; 2D image ear landmark detection.
- **Xiangrui Liu** (supervised master's student at UBC Okanagan, research assistant, May – Aug. 2023)
Project: 3D and 3D-aware face modeling.
- **Md Nafis Abedin** (supervised undergrad student at University of Waterloo, co-op 2020 summer intern)
Project: Developing an interactive web user interface for the satellite image lichen mapping project.
- **Keizo Kato** (mentored student at UBC Okanagan, 2023) on his undergraduate thesis.
- **Marshall Wenqi Guo** (mentored student at UBC Okanagan, 2023) on his undergraduate thesis.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming Languages:** Python, Java, C++, C, JavaScript
- **Open-Source Libraries:** PyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Open3D, OpenCV, Gurobi, Paper.js, React
- **Computer Networking:** VPN, SSH, SAMBA, FTP, Router Settings (DHCP, NAT)
- **Others:** LaTeX, Linux, SLURM (HPC), Photoshop, Blender

OTHER OPEN-SOURCE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Simple-KNN (used by 3DGS): Solved a CUDA device-related issue (PR accepted).
<https://github.com/camenduru/simple-knn>

Updated on Feb. 02, 2026