

# YANBING CHEN

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## EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin – Madison, Wisconsin, United States

Sep 2023 - Exp. May 2028

*M.S. (2023-2025) and Ph.D. (2025-2028) in Cartography and Geographic Information Systems (4.0/4.0)*

- Relevant Coursework: Advanced GIS, Spatial Analysis, Interactive Cartography, Data Visualization, Spatial Database

McGill University, Quebec, Canada

Sep 2019 - May 2023

*B.A. in Geography and Economics (3.81/4.0)*

- Relevant Coursework: Advanced Geospatial Analysis, Geospatial Web, Geocomputing, Remote Sensing, Urban Geog

## SKILLS

**GIS and Mapping:** ArcGIS (Pro, ArcMap, Online, StoryMaps) | QGIS | Mapbox | Google Earth | ENVI

**Library:** Network X | ArcPy | Geopandas | Geoplot | Plotly | D3 | Leaflet | Mapbox | NumPy | Pandas

**Visual Analytics and Data Analysis:** Python | R | CARTO | Tableau | PowerBI | Gephi | PostgreSQL

**Programming:** Python | JavaScript | HTML | CSS | XML | SQL | Net logo

**Graphic Design:** Adobe Illustrator | Photoshop | Figma | Canvas

**Platforms & Frameworks:** GitHub | Google Colab | WordPress | Jira

## WORK EXPERIENCE

GISphere Team Leader, GISphere, online

Jun 2022 - Present

- Overseeing the **content management** for the [GISphere Institution Guide](#), a comprehensive resource for GIS professionals and students, encompassing details on 500+ GIS graduate programs and 2000+ faculty
- Leveraging **LLM and Python web scraping** scripts to extract information on geography department worldwide

GIS Assistant, Geographic Information Center at McGill

Sep 2022 - May 2023

- Hosted workshops on [ArcPy](#) and [Mapbox](#), introduced participants to advanced techniques in spatial analysis
- Assisted students and researchers in effectively using ESRI products, including **ArcGIS Pro, ArcMap, and StoryMap**

## RESEARCH & PROJECT EXPERIENCE

*Research Assistant*

Jul 2024 - Present

**Raster to Vector HeatMap: Multiscale Visualization Approach to Mapping with Big Geospatial Data**

- Selecting different geospatial datasets (animal movement, human traffic, disaster distribution) for visualization
- Generating **multi-scale raster and vector tile sets** using Tippecanoe and Mapnik, optimized for different zoom levels
- Developing interactive web-based heatmaps using Mapbox GL JS and Leaflet for dynamic spatial data representation

*Project Leader, Inter-lab Collaboration Project*

Aug 2022 - Present

**Investigating Mobility and Research Themes through Faculty Hiring Network in GIScience**

- Leading a team to collect comprehensive data on 946 tenure-track GIScience faculty from various institutions worldwide
- Utilizing Gephi to conduct [network analysis](#) and map [faculty placements](#) based on their graduate programs
- Using Python for data cleaning and generating **word clouds** to analyze research trends within 946 GIS graduate programs

*Undergraduate Researcher, Roger Tomlinson Lab for GIScience at McGill*

May 2022 – Aug 2023

**Animate and Visualize Historical Data with ArcGIS Pro, Net Logo, and Geovisualization tools**

- Leveraged agent-based model and ArcGIS Pro to recreate possible ancient travelling routes
- Used Python to generate dynamic [space-time paths](#), offering a unique perspective on historical agent movements

*Project Leader, GEOG384 Principles of Geospatial Web at McGill*

Sep 2022 – Dec 2022

## Mobile Tracking Web App

- Designed a **user interface** and incorporated a tracking function that captures user location at 30-second intervals
- Achieved route visualization in Mapbox and added a **space-time cube representation** via Plotly



## PUBLICATIONS

- **Chen Y.**, Nelson J., Zhou B., Kang Y. (2024) (Submitted). Where are GIScience Faculty Hired? Analyzing Faculty Mobility and Research Themes Through Hiring Networks.
- Kang, Y., Wang, Y., Zhang, J., Liu, H., Rao, J., Liu, Y., Zhou, B., Chen, P., **Chen, Y.**, Tong, X., & Ye, S. (2023). GISphere: A Crowd-Sourced Database of Global GIS Graduate Education. *CPGIS 2023 short paper*.
- Sengupta, R., Vankeerberghen, G., Wen, R., Rao, J., **Chen, Y.** (2023). [GIS-enabled historiography to determine travel routes during the Western Han period via agent-based models and least-cost path analysis](#). *Transactions in GIS*, 27(4), 1090–1103.



## MAP GALLERY

- [Power BI] "[Wisconsin Car Crash Dashboard](#)" – An Interactive Dashboard Map showing traffic accidents in Wisconsin.
- [Figma | Leaflet] "[Forgotten Tongues: Interactive Atlas of Extinct Languages](#)" – Mapping 3000 dying languages.
- [Mapbox GL JS] "[A historical storymap for California Gold Rush](#)" – Story Map about history of Chinese immigrant in U.S.
- [ArcGIS Pro | AI] "[To Incarcerate or to Educate?](#)" - Cost of inmates in U.S. states with their spending on education.
- [ArcGIS Pro | AI] "[Just Another Day in America](#)" - The Map designed for UW-Cartography Lab 2024 Map Challenge.
- [ArcGIS Pro | AI] "[Behind Bars](#)" - A map showcasing a comparison of incarceration rates across U.S. states.
- [ArcGIS Pro | AI] "[Vermont Trails](#)" - A Vermont Hiking Guide.
- [ArcMap] "[Chinese Restaurants in Barbados](#)" - The Map designed for Project: Chinese Immigrants in Barbados.



## CONFERENCE AND PRESENTATIONS

- Raster-to-Vector Heat Maps: Multiscale Visualization Approach to Mapping with Big Geospatial Data ([NACIS 2024](#))
- Investigating Mobility and Research Themes through Faculty Hiring Network in GIScience([UCGIS symposium 2024](#))
- Facilitating Global Connections in Geographic Information Science Education, Research, and Practice ([AAG 2024](#))
- Digital Cartography and Historical Insights: Mapping a New Course for the Past in the Digital Age ([AAG 2024](#))
- Academic Recruiting in GIScience: Demographics, Mobility and Hierarchy ([SKI Conference Canada 2023](#))
- Mobile Tracker of Volunteered Geographic Information; Using Story Map as Visual Storytelling ([McGill GIS Day 2022](#))



## GRANTS & AWARDS

- [UW-Madison Digital Salon 2024](#), Map Admitted
- 2024 Graduate Student 1st Place Petchenik Map Competition
- [2024 CAGIS Rising Award](#), The Cartography and Geographic Information Society  
Kang Y., **Chen Y.**, Zhou B., Gu Z. Characterizing and Promoting Cartography and GIS Graduate Programs through Research Theme Discovery and Online Seminars



## SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2024 Master's Student Research Grant, AAG Cartography Special Group
- 2024 Travel Grant, NACIS
- 2024 Scholarship for CaGIS & UCGIS Symposium, International Cartographic Association
- 2024 Trewartha Conference Travel Awards, University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2023 University Graduate Fellowship, University of Wisconsin – Madison
- 2022 Dean's Honour List, Arts Research Internship Awards, Arts Undergraduate Awards, McGill University