

Qingchuan (Tony) Yang

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Education

- Aug 2025 – present **University of Southern California**, Ph.D. in Computer Science – Los Angeles, CA
- Advisor: Prof. Sai Praneeth Karimireddy
- Sept 2024 – June 2025 **University of Chicago**, M.S. in Statistics – Chicago, IL
- Advisor: Prof. Haifeng Xu
 - Advanced Scholars Program
- Sept 2020 – June 2024 **University of Chicago**, B.S. in Computer Science (with Honors), Statistics – Chicago, IL
- Cum Laude

Experience

- Sept 2025 – present **University of Southern California**, *Graduate Research Assistant*
- Developed EPSVec (ICML 2026), a novel method for efficient and private **synthetic data generation** via representation engineering.
 - Focusing on the foundations of **trustworthy AI**, including understanding decision-making capabilities of LLM agents and designing alignment-focused sampling mechanisms.
- May 2026 – Aug 2026 **Sooth Labs**, *Research Intern*
- Hosted by Dr. Russ Salakhutdinov and Dr. Yaser Sheikh.
 - Developing the state-of-the-art agent harness for long-horizon event forecasting.
- June 2024 – Aug 2025 **University of Chicago**, *Undergraduate Research Assistant*
- Led the development of [Prophet Arena](#), a live **prediction benchmark** evaluating LLMs' ability to retrieve and aggregate evidence for probabilistic forecasting. Published at ICLR 2026; [has over 450k views on X](#).
 - Featured by major outlets, including [The Atlantic](#), [Yahoo Finance](#), and [The Dispatch](#).
- June 2023 – Sept 2023 **Amazon Web Services (AWS)**, *Software Development Intern*
- Led the development and coordination of a novel account resource termination pipeline for all AWS accounts with fraudulent data and activity. Project lead to \$11 million dollars of savings in first six months of deployment.
 - Implemented a proactive security module for AWS account-related operations and designed multi-stage integration tests.
 - Internship led to successful return offer.

Publications

- ICLR 2026 **LLM-as-a-Prophet: Understanding Predictive Intelligence with Prophet Arena**
Qingchuan Yang*, Simon Mahns*, Sida Li*, Anri Gu*, Jibang Wu, Haifeng Xu
doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2510.17638

ICML 2026 **EPSVec: Efficient and Private Synthetic Data Generation via Data Vectors**

Amin Banayeeanzade*, **Qingchuan Yang***, Deqing Fu, Spencer Hong, Erin Babinsky, Alf Samuel, Anoop Kumar, Robin Jia, Sai Praneeth Karimireddy

doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2602.21218

In submission **Sampling More, Getting Less: Calibration is the Diversity Bottleneck in LLMs**

Amin Banayeeanzade*, **Qingchuan Yang***, Dhruv Tarsadiya, Fatemeh Bahrani, Leonardo Blas, Robin Jia, Meisam Razaviyayn, Sai Praneeth Karimireddy

doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2605.11128

In submission **Psychological Steering via Calibrated Activation Injections**

Leonardo Blas, **Qingchuan Yang**, Robin Jia, Emilio Ferrara

Selected Honors

- USC Viterbi School of Engineering Fellowship (2025-2026)
- UChicago Dean's List (2020-2021, 2023-2024)

Academic Services

Co-organizer & Reviewer: [Workshop on AI Forecasting](#), ICML 2026

Reviewer: NeurIPS 2026