Shaoyi Huang (she / her / hers)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research agenda is anchored in advancing **AI systems**, specifically focused on the development of energy-efficient, sustainable and privacy preserving AI systems. I am actively engaged in **sparsity & parallelism exploitation sparse training**, **emerging deep learning models inference acceleration**, **efficient privacy preserving machine learning**, and **machine learning in EDA**. My research goal is to bridge the research gap between algorithms and practical applications, especially the deployments on edge devices such as GPUs, FPGAs, ReRAM, superconducting technologies, and other emerging devices, as well as to improve the energy efficiency of electronic design automation (EDA) and chip design, reinforcing the sustainable development of computing infrastructure.

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut
Ph.D., Computer Engineering (exp.) May 2024
Advisor: Caiwen Ding
Co-major-advisor: Omer Khan

University of Rochester
M.S.E., Electrical and Computer Engineering May 2018
Advisor: Gonzalo Mateos

Wuhan University of Technology
B.S., Electrical and Information Engineering May 2015

EDUCATION OUTREACH

- The 6th Workshop for Women in Hardware and Systems Security (WISE 2023), student panelist (shared experiences with female researchers and K-12 students)
- NSF REU Site proposal (Topic: Trustable Embedded Systems Security), mentored 3 undergraduates
- USDA funded Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Award Project, mentored 1 undergraduate

PUBLICATION SUMMARY

Published: 20 papers, **11** first/co-first authored papers (**leader**) or the second author (**main contributor**).
Impact: 296 citations, h-index: 10, i10-index: 10 (as of Dec 22th, 2023).
Published at HPCA, ASPLOS, SC, DAC, ICCAD, ACL, ICCV, NeurIPS, IJCAI, ICCD, ISQED, etc.

- **Sparsity & Parallelism Exploitation Sparse Training**

  — **[HPCA 2024]** Deniz Gurevin, Shaoyi Huang, et al, "PruneGNN: An Optimized Algorithm-Hardware Framework for Graph Neural Network Pruning", IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture, 2024

  — **[DAC 2023]** Shaoyi Huang, Bowen Lei, Dongkuan Xu, et al, "Dynamic Sparse Training via Balancing the Exploration-Exploitation Trade-off", Design Automation Conference, 2023

  — **[DAC 2023]** Shaoyi Huang, Haowen Fang, et al, "Neurogenesis Dynamics-inspired Spiking Neural Network Training Acceleration", Design Automation Conference, 2023

- **Emerging Deep Learning Models Inference Acceleration**

  — **[ACL 2022]** Shaoyi Huang, Dongkuan Xu, Ian En-Hsu Yen, et al, "Sparse Progressive Distillation: Resolving Overfitting under Pretrain-and-Finetune Paradigm", Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, 2022

  — **[SC 2021]** Shaoyi Huang*, Shiyang Chen*, et al, "E.T.: Re-Thinking Self-Attention for Transformer Models on GPUs", International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis, 2021

  — **[DAC 2022, Publicity Paper]** Shaoyi Huang*, Hongwu Peng*, et al, "A Length Adaptive Algorithm-Hardware Co-design of Transformer on FPGA Through Sparse Attention and Dynamic Pipelining", Design Automation Conference, 2022

- **Privacy Preserving Machine Learning**

  — **[ICCV 2023]** Shaoyi Huang*, Hongwu Peng*, Tong Zhou*, et al, "AutoReP: Automatic ReLU Replacement for Fast Private Network Inference", International Conference on Computer Vision, 2023

PARTICIPATING GRANTS

Semiconductor Research Corporation Research Grant 01/2023 - 12/2025
Co-writer and primary student representative for Caiwen Ding's group
"Exploring Extreme Sparsity in Training and Inference for Graph Neural Networks to Achieve High Performance Scaling on Large Core Count Machines" - $225,000
PI: Caiwen Ding, Omer Khan

National Science Foundation (NSF) 07/2023 - 06/2027
Primary student representative for Caiwen Ding's group
"Collaborative Research: SaTC: CORE: Medium: Accelerating Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning as a Service: From Algorithm to Hardware" - $399,775
PI: Caiwen Ding

USDA-NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative 01/2022 - 12/2025
Primary Student representative for Caiwen Ding's group
"Evaluating the Impact of Preferential Trade Agreements on Agricultural and Food Trade: New Insights from Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning" - $650,000
PI: Sandro Steinbach, Caiwen Ding, Dongjin Song, Jeremy Jelliffe

Eversource Energy Center Seed Grant 09/2021 - 08/2023
Primary student representative for Caiwen Ding's group
"Optigrid: Planning & Optimizing the Power Grid During the Low Carbon Transition in Connecticut" - $69,000
PI: Caiwen Ding, Mikhail A Bragin

Travelers Insurance Research Grant 09/2021 - 02/2022
Primary student representative for Caiwen Ding's group
"Change and Damage Detection from Aerial Images" - $292,406
PI: Caiwen Ding, Jinbo Bi, Dongjin Song

PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

[1] Deniz Gurevin, Shaoyi Huang, Mohsin Shan, MD Amit Hasan, Caiwen Ding, Omer Khan, "PruneGNN: An Optimized Algorithm-Hardware Framework for Graph Neural Network Pruning", IEEE International Symposium on High-Performance Computer Architecture (**HPCA 2024**)
Acceptance rate: 75/410=18.3%

[2] Shaoyi Huang*, Hongwu Peng*, Tong Zhou*, Yukui Luo, Chenghong Wang, Zigeng Wang, Jiahui Zhao, Xi Xie, Ang Li, Tony Geng, Kaleel Mahmood, Wujie Wen, Xiaolin Xu, Caiwen Ding, "AutoReP: Automatic ReLU Replacement for Fast Private Network Inference", International Conference on Computer Vision (**ICCV 2023**)

[3] Shaoyi Huang, Bowen Lei, Dongkuan Xu, Hongwu Peng, Yue Sun, Mimi Xie, Caiwen Ding, "Dynamic Sparse Training via Balancing the Exploration-Exploitation Trade-off", Design Automation Conference (**DAC 2023**)
Acceptance rate: 263/1156=22.7%

[4] Shaoyi Huang, Haowen Fang, Kaleel Mahmood, Bowen Lei, Nuo Xu, Bin Lei, Yue Sun, Dongkuan Xu, Wujie Wen and Caiwen Ding, "Neurogenesis Dynamics-inspired Spiking Neural Network Training Acceleration", Design Automation Conference (**DAC 2023**)
Acceptance rate: 263/1156=22.7%

[5] Shaoyi Huang, Dongkuan Xu, Ian En-Hsu Yen, Yijue Wang, Sung-En Chang, Bingbing Li, Shiyang Chen, Mimi Xie, Sanguthevar Rajasekaran, Hang Liu, Caiwen Ding, "Sparse Progressive Distillation: Resolving Overfitting under Pretrain-and-Finetune Paradigm", Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**ACL 2022**)
Acceptance rate: 714/3350=21.3%

[6] Shaoyi Huang*, Hongwu Peng*, Shiyang Chen, Bingbing Li, Tong Geng, Ang Li, Weiwen Jiang, Wujie Wen, Jinbo Bi, Hang Liu and Caiwen Ding, "A Length Adaptive Algorithm-Hardware Co-design of Transformer on FPGA Through Sparse Attention and Dynamic Pipelining", Design Automation Conference (**DAC 2022, Publicity Paper**)

[7] Shaoyi Huang, Ning Liu, Yueying Liang, Hongwu Peng, Hongjia Li, Dongkuan Xu, Mimi Xie, Caiwen Ding, "An automatic and efficient bert pruning for edge ai systems", International Symposium on Quality Electronic Design (**ISQED, 2022**)

[8] Shaoyi Huang*, Shiyang Chen*, Santosh Pandey, Bingbing Li, Guang Gao, Long Zheng, Caiwen Ding, Hang Liu, "E.T.: Re-Thinking Self-Attention for Transformer Models on GPUs", International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis (**SC 2021**)
Acceptance rate: 86/365=23.6%

[9] Shaoyi Huang, Shiyang Chen, Hongwu Peng, Daniel Manu, Zhenglun Kong, Geng Yuan, Lei Yang, Shusen Wang, Hang Liu, Caiwen Ding, "HMC-Tran: A Tensor-core Inspired Hierarchical Model Compression for Transformer-based DNNs on GPU", Great Lakes Symposium on VLSI (**GLSVLSI 2021**)

[10] Hongwu Peng, Shaoyi Huang, Tong Geng, Ang Li, Weiwen Jiang, Hang Liu, Shusen Wang, Caiwen Ding, "Accelerating transformer-based deep learning models on fpgas using column balanced block pruning", International Symposium on Quality Electronic Design (**ISQED 2021**)

[11] Daniel Manu, Shaoyi Huang, Caiwen Ding, Lei Yang, "Co-Exploration of Graph Neural Network and Network-on-Chip Design Using AutoML", Great Lakes Symposium on VLSI (**GLSVLSI 2021**)

[12] Hongwu Peng, Xi Xie, Kaustubh Shivdikar, MD Amit Hasan, Jiahui Zhao, Shaoyi Huang, Omer Khan, David Kaeli, Caiwen Ding, "MaxK-GNN: Towards Theoretical Speed Limits for Accelerating Graph Neural Networks Training", Proceedings of the Twenty-Second International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems (**ASPLOS 2024**)

[13] Hongwu Peng*, Ran Ran*, Yukui Luo, Jiahui Zhao, Shaoyi Huang, Kiran Thorat, Tong Geng Chenghong Wang, Xiaolin Xu, Wujie Wen, Caiwen Ding, "LinGCN: Structural Linearized Graph Convolutional Network for Homomorphically Encrypted Inference", Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS 2023**)

[14] Xi Xie*, Hongwu Peng*, MD Amit Hasan, Shaoyi Huang, Jiahui Zhao, Haowen Fang, Wei Zhang, Tong Geng, Omer Khan, Caiwen Ding, "Accel-GCN: High-Performance GPU Accelerator Design for Graph Convolution Networks", IEEE/ACM International Conference On Computer Aided Design (**ICCAD 2023**)

[15] Bingbing Li, Zigeng Wang, Shaoyi Huang, Mikhail Bragin, Ji Li, Caiwen Ding, "Towards Lossless Head Pruning through Automatic Peer Distillation for Large Language Models", International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI 2023**)

[16] Yijue Wang, Nuo Xu, Shaoyi Huang, Kaleel Mahmood, Dan Guo, Caiwen Ding, Wujie Wen, Sanguthevar Rajasekaran, "Analyzing and Defending against Membership Inference Attacks in Natural Language Processing Classification", IEEE International Conference on Big Data (**IEEE Big Data 2022**)

[17] Yixuan Luo*, Payman Behnam*, Kiran Thorat, Zhuo Liu, Hongwu Peng, Shaoyi Huang, Shu Zhou, Omer Khan, Alexey Tumanov, Caiwen Ding, Tong Geng, "CoDG-ReRAM: An Algorithm-Hardware Co-design to Accelerate Semi-Structured GNNs on ReRAM", IEEE International Conference on Computer Design (**ICCD 2022**)

[18] Hongwu Peng*, Deniz Gurevin*, Shaoyi Huang, Tong Geng, Weiwen Jiang, Omer Khan, Caiwen Ding, "Towards Sparsification of Graph Neural Networks", IEEE International Conference on Computer Design (**ICCD 2022**)

[19] Panjie Qi, Edwin Hsing-Mean Sha, Qingfeng Zhuge, Hongwu Peng, Shaoyi Huang, Zhenglun Kong, Yuhong Song, Bingbing Li, "Accelerating Framework of Transformer by Hardware Design and Model Compression Co-Optimization", IEEE/ACM International Conference On Computer Aided Design (**ICCAD 2021**)

[20] Panjie Qi, Yuhong Song, Hongwu Peng, Shaoyi Huang, Qingfeng Zhuge, Edwin Hsing-Mean Sha, "Accommodating transformer onto fpga: Coupling the balanced model compression and fpga-implementation optimization", Great Lakes Symposium on VLSI (**GLSVLSI 2021**)

TALKS

Invited Talks

- **Student panelist** - The 6th Workshop for Women in Hardware and Systems Security
  Oct 2023, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

- **Towards Efficient Model Inference and Training**
  Sep 2023, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

- **Towards Efficient Training and Inference Under Pretrain-and-Finetune Paradigm**
  Sep 2023, TechCon - Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC), Austin, TX

- **Exploring Extreme Sparsity in Training and Inference for Graph Neural Networks to Achieve**

High Performance Scaling on Large Core Count Machines
May 2023, Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC) AIHW & CADT Annual Review, IBM Research, San Jose, CA

- **Efficient Model Inference and Training**
  Apr 2023, Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing Community (MLNLP), Virtual

Conference Presentations

- **Dynamic Sparse Training via Balancing the Exploration-Exploitation Trade-off**
  DAC, July 2023, San Francisco, CA
- **Neurogenesis Dynamics-inspired Spiking Neural Network Training Acceleration**
  DAC, July 2023, San Francisco, CA
- **Sparse Progressive Distillation: Resolving Overfitting under Pretrain-and-Finetune Paradigm**
  ACL, Oct 2022

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Panelist

- The 6th Workshop for Women in Hardware and Systems Security (WISE)

Program Committee

- SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM) 2024
- AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) 2024, 2023
- NeurIPS Datasets and Benchmarks 2023
- SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD) 2023
- The First Workshop on DL-Hardware Co-Design for AI Acceleration @AAAI 2023

Journal Reviewer

- Neurocomputing
- Pattern Recognition
- Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence
- Neural Networks

HONORS AND AWARDS

- NeurIPS Travel Grant from CACC 2023
- WISE Student Travel Award 2023
- GE Fellowship of Excellence 2023
- Predoctoral Prize for Research Excellence 2023
- DAC Publicity Paper Award 2022
- GE Fellowship for Excellence 2022
- Synchrony Fellowship 2022
- Predoctoral Prize for Research Excellence 2022
- Eversource Energy Graduate Fellowship 2022
- DAC Young Fellow 2021
- Cigna Graduate Fellowship 2021

Professional Positions

TikTok, Austin, TX
- Research Intern — Summer 2022
- Project: Transformer-based Model Training Acceleration

Moffett AI, Los Altos, CA
- Research Intern — Summer 2021
- Mentor: Ian En-Hsu Yen, Co-founder
- Project: Language Model Compression [ACL 2022]

Teaching Experience

Guest Lecturer (University of Rochester)
- ECE 403-1: Advanced Computer Architecture for Machine Learning, Fall 2023
  Instructor: Prof. Tony Geng
  Topic: Towards Efficient Model Inference and Training
  Prepared and delivered lecture to graduate students

Teaching Assistant (University of Connecticut)
- CSE 4502 & 5717: BigData Analytics, Spring 2023
  Instructor: Prof. Suining He
  Held office hours and graded assignments
- CSE5819: Introduction to Machine Learning, Fall 2022
  Instructor: Prof. Fei Miao
  Designed final project
  Supervised students on course projects
  Designed and delivered coding tutorials
  Led final project presentation
  Held office hours and graded assignments

Teaching Assistant (University of Rochester)
- Microcontroller, Spring 2018
  Instructor: Prof. Qiang Lin
  Held office hours and graded assignments
- Circuits & Signals LAB, Fall 2017
  Instructor: Prof. Jack G. Mottley
  Led laboratory sessions
  Provided hands-on instruction to around 100 undergraduate students

Mentored Students

Yifan Shan
Undergraduate student (Now CS master at Cornell Tech) — 05/2022 - 05/2023
Project: Evaluating the Impact of Preferential Trade Agreements on Agricultural and Food Trade: New Insights from Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning — University of Connecticut

Jiwon Kim
Undergraduate student — Summer 2023
Project: Utilization of DeepShift for Privacy Based Machine Learning (NSF-REU) — University of Connecticut

Alison Menezes
Undergraduate student — Summer 2023
Project: Deep Leakage from Gradients on GNNs (NSF-REU) — Clemson University

Maryam Abuissa
Undergraduate student — Summer 2023
Project: Sequestered Encryption for GPU (NSF-REU) — Amherst College

REFERENCES

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