



Exponent[®]
Engineering & Scientific Consulting

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Professional Profile

Dr. Yang specializes in mechanical engineering analysis, solid mechanics, fluidic and thermal engineering, and finite element analysis (FEA). She has particular expertise in system design, custom laboratory-based testing and failure analysis. She applies her expertise to assist clients in multiple industries, including consumer electronics, battery-powered micromobility, household appliances and medical devices on design/safety assessment, risk mitigation and failure prevention.

In addition to industrial problem solving, Dr. Yang has provided technical consulting services on intellectual property litigation and insurance investigations.

Dr. Yang has hands-on cleanroom experience with photolithography, soft lithography, thin film deposition, and etching, as well as experience with a variety of material characterization techniques including scanning electron microscopy with energy dispersive spectroscopy (SEM/EDS), transmission electron microscopy (TEM), focused ion beam (FIB), dynamic mechanical analysis (DMA), atomic force microscopy (AFM), nano indentation, and nano scratch. Dr. Yang is familiar with all sorts of standardized reliability testing and custom mechanical testing, and particularly has extensive experience integrating testing into failure analysis to assist clients in fully understanding failure modes and improving product design.

Prior to joining Exponent, Dr. Yang was a research assistant in the Micro/Nanoscale Thermal-Fluids Laboratory at Vanderbilt University, where she designed a collection of bioMEMS and microfluidic platforms to investigate cell mechanotransduction and electrophysiology, as well as organism behaviors. She developed a cutting-edge optoelectronic graphene transistor-based bioMEMS for probing neuronal electrical activities with ultrahigh spatiotemporal resolution using scanning photocurrent microscopy. Dr. Yang also studied biomechanics of cells through a novel automatic setup and mathematic modeling. In her master's program, she designed and built a high-pressure flash evaporator that allows operators to experimentally study a complex phase-change phenomenon, flash evaporation; Dr. Yang was granted a patent for the flash evaporator in 2012. She also gained extensive experience in finite element analysis (FEA) and computational fluid dynamics (CFD) with ANSYS, Fluent and COMSOL Multiphysics software during her graduate studies.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

Ph.D., Mechanical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, 2017

M.S., Mechanical Engineering, Harbin Engineering University, 2012

B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Harbin Engineering University, 2009

Vanderbilt University Graduate Student Scholarship

Outstanding Dissertation Award, 2009

Outstanding Graduate Award, 2009

National Scholarship, 2008

Licenses and Certifications

American Welding Society Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)

ASQ Certified Reliability Engineer (CRE)

Patents

China Patent ZL 2012 1 0011804.2: A High-Pressure Flash Evaporator, March 2014 (Yang L, Li Y, et al).

Publications

Tu Yu-Hui, Yang Li-Jie, Daniel Vasquez. Novel Insight into Finite Element Modeling for Failure Analysis and Engineering Solution. The 19th China CAE Annual Conference, July 24th, 2023

Wang R, Shi MJ, Brewer BM, Yang L, Zhang YC, Webb DJ, Li D, Xu YQ. Ultrasensitive graphene optoelectronic probes for recording electrical activities of individual synapses. *Nano Letters*. 2018; 18(9): 5702-5708. DOI: 10.1021/acs.nanolett.8b02298

Yang L, Carrington LJ, Erdogan B, Ao M, Brewer BM, Webb DJ, Li D. Biomechanics of cell reorientation in a three-dimensional matrix under compression. *Experimental Cell Research* 2017; 350(1):253-266.

Yang L, Hong T, Zhang Y, Arriola JGS, Nelms BL, Mu R, Li D. A microfluidic diode for sorting and immobilization of *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Biomedical Microdevices* 2017; 19(2):38.

Ao M, Brewer BM, Yang L, Franco Coronel OE, Hayward SW, Webb DJ, Li D. Stretching fibroblasts remodels the extracellular matrix and alters cancer cell migration. *Scientific Reports* 2015; 5:8334.

Jean L, Yang L, Majumdar D, Gao Y, Shi M, Brewer BM, Li D, Webb DJ. The rho family GEF Asef2 regulates cell migration in three dimensional (3D) collagen matrices through myosin II. *Cell Adhesion and Migration* 2014; 8(5):460-467.

Brown JA, Sherrod SD, Goodwin CR, Brewer BM, Yang L, Garbett KA, Li D, McLean JA, Wikswo JP, Mirnics K. Metabolic consequences of interleukin-6 challenge in developing neurons and astroglia. *Journal of Neuroinflammation* 2014; 11(1):183.

Shao Y, Li Y, Yang L, Zhang X, Yang L, Wu H, Xu R. New experimental system for high pressure and high temperature flashing evaporation experiments. *Applied Thermal Engineering* 2014; 66 (1-2), 148-155.

Quan C, Later K, Yang L, Peng S, Zhang A, Hao Q, Zhang J, Sun W, Yuan L, Peng GD. FBG application in monitoring the liquid-solid and gas-liquid phase transitions of water. *Proceedings of SPIE, The 3rd Asia Pacific Optical Sensors Conference* 2012.

Presentations

Yang L, Carrington LJ, Wang L, Simaan N, Webb DJ, Li D. Cell response to static and cyclic compression in a three-dimensional matrix. EMI&PMC, Nashville, USA, May 2016.

Yang L, Carrington LJ, Webb DJ, Li D. Fibroblast reorientation in a three-dimensional matrix under compression. 5th ASME Micro/Nanoscale Heat & Mass Transfer International Conference, Singapore, Singapore, Jan 2016.

Yang L, Brewer BM, Ao M, Webb DJ, Li D. The effects of mechanical stress in normal tissue fibroblast activation and cancer associated fibroblast genesis. ASME 2014 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, Montreal, Canada, November 2014.

Yang L. Exploring the benefits of customized testing in failure analysis. Ninth International Conference on Engineering Failure Analysis (ICEFA), July 2022.

Yang L. Retrieval analysis and MRI safety assessment. The 5th Seminar on Materials and Processes for the Orthopaedics, Changzhou, Jiangsu China, July 2022.

Yang L. Safety in the MRI suite: considerations for medical devices and equipment. The 3rd Seminar on Materials and Processes for the Orthopaedics, Changzhou, Jiangsu China, September 2020.