

# Yu Wang

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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Twitter: <https://twitter.com/YuWVandy>  
Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=XPCmiz4AAAAJ>

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## BIO

Yu Wang is an incoming Assistant Professor in the School of Computer and Data Sciences at the University of Oregon. He is a final-year Ph.D. candidate in the Computer Science Department at Vanderbilt University under the supervision of Dr. Tyler Derr and a member of Network and Data Science (NDS) Lab. He completed his B.E. degree at Harbin Institute of Technology in 2019.

Yu will direct the *Data Mining and Network Science (DNS) lab*, which conducts research in the areas of data mining and machine learning, with emphasis on network analysis, machine learning on graphs, and responsible AI for social good with applications in cyber-security, biochemistry, and education. He received numerous honors and awards including the sole recipient of Vanderbilt's Graduate Leadership Anchor Award for Research in 2023, the 2023-2024 Recipient of the Vanderbilt Outstanding Doctoral Student Award, the Best Paper Award in 2020 Smokey Mountain Data Challenge Competition by ORNL, first-author of Vanderbilt's C.F.Chen Best Paper Award in 2022, first-author of the Best Paper Award at GLFrontiers Workshop at Neurips'23, Best Doctoral Forum Poster Runner-ups at SDM'24, along with two of his works being selected among the top-10 Most Influential CIKM'22 and WWW'23 Papers by Paper Digest. He actively contributed to top conferences/journals in the field of data mining and machine learning, both in terms of publishing such as ICLR, AAAI, KDD, WWW, CIKM, WSDM, TKDD, TIST and serving as a PC member/reviewer/organizer such as KDD, ICML, AAAI (ICWSM), WWW, WSDM, CIKM, TKDD, and TNNLS. He has contributed to the organization of workshops in WSDM'22/24 and the tutorial in SDM'24. For more details, please visit his website at <https://yuwvandy.github.io/>

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## POSITIONS

<b>Tenure Track Assistant Professor</b> , University of Oregon Department of Computer Science	Sep 2024- Present
<b>Research Assistant, Ph.D.</b> , Vanderbilt University Department of Computer Science	Aug 2019 – Aug 2024

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## EDUCATION

### Vanderbilt University

Master and Doctor of Philosophy ( <b>Ph.D.</b> ) in Computer Science • <b>Master Degree Awarded in May 2024</b> • Dissertation: Data-quality-aware Graph Machine Learning • Advisor: Dr. Tyler Derr • Research areas: Data-centric Graph Machine Learning, Data-Quality-aware Graph Neural Networks, Machine Learning for Social Goods including Chemistry/Infrastructure/Information Retrieval • Cumulative GPA: 3.95 / 4.00	Aug 2020-Present
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Doctor of Philosophy ( <b>Ph.D.</b> ) in System Engineering • Advisor: Dr. Hiba Baroud • Research areas: Statistical Network Models, Graph Machine Learning, Resilience and Reliability of Infrastructure Networks including Power/Water/Gas/Transportation/Social Networks. • Cumulative GPA: 3.92 / 4.00	Aug 2019-Aug 2020
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### Harbin Institute of Technology

Bachelor of Engineering ( <b>B.E.</b> ) • Thesis: Machine Learning for Bridge Crack Detection • Advisor: Dr. Qingfei Gao • Cumulative GPA: 4.0 / 4.0, Rank: 1/92 • First-class People's Scholarship×4, National Scholarship×2	Aug 2015-May 2019
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<b>RESEARCH EXPERIENCE</b>	<p><b>Network and Data Science Lab</b>, Vanderbilt University <span style="float: right;">Dec 2020 – Aug 2024</span>          Ph.D. Program, Research/Teaching Assistant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Interests: Data mining, Machine Learning, Network Analysis, Graph Neural Networks (GNNs)              Data-centric graph ML, Data-quality-aware GNNs: Topology/Imbalance/Bias/Weak Graph-ML for Chemistry/Infrastructure/Recommender Systems/Information Retrieval</li> <li>• Publications: ICLR, NeurIPS, KDD×3, WWW×2, AAAI×4, WSDM, CIKM×2, ICDMW, LOG, Book-Chapter</li> <li>• Mentor/Advisor: Dr. Tyler Derr</li> </ul> <p><b>Document Intelligence Team</b>, Adobe Research <span style="float: right;">May 2023 – Dec 2023</span>          Research Scientist/Engineer Intern</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project-1: Knowledge Graph Prompting for Multi-Document Question Answering [<a href="#">paper</a>][<a href="#">demo</a>][<a href="#">news</a>]</li> <li>• Project-2: Fairness in GNNs [<a href="#">paper</a>]</li> <li>• Project-3: Graph Verbalization via Topological-aware Positional Encoding [<a href="#">ongoing</a>]</li> <li>• Project-4: Collecting Personalized-interaction Data with PDF-Document</li> <li>• Mentors: Dr. Nedim Lipka, Dr. Ryan Rossi, Dr. Alexa Siu, Dr. Ruiyi Zhang, Manager: Dr. Tong Sun</li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendation Data Science Team</b>, The Home Depot <span style="float: right;">May 2022 – Aug 2022</span>          Research Data Scientist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project-1: Knowledge Graph-enhanced Session Recommendation [<a href="#">paper</a>]</li> <li>• Project-2: Prototyping the Knowledge Graph-enhanced Session Recommendation Framework in A/B test.</li> <li>• Mentors: Dr. Amin Javari, Dr. Walid Shalaby, Manager: Dr. Xiquan Cui</li> </ul> <p><b>Hiba Baroud Research Group</b>, Vanderbilt University <span style="float: right;">Aug 2019 – Dec 2020</span>          Ph.D. Program, Research/Teaching Assistant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research Interests: Graph Theory, Machine Learning, Statistical Network Models              Resilience and Risk Analysis of Infrastructure Networks</li> <li>• Publications: IEEE System Journal/ESREL/SMC2020 Data Competition [<a href="#">news</a>]</li> <li>• Mentors: Dr. Hiba Baroud, Dr. Jinzhu Yu</li> </ul> <p><b>Taciroglu Research Group</b>, UCLA-CSST <span style="float: right;">Jul 2019 – Sep 2019</span>          Undergraduate Summer Researcher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project: Designing a modeling analysis tool for automatic bridge generation [<a href="#">poster</a>]</li> <li>• Mentors: Dr. Ertugrul Taciroglu, Dr. Barbaros Cetiner</li> </ul> <p><b>Qingfei Gao Research Group</b>, Harbin Institute of Technology <span style="float: right;">Oct 2018 – Jul 2019</span>          Undergraduate Summer Researcher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project: Improving the existing percolation-based algorithm for bridge crack detection [<a href="#">paper</a>]</li> <li>• Mentors: Dr. Qingfei Gao</li> </ul>
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<b>HONORS &amp; AWARDS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best Doctoral Forum Poster Runner-Up <span style="float: right;">Apr 2024</span></li> <li>• Vanderbilt Outstanding Doctoral Student Award <span style="float: right;">Feb 2024</span></li> <li>• Best Paper Award at GLFrontiers Workshop in Neurips'23 <span style="float: right;">Dec 2023</span></li> <li>• Vanderbilt Graduate Leadership Anchor Award for Research <span style="float: right;">May 2023</span></li> <li>• Vanderbilt's C.F.Chen Best Paper Runner-up Award (as co-author) <span style="float: right;">May 2023</span></li> <li>• American Bureau of Shipping Scholarship Award <span style="float: right;">Jan 2023</span></li> <li>• NSF Student Travel Award (To attend ICDM'22) <span style="float: right;">Nov 2022</span></li> <li>• SIGIR Student Travel Grant (To attend CIKM'22) <span style="float: right;">Nov 2022</span></li> <li>• NSF Student Registration&amp;Travel Award (To attend KDD'22) <span style="float: right;">Jun 2022</span></li> <li>• Vanderbilt's C.F.Chen Best Paper Award <span style="float: right;">Apr 2022</span></li> <li>• IJCAI'21 Volunteers &amp; Grants Program <span style="float: right;">Aug 2021</span></li> <li>• NSF Student Travel Award (To attend SDM'21) <span style="float: right;">Mar 2021</span></li> <li>• IJCAI'20 Volunteers &amp; Grants Program <span style="float: right;">Jan 2020</span></li> <li>• Vanderbilt University Graduate School Travel Grant <span style="float: right;">Oct 2020</span> <span style="float: right;">Nov 2022</span></li> <li>• Best Paper Award in 2020 Smoky Mountain Data Challenge Competition by ORNL <span style="float: right;">Sep 2020</span></li> <li>• Outstanding Research and Presentation Skills Award by UCLA-CSST Program <span style="float: right;">Aug 2018</span></li> <li>• First-class People's Scholarship×4 <span style="float: right;">Sep 2016</span> <span style="float: right;">Apr 2017</span> <span style="float: right;">Sep 2017</span> <span style="float: right;">Apr 2018</span></li> <li>• National Scholarship×2 <span style="float: right;">Sep 2016</span> <span style="float: right;">Sep 2017</span></li> <li>• Second Prize in the National College Student Mathematics Competition <span style="float: right;">Sep 2017</span></li> </ul>
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**PUBLICATIONS** Please note the following symbols below to signify certain author types in the below lists:

- \* denotes co-first authors
- † denotes *graduate student mentored* by Yu Wang
- †† denotes *undergraduate researcher/intern mentored* by Yu Wang

**Conference Papers** (acceptance based on peer review of full paper):

- [C17] Yu Wang, Nedim Lipka, Ruiyi Zhang, Alexa Siu, Yuying Zhao, Bo Ni, Xin Wang, Ryan Rossi, Tyler Derr. “Augmenting Textual Generation via Topology Aware Retrieval” Proceedings of the 33th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management, 2024  
Acceptance rate 23.00%
- [C16] **Yu Wang**, Jin-Zhu Yu, Hiba Baroud. “A Bayesian Approach to Reconstructing Interdependent Infrastructure Networks from Cascading Failures.” 14th International Conference on Applications of Statistics and Probability in Civil Engineering, 2023.  
[\[Paper\]](#)
- [C15] **Yu Wang**, Amin Javari, Janani Balaji, Walid Shalaby, Tyler Derr, Xiquan Cui “Knowledge Graph-Based Sequential Recommendation with Session-Adaptive Propagation.” In Proceedings of the ACM Web Conference (TheWebConf - Industry Track), 2024.  
Acceptance Rate 21.30%,
- [C14] Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Minghua Xu, Huiyuan Chen, Yuzhong Chen, Yiwei Cai, Rashidul Islam, **Yu Wang**, Tyler Derr. “Can One Embedding Fit All? A Multi-interest Learning Paradigm Towards Improving User Interest Diversity Fairness.” In Proceedings of the ACM Web Conference (TheWebConf - Research Track), 2024.  
Acceptance Rate 20.20%,
- [C13] **Yu Wang**, Tong Zhao, Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Yunchao Liu<sup>†</sup>, Xueqi Cheng<sup>†</sup>, Neil Shah, Tyler Derr. “A Topological Perspective on Demystifying GNN-based Link Prediction Performance.” 2024. International Conference on Learning Representation (ICLR’24)  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)
- [C12] **Yu Wang**, Nedim Lipka, Ryan Rossi, Alexa Siu, Ruiyi Zhang, Tyler Derr “Knowledge Graph Prompting for Multi-Document Question Answering.” The 38th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), Vancouver, Canada, 2024  
Acceptance Rate 23.75%, **Best Paper Award at GLFrontiers Workshop in Neurips’23**  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C11] Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, **Yu Wang**, Yi Zhang, Pamela Wisniewski, Charu Aggarwal, and Tyler Derr. “Fair online dating recommendations for sexually fluid users via leveraging opposite gender interaction ratio.” The 38th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), Vancouver, Canada, 2024  
Acceptance Rate 24.20%  
[\[Paper\]](#)
- [C10] **Yu Wang**, Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Yi Zhang<sup>†</sup>, and Tyler Derr. “Collaboration-aware Graph Convolutional Networks for Recommender Systems.” In Proceedings of the ACM Web Conference (TheWebConf), Austin, TX, USA, April 30 - May 4, 2023.  
Acceptance Rate 19.2%, **Top-10 most influential paper in WWW’23**  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)
- [C9] Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, **Yu Wang** and Tyler Derr. “Fairness and Explainability: Bridging the Gap Towards Fair Model Explanations.” The 37th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), Washington, DC, USA, 2023.  
Acceptance Rate 19.6%  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)

- [C8] Yunchao Liu<sup>†</sup>, **Yu Wang**, Oanh Vu, Rocco Moretti, Bobby Bodenheimer, Jens Meiler and Tyler Derr. “Interpretable Chirality-Aware Graph Neural Network for Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship Modeling in Drug Discovery.” The 37th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), Washington, DC, USA, February 7-14, 2023.  
Acceptance Rate 19.6%  
[\[Paper\]](#) [\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C7] **Yu Wang**, Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Neil Shah, and Tyler Derr. “Imbalanced Graph Classification via GNNs on Graph of Graphs.” In Proceedings of the 31th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management, Atlanta, GA, 2022.  
Acceptance rate 27.51%, **Top-10 most influential paper in CIKM’22**  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C6] **Yu Wang**, Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Yushun Dong, Huiyuan Chen, Jundong Li and Tyler Derr. “Improving Fairness in GNNs via Mitigating Sensitive Attribute Leakage.” Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining (KDD), Washington D.C., USA, 2022.  
Acceptance rate 14.9% (Research Track)  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C5] Yushun Dong, Song Wang, **Yu Wang**, Tyler Derr, and Jundong Li. “On Structural Explanation of Bias in Graph Neural Networks .” Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining (KDD), Washington D.C., USA, 2022.  
Acceptance rate 14.9% (Research Track)  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)
- [C4] Benedek Rozemberczki, Charles Tapley Hoyt, Anna Gogleva, Piotr Grabowski, Klas Karis, Andrej Lamov, Andriy Nikolov, Sebastian Nilsson, Michael Ughetto, **Yu Wang**, Tyler Derr, Benjamin M Gyori. “ChemicalX: A Deep Learning Library for Drug Pair Scoring.” Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD), Washington D.C., USA, 2022.  
Acceptance rate 25.9% (Applied Track)  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C3] **Yu Wang**. “Fair Graph Learning with Imbalanced and Biased Data.” Proceedings of the Fifteenth ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM), 2022.  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)
- [C2] **Yu Wang** and Tyler Derr. “Tree Decomposed Graph Neural Network.” In Proceedings of the 30th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM), Virtual Conference, November 1-5, 2021.  
Acceptance rate 21.7%  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Slides\]](#)[\[Poster\]](#)
- [C1] Ao Qu<sup>††</sup>, **Yu Wang**, Yue Hu, Yanbing Wang, and Hiba Baroud. “A Data-Integration Analysis on Road Emissions and Traffic Patterns.” Smoky Mountains Computational Sciences and Engineering Conference. Springer, 2020.  
**Best Paper Award**  
[\[Paper\]](#)

### Book Chapters

- [B1] **Yu Wang**, Wei Jin, and Tyler Derr. “Graph Neural Networks: Self-supervised Learning.” In Graph Neural Networks: Foundations, Frontiers, and Applications. Springer, (2021).  
[\[Paper\]](#)

### Journal Papers

- [J5] Yi Zhang<sup>†</sup>, Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Zhaoqing Li, Xueqi Cheng<sup>†</sup>, **Yu Wang**, Olivera Kotevska, Philip S. Yu, Tyler Derr. “A Survey on Privacy in Graph Neural Networks: Attacks, Preservation, and Applications” 2023.  
TKDE journal  
[\[Paper\]](#)

- [J4] April Chen, Ryan A. Rossi, Namyong Park, Puja Trivedi, **Yu Wang**, Tong Yu, Sungchul Kim, Franck Deroncourt, Nesreen K. Ahmed “Fairness-Aware Graph Neural Networks: A Survey”. TKDD journal, 2023  
[\[Paper\]](#)
- [J3] Yuying Zhao<sup>†</sup>, **Yu Wang**, Yunchao Liu<sup>†</sup>, Xueqi Cheng<sup>†</sup>, Charu Aggarwal, Tyler Derr “Fairness and Diversity in Recommender Systems: A Survey”  
TIST journal, 2023  
[\[Paper\]](#)
- [J2] **Yu Wang**, Jin-Zhu Yu, and Hiba Baroud. “Generating Synthetic Systems of Interdependent Critical Infrastructure Networks.” IEEE System Journals (2021) Generating Synthetic Systems of Interdependent Critical Infrastructure Networks.  
[\[Paper\]](#)
- [J1] Qingfei Gao, **Yu Wang**, Jun Li, Kejian Sheng, and Chenguang Liu. “An Enhanced Percolation Method for Automatic Detection of Cracks in Bridges.” Advances in Civil Engineering, 2020.  
[\[Paper\]](#)

### Preprints and Submissions

- [P3] **Yu Wang**, Ryan A. Rossi, Namyong Park, Huiyuan Chen, Nesreen K. Ahmed, Puja Trivedi, Franck Deroncourt, Danai Koutra, Tyler Derr. “Large Graph Generative Models” 2024.  
Preprint  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)[\[Demo\]](#)
- [P2] Yunchao Liu<sup>†</sup>, Rocco Moretti, **Yu Wang**, Bobby Bodenheimer, Tyler Derr, Jens Meiler, Integrating Expert Knowledge with Deep Learning Improves QSAR Models for CADD Modeling.  
Submission in JCBC journal
- [P1] **Yu Wang**, Charu Aggarwal, Tyler Derr. “Distance-wise Prototypical Graph Neural Network in Node Imbalance Classification.” 2022.  
Preprint  
[\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)

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### SYMPOSIUMS / Workshops WORKSHOPS

- [W7] **Yu Wang**. “Data-quality Aware Graph Machine Learning.” International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) Doctoral Forum, SIAM, Poster, 2024. **Best Poster Award Runner-ups**
  - [W6] **Yu Wang**, Nedim Lipka, Ryan Rossi, Alexa Siu, Ruiyi Zhang, Tyler Derr. “Knowledge Graph Prompting for Multi-Document Question Answering” GLFrontiers Workshop at NeurIPS 2023, New Orleans, LA, USA, 2023. [\[Paper\]](#)
  - [W5] Yuying Zhao, **Yu Wang**, Yi Zhang, Pamela Wisniewski, Charu Aggarwal, and Tyler Derr. “Fair Online Dating Recommendations for Sexually Fluid Users via Leveraging Opposite Gender Interaction Ratio.” 19th International Workshop on Mining and Learning with Graphs, Long Beach, CA, USA, 2023. [\[Paper\]](#)
  - [W4] **Yu Wang** and Tyler Derr. “Degree-Related Bias in Link Prediction.” IEEE International Conference on Data Mining Workshops, Orlando, FL, USA, November 28, 2022. [\[Paper\]](#)
  - [W3] **Yu Wang**. “Overcoming Data Quality Issues of Graph Neural Networks.” International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) Doctoral Forum, SIAM, Poster, 2022.
  - [W2] **Yu Wang**, Charu Aggarwal, and Tyler Derr. “Distance-wise Prototypical Graph Neural Network in Node Imbalance Classification.” 17th International Workshop on Mining and Learning with Graphs. [\[Paper\]](#)[\[Code\]](#)
  - [W1] **Yu Wang** and Tyler Derr. “Tackling Over-smoothing in Graph Neural Networks via Higher-order Neighborhood Disentanglement.” International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) Doctoral Forum, SIAM, Poster, 2021.
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**TUTORIALS** Data Quality-Aware Graph Machine Learning [[Tutorial](#)] 2023

- **Yu Wang**, Yijun Tian, Tong Zhao, Xiaorui Liu, Jian Kang, and Tyler Derr.
- SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM24)
- Comprehensively review Graph data-quality issues, including topological/imbalanced/biased/noisy/weak data issues.

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**OPEN SOURCE PROJECTS** ChemicalX: A Deep Learning Library for Drug Pair Scoring [[GitHub](#)] 2022

- Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)
- A deep learning library for drug-drug interaction, polypharmacy side effects, and synergy prediction.
- **Received 650+ GitHub stars.**

Knowledge Graph Prompting for Multi-Document Question Answering [[GitHub](#)] 2022

- The 38th Annual AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)
- A knowledge graph prompting method for assisting LLMs in automatically answering questions over documents.
- **Received around 200 GitHub stars.**

In total, my research projects contributed 7 GitHub repositories and **received 900+ GitHub stars**

**TALKS****Academic Talks:**

- [AT6] Relational-aware Retrieval Augmentation for Text Generation (Remote) May 2024  
Large Language Models for Graph Learning Workshop  
The World Wide Web Conference, Sentosa, Singapore
- [AT5] Data-quality-aware Graph Machine Learning Apr 2024  
Data Science for Smart Manufacturing and Healthcare Workshop  
SIAM International Conference on Data Mining, Houston, TX
- [AT4] Data-quality-aware Graph Machine Learning Feb 2024  
School of Information  
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- [AT3] Data-quality-aware Graph Machine Learning Feb 2024  
Department of Computer Science, Data Science Center  
University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
- [AT2] Data-quality-aware Graph Machine Learning Jan 2024  
Department of Computer Science and Data Science  
University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon
- [AT1] Relational-aware Retrieval Augmentation for Text Generation (Remote) Jan 2024  
Learning of Graphs at MidNorth, Notre Dame, Indiana

**Industry Presentations:**

- [IT2] Knowledge Graph Prompt Learning for Multi-Document QA Aug 2023  
Document Intelligence Team, Adobe Research  
Adobe Inc., SanJose, CA
- [IT1] Knowledge Graph-based Session Recommendation Aug 2022  
Online Recommendation Data Science Team  
The Home Depot, Atlanta, GA

**Guest Lectures:**

- [GT3] Graph Partitioning with Spectral Methods Mar 2024  
Social Network Analysis, Computer Science Department  
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- [GT2] Scalability of Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) Nov 2023  
Social Network Analysis, Computer Science Department  
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN
- [GT1] Measuring Node Centrality in Social Network Analysis Oct 2021  
Social Network Analysis, Computer Science Department  
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

**Conference/Workshop Presentations:**

[CT11]	Collaboration-aware Graph Convolutional Networks for Recommender Systems.	May 2023
	WWW 2023, Austin, Texas	
[CT10]	Degree-Related Bias in Link Prediction.	Nov 2022
	ICDMW 2022, Orlando, FL	
[CT9]	Degree-Related Bias in Link Prediction.	Nov 2022
	ICDMW 2022, Orlando, FL	
[CT8]	Imbalanced Graph Classification via Graph Neural Networks on Graph of Graphs	Nov 2022
	CIKM 2022, Atlanta, GA	
[CT7]	Improving Fairness in GNNs via Mitigating Sensitive Attribute Leakage	Aug 2022
	KDD 2022, Washington D.C.	
[CT6]	ChemicalX: A Deep Learning Library for Drug Pair Scoring	Aug 2022
	KDD 2022, Washington D.C.	
[CT5]	Distance-wise Prototypical Graph Neural Network in Node Imbalance Classification	Aug 2022
	KDD 2022, Washington D.C.	
[CT4]	Overcoming data quality issues of Graph Neural Networks	Apr 2022
	SDM Doctoral Forum 2022, Virtual	
[CT3]	Fair Graph Representation Learning with Imbalanced and Biased Data.	Feb 2022
	WSDM Doctoral Consortium 2022, Virtual	
[CT2]	Tree Decomposed Graph Neural Network.	Nov 2021
	CIKM 2021, Virtual	
	<b>Selected among the top 3/11 papers in the GNN track to give two live virtual presentations</b>	
[CT1]	Tackling Over-smoothing in GNNs via Higher-order Neighbor Disentanglement	Apr 2021
	SDM Doctoral Forum 2021, Virtual	

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**PROPOSAL  
WRITING**
**Data Quality-Aware Graph Machine Learning**

PI: Dr. Tyler Derr

- **Role:** Currently designing/writing one of three research objectives on topological issues. This one specific objective is based on my dissertation topic “Data Quality-Aware Graph Machine Learning”.
- **Result:** Still in preparation to submit to the National Science Foundation in 2024.

**Towards Mitigating the Cold-Start Problem in Recommender Systems**

PI: Dr. Tyler Derr

- **Role:** Designed/wrote one of the two research objectives “Cold-Start Mitigation via Node Topological Concentration Augmentation.” The whole proposal was based on my research [\[paper\]](#)
- **Result:** Submitted to Snap Inc. and **funded** in 2023.

**CAREER: Harnessing the Positive Power of Negative Links for Network Analytics**

PI: Dr. Tyler Derr

- **Role:** Designed/wrote one of the four research objectives “Network Representation Learning with Negative Links.”
- **Result:** Submitted to National Science Foundation and **funded** in 2023.

**Fairness-aware Graph Machine Learning for Recommender Systems**

PI: Yu Wang

- **Role:** Designed/wrote the research objective “Fairness-aware Graph Machine Learning for Recommender Systems.”
- **Result:** Submitted to Nvidia Academic Hardware Grant Program and was declined in 2022.

**New Frontiers of Deep Learning on Graphs for Social Good**

PI: Dr. Tyler Derr

- **Role:** Designed and drafted the whole proposal on topics of imbalanced classification and learning with limited labeled data on graphs for applications in neuroimaging and computational drug discovery. Most of the proposal content was based on my research. [\[paper1\]](#)[\[paper2\]](#)
  - **Result:** Submitted to Microsoft Research Faculty Fellowship and was declined in 2021.
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**MENTORING  
IN NDS LAB****Network and Data Science Lab, Vanderbilt University****Ph.D. Students**

- Bo Ni, Ph.D. Computer Science Fall 2023 – Present
  - Research topic: Deep learning on graphs, knowledge graphs, deep generative models
- Xueqi Cheng, Ph.D. Computer Science Fall 2023 – Present
  - Research topic: Deep Learning on Complex Graphs, out of distribution and imbalanced learning on graphs
  - Awarded Vanderbilt IBM Fellowship Award
  - Project: Imbalanced Edge Classification by Topological Reweighting
- Yuying Zhao, Ph.D. Computer Science Fall 2021 – Present
  - Research topic: Data science for social good, beyond utility metrics,
  - Awarded Vanderbilt IBM Fellowship Award
  - Awarded Vanderbilt's C.F. Chen Best Paper Runner-Up Award in Computer Science in 2023
  - Co-authored Publications: AAAI'23, Mlog at KDD'23
- Yunchao (Lance) Liu, Ph.D. Computer Science Spring 2021 – Present
  - Research topic: Computer-aided drug discovery, geometric deep learning, self-supervised learning, molecular representation learning
  - Co-authored Publications: AAAI'23

**M.S. Students**

- Xin Wang, M.S. Computer Science, Jan 2024 – Present
  - Research topic: Topological Graph Generative Models
  - Awarded Vanderbilt's Engineering Graduate Fellowship Award
- Benjamin Van Sleen, B.S. Computer Engineering, B.S. Economics, Dec 2020 – May 2023  
and accelerated M.S. Computer Science
  - 2021 Data Science Institute Summer Research Program (DSI-SRP) Fellow
  - Project: "Voices of Identity: Analyzing Language Use in Autism Communities on Reddit"
  - Next Position: Business Analyst at McKinsey & Company

**B.S. Students**

- Macharia Kanyatte, B.S. Electrical and Computer Engineering Nov 2022 – Present
  - Tennessee Louis Stokes Alliance Program
  - Project: Preprocessing signed network datasets and basic network analysis toolkit
  - Georgia Tech REU program during Summer'23
- Ao Qu, B.S. Computer Science, B.S. Economics, B.S. Mathematics Aug 2020 – Jun 2022
  - Project: "Adaptive views in contrastive learning for GNNs"
  - **Co-authored Publication won the best paper award in fourth annual Smoky Mountain Computational Sciences and Engineering Conference**
  - Next Position: Ph.D. student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**High School Students**

- Xinran Pan Jun 2021 – May 2022
  - Mentor the Project on Social Good and Simpson's Paradox
  - Next position: Undergraduate Student at Carnegie Mellon University

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE****Vanderbilt University**

- Teaching Assistant, Department of Computer Science Jan 2021 – Present
  - CS4260: Artificial Intelligence (Undergraduate/Graduate Level, Spring 2023)
  - DS5720: Social Network Analysis (Graduate Level, Fall 2022)
  - CS3891/5891-03: Social Network Analysis (Undergraduate/Graduate Level, Fall 2021)
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Aug 2019 – Jan 2021
  - CE3300: Risk, Reliability and Resilience Engineering (Undergraduate Level, Spring 20)
  - CE2101-01: Civil Engineering Information Systems (Undergraduate Level, Fall 19)



**EXTERNAL SERVICES****Workshop Organizer**

- Workshop Co-organizer and Web Chair, Machine Learning on Graphs (MLOG) 2024  
- Collocated at ACM WSDM'24
- Workshop Co-organizer and Web Chair, Machine Learning on Graphs (MLOG) 2022  
- Collocated at ACM WSDM'22

**Conference Organizer Chairships**

- Student Travel Awards Co-chair, CIKM'24 2024  
- ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management

**Program Committee Member**

- The 16th Asian Conference on Machine Learning (ACML) 2025
- ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2025
- ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) 2025
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2025
- European Conference on Machine Learning and Data Mining (ECML PKDD) 2024
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2024
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2024
- SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) 2024
- ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) 2024
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2023
- ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) 2023
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2022
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2022

**Conference (Sub-)Reviewer**

- Learning on Graphs Conference (LOG) 2024
- Neural Information Processing Systems 2024
- International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (AAAI ICWSM) 2024
- Learning on Graphs Conference (LOG) 2023
- Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2023
- ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM) 2023
- International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2023
- International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM) 2023
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2022
- Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2022
- Learning on Graphs Conference (LOG) 2022
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2021
- Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM) 2021
- Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM) 2021
- SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) 2021
- International ACM Conference on Web Science (WebSci) 2021
- The Web Conference (WWW) 2021

**Journal Reviewer**

- IEEE Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems 2024 – Present
- IEEE Transactions on Artificial Intelligence 2024 – Present
- ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST) 2023 – Present
- IEEE Transactions on Big Data (TBD) 2023 – Present
- ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data (TKDD) 2023 – Present
- Neural Networks 2023 – Present
- IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE) 2022 – Present
- Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery (DAMI) 2022 – Present
- Journal of Combinatorial Optimization (JOCO) 2022 – Present

**VOLUNTEERING Conference Volunteering**

- Session chair at SDM 2024  
“Social Networks/Graphs” 2024
  - Session chair at ICDM 2022  
“Graph Mining and Embedding” 2022
  - Volunteer at ICDM 2022 2022
  - Volunteer at CIKM 2022 2022
  - Volunteer at KDD 2022 2022
  - Session chair at KDD 2021  
“Recommender System” 2021
  - Volunteer at IJCAI 2021 2021
  - Volunteer at IJCAI 2020 2020
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[CV compiled on 2024-08-18]