

Wenqi (Marshall) Guo

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.ca/citations?user=4YWcPZoAAAAJ&hl=en>

Education

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|---------------------|--|
| Sep 2025 - Present | University of British Columbia
<i>M.Sc. in Computer Science</i>
Research-based master's with stipend.
GPA: 4.33/4.33 |
| Sep 2022 - May 2025 | University of British Columbia
<i>Honours B.Sc. in Computer Science</i>
GPA: 3.75/4.33 |

Research Summary

- Machine learning researcher with a track record of lead-author publications at top conferences, including ICLR and ICML. Specialized in generative models and computer vision with an emphasis on security and safety of AI.
- Skilled in full-stack development and the deployment of machine learning models, integrating research into functional cross-disciplinary applications.
- Proven leadership through mentoring undergraduate students toward the successful completion of their senior theses and securing competitive cloud computing grants.

Selected Research

- **FaceLinkGen: Rethinking Identity Leakage in Privacy-Preserving Face Recognition with Identity Extraction**
Sep 2025 - Feb 2026
Submitted to ACM MM
(First Author) Found principle-level vulnerabilities for 3 strong claimed privacy-preserving face recognition systems in top conferences (ICCV, CVPR, NeurIPS), achieving an attack success rate over 90%. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.02914>
- **Position: LLMs Are Too Cautious About Health, and It Is Hurting Vulnerable Users**
Sep 2025 - May 2026
(First Author) Submitted to NeurIPS 2026. Argued that LLM over-cautiousness in health queries harms vulnerable users with OCD and anxiety. Constructed a 225-query GP-annotated evaluation set, showing models exhibit 20–50% over-cautious rates while maintaining high emergency recognition.
- **Position: Universal Aesthetic Alignment Narrows Artistic Expression**
Sep 2025 - Jan 2026
ICML Position Spotlight (top 5%, scored 5, 4, 5, 4)
(First Author) Argued that Aesthetic Alignment in image generation models could be harmful and conducted experiments to verify it. <https://openreview.net/forum?id=1gQ4zc1Q8I>
- **VSF: Simple, Efficient, and Effective Negative Guidance in Few-Step Image Generation Models By Value Sign Flip**
Jul 2025 - Sep 2025

Accepted to ICLR with top-10% scores (avg 6)

(First Author) Highly effective negative guidance method, compared to SOTA (NAG and NASA), increased negative prompt following score from 0.420 to 0.545. <https://openreview.net/forum?id=W2NINfoVtN>

- **ZS-VCOS: Zero-Shot Video Camouflaged Object Segmentation By Optical Flow and Open Vocabulary Object Detection**

Jan 2025 - Mar 2025

(First Author) Zero-shot camouflage segmentation significantly outperforms SOTA, increasing zero-shot performance from around 0.10 to 0.55 mIoU. Work submitted to ICPR. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2505.01431>

- **Gas Leak Detection**

Aug 2024 - April 2025

(First Author) Published to CVPR Workshop. Proposed a new dataset and zero-shot method for detecting Gas Leakage Using Computer Vision-based methods in IR images. Increased IoU from 0.50 to 0.69. https://openaccess.thecvf.com/content/CVPR2025W/PBVS/html/Guo_LangGas_Introducing_Language_in_Selective_Zero-Shot_Background_Subtraction_for_Semi-Transparent_CVPRW_2025_paper.html

- **3D Molecular Model Structure Recognition for Chemical Education**

July 2023 - April 2024

(Accepted to IEEE JAC-ECC Conference for Publication, First Author) Utilizing machine learning to transform images of 3D molecular model kits into IUPAC names to help students better understand IUPAC nomenclature and properties of molecules. Increased performance to 64.9%. Mentored another student as a Research Assistant during the project. <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/abstract/document/11061206/>

Grants And Rewards

- **Lambda Cloud Compute Grant** - 2000 USD Proposal-Based Grant for Cloud Computing funded by Lambda.
- **Security Tester (White Hat) at Bilibili** Security Tester for Bilibili (Biggest Video Website in China) for vulnerability discovery; ranked 31 on the annual leaderboard.

Mentored Students

- **Yiyang Du** - On his undergraduate thesis, Master of Data Science studies, and other research projects, including the 3D Molecular Model project.
- **Ming Xu, Haozhe Xu** - During the hackathon *Hack This Fall* for the project of AI Meeting Assistant (2022-2023).