

Yuan Yao

Assistant Professor of Industrial Ecology and Sustainable Systems
Yale School of the Environment
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Education

- 2011-2016 **Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL
Doctor of Philosophy, Field of Chemical Engineering
Management for Scientists and Engineers, Kellogg School of Management
- 2007-2011 **Northeastern University**, Shenyang, Liaoning, China
Bachelor of Science in Metallurgical Engineering

Professional Experience

- 2020 - **Assistant Professor of Industrial Ecology and Sustainable Systems**,
Yale School of the Environment, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 2016-2020 **Assistant Professor of Sustainability Science and Engineering**, Department
Forest Biomaterials, North Carolina State University
- 2011-2016 **Research Assistant**, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering,
Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

Research Statement

My research investigates how emerging technologies and industrial development will affect the environment. My research use transdisciplinary approaches in Industrial Ecology and Sustainable Engineering. I develop new methods and integrated modeling frameworks to assess, advance, and optimize industrial systems for improved environmental and societal outcomes.

Awards

- 2021 Laudise Medal. International Society for Industrial Ecology. Awarded for outstanding achievements in industrial ecology by a researcher under the age of 36.
- 2021 Rising Star Award, Yale School of the Environment, Yale University
- 2020 American Institute of Chemical Engineers 35 Under 35 Award
- 2019 U.S. National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (**CAREER**) Award.
- 2017 Outstanding Reviewer of 2016, Environmental Research Letter
- 2015 ISIE Young Professional Scholarship, International Society of Industrial Ecology
- 2015 ISIE Scholarship, International Society of Industrial Ecology
- 2013 ISEN Fellowship, Institute for Sustainability and Energy at Northwestern
- 2013 Graduate Travel Grant, Northwestern University
- 2013 AIChE top 4th cited paper from 2012
- 2011 Dean's Excellent Graduate, Northeastern University

Editorship

- Associate Editor, *Resources, Conservation & Recycling*, Elsevier, 2020 – present
- Editorial Advisory Board, *GCB Bioenergy*, Wiley, 2020 – present
- Editorial Advisory Board, *Energy Technology*, Wiley, 2020 – present
- Editorial Board, *Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy*, Springer Nature, 2020 – present
- Editorial Board, *Engineering Research Express*, IOPscience, 2019 – present
- Guest Editor, special issue of advanced life-cycle modeling of energy and agroecosystems, *Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 2020 – 2021
- Guest Editor, special issue of Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment for Sustainable Development Goals, *Journal of Industrial Ecology*, 2020 – 2021

Publications

Publications with advisees underlined (graduate/undergraduate students and postdocs)

*denotes the corresponding author. In my field, a principal advisor/project leader takes the last and/or the corresponding authorship.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

32. Xiao, S.; Chen, C.; Xia, Q.; Liu, Y.; **Yao, Y.**; Chen, Q.; Hartsfield, M.; Brozena, A.; Tu, K.; Eichhorn, S. J.; Yao, Y.; Li, J.; Gan, W.; Shi, S. Q.; Yang, V. W.; Ricco, M. L.; Zhu, J. Y.; Burgert, I.; Luo, A.; Li, T.; Hu, L (2021). Lightweight, strong, moldable wood via cell wall engineering as a sustainable structural material. *Science*. 2021, 374, 465-471.
31. Lan, K., Zhang, BQ and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Environmental benefits of utilizing urban tree waste in the United States. *One Earth* (under review).
30. Echeverria, D., R. Venditti, H. Jameel and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Process-Simulation-Based Life Cycle Assessment of Specialty Pulps. *Environmental Science and Technology* (under review).
29. Lan, K. and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Dynamic Life-Cycle Climate Impacts of Energy Technologies under Different Greenhouse Gas Concentration Pathways. *Environmental Science and Technology* (under review).
28. Xia, Q., Chen, C., Yao, Y., He, H., Gao, J., Zhou, Y., Li, T., Pan, X., **Yao, Y.*** and L. Hu* (2021). A Strong, Biodegradable and Recyclable Lignocellulosic Bioplastic. *Nature Sustainability*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00702-w>.
27. Van Schoubroeck, S., G. Thomassen, S. Van Passel, R. Malina, J. Springael, S. Lizin, R. A. Venditti, **Y. Yao** and M. Van Dael (2021). An integrated techno-sustainability assessment (TSA) framework for emerging technologies. *Green Chemistry*. <https://doi.org/10.1039/D1GC00036E>
26. Liao, M. and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Applications of Artificial Intelligence-Based Modeling for Bioenergy Systems: A Review. *GCB Bioenergy*. 13: 774-802. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcbb.12816>
25. Lan, K., Ou, L., Park, S., Stephen SS., Nepal, P., Kwon, H., Cai, H. and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Dynamic Life Cycle Carbon Analysis for Fast Pyrolysis Biofuel Produced from Pine Residues: Implications of Carbon Temporal Effects. *Biotechnology for Biofuels*. 14, 191. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13068-021-02027-4>
24. Lan, K., Ou, L., Stephen SS., Park, S., English, BC., Yu, TE., Larson, J., and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Techno-Economic Analysis of Decentralized Preprocessing Systems for Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks in the Southeastern United States. *Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews*. 143: 110881, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2021.110881>
23. Echeverria, D., R. Venditti, H. Jameel and **Y. Yao*** (2021). A general Life Cycle Assessment framework for sustainable bleaching: A case study of peracetic acid bleaching of wood pulp. *Journal of Cleaner Production*. 290: 125854. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2021.125854>
22. Lan, K., S., Kelley, S., Nepal, P., and **Y. Yao*** (2020). Dynamic Life Cycle Carbon and Energy Analysis for Cross-Laminated Timber in the Southern U.S. *Environmental Research Letters*. 15, 124036. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/abc5e6>
21. Liao, M. and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Sustainability Implications of Artificial Intelligence in the Chemical Industry: A Review and A Methodology Framework. *Journal of Industry Ecology*. In Press.
20. Lan, K., Park, S., Kelley, S., English, B., Yu, E., Larson, J. and **Y. Yao*** (2020). Understanding the Effects of Feedstock Quality Uncertainties on the Economic Feasibilities of Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks and Decentralized Preprocessing Sites in the Southeastern United States. *GCB Bioenergy*. 12: 1014– 1029. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/gcbb.12752>
19. Tomberlin, K., Venditti, R., and **Y. Yao*** (2020). Life Cycle Carbon Analysis of Different U.S. Pulp and Paper Grades Using Process-Based Data Integration. *Bioresources*. 15 (2), 16. DOI: 10.15376/biores.15.2.3899-3914.

18. Johnson, S., Echeverria, D., Venditti, R., Jameel, H. and Y. Yao* (2020). Supply Chain of Waste Cotton Recycling and Reuse: A Review. *AATCC Journal of Research-Textile Science*. *AATCC Journal of Research* 7(1):19-31. <https://doi.org/10.14504/ajr.7.S1.3>
17. Liao, M., Kelley, SS. and Y. Yao* (2020). Generating Energy and Greenhouse Gas Inventory Data of Activated Carbon Production Using Machine Learning and Kinetic Based Process Simulation. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering*. 2020, 8, 2, 1252-1261. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acssuschemeng.9b06522>
16. Lan, K. and Y. Yao* (2019). Integrating Life Cycle Assessment and Agent-Based Modeling: A Dynamic Modeling Framework for Sustainable Agricultural Systems. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 238, 117853, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2019.117853>.
15. Lan, K., Ou, L., Park, S., Kelley, SS. and Y. Yao* (2020). Life Cycle Assessment of Decentralized Preprocessing Systems for Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks in the Southeastern United States. *Energy Technology*. 8: 1900850. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ente.201900850>.
14. Nabinger, A., Tomberlin, K., Venditti, R., and Y. Yao* (2019). Using a Data-Driven Approach to Unveil Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensities of Different Pulp and Paper Products, *Procedia CIRP*, 80, 689-692. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procir.2018.12.001>
13. Yao, Y.* and R. Huang (2019). A Parametric Life Cycle Modeling Framework for Identifying Research Development Priorities of Emerging Technologies: A Case Study of Additive Manufacturing. *Procedia CIRP*, 80, 370-375. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procir.2019.01.037>
12. Liao, M., Kelley, SS, and Y. Yao* (2019). Artificial Neural Network Based Modeling for the Prediction of Yield and Surface Area of Activated Carbon From Biomass. *Biofuels, Bioproducts and Biorefining*, 13: 1015-1027. doi:10.1002/bbb.1991
11. Yao, Y.*, Marano, J., Morrow, W. R. and E. Masanet (2018). Quantifying Carbon Capture Potential and Cost of Carbon Capture Technology Application in the U.S. Refining Industry. *International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control*, 74, 87-98. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijggc.2018.04.020>.
10. Yao, Y.*, Chang, Y., Huang, R., Zhang, L., and E. Masanet (2018). Environmental Implications of the Methanol Economy in China: Well-to-Wheel Comparison of Energy and Environmental Emissions for Different Methanol Fuel Production Pathways. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 172, 2018, 1381-1390. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2017.10.232>
9. Yao, Y.* and E. Masanet (2018). Life-Cycle Modeling Framework for Generating Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory of Emerging Technologies in the Chemical Industry. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 172, 768-777. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2017.10.125>
8. Yao, Y.* (2016). Models for Sustainability. *BioResources*, 12(1), 1-3. doi:10.15376/biores.12.1.1-3
7. Chang, Y., Li, G., Yao, Y., Zhang, L., and C. Yu (2016). Quantifying the Water-Energy-Food Nexus: Current Status and Trends. *Energies*, 9(2), 65.
6. Yao, Y.*, Graziano, D. J., Riddle, M., Cresko, J., and E. Masanet (2016). Prospective Energy Analysis of Emerging Technology Options for the United States Ethylene Industry. *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*. 55, 12, 3493-3505. doi:10.1021/acs.iecr.5b03413
5. Yao, Y., Graziano, D. J., Riddle, M., Cresko, J., and E. Masanet (2015). Understanding Variability to Reduce the Energy and GHG footprints of U.S. Ethylene Production. *Environmental Science & Technology*, 49(24), 14704-14716. doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.5b03851>
4. Masanet, E., Chang, Y., Yao, Y., Briam, R., and R. Huang (2014). Reflections on A Massive Open Online Life Cycle Assessment Course. *The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment*, 19(12), 1901-1907. doi:10.1007/s11367-014-0800-8
3. Yao, Y., Graziano, D., Riddle, M., Cresko, J., and E. Masanet (2014). Greener Pathways for Energy-Intensive Commodity Chemicals: Opportunities and Challenges. *Current Opinion in Chemical Engineering*, 6(0), 90-98. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.coche.2014.10.005>

2. **Yao, Y.***, Chang, Y., and E. Masanet (2014). A Hybrid Life-Cycle Inventory for Multi-Crystalline Silicon PV Module Manufacturing in China. *Environmental Research Letters*, 9(11), 114001.
1. Gebreslassie, B. H., **Yao, Y.**, and F. You. (2012). Design Under Uncertainty of Hydrocarbon Biorefinery Supply Chains: Multiobjective Stochastic Programming Models, Decomposition Algorithm, and A Comparison Between CVaR and Downside Risk. *AIChE Journal*, 58(7), 2155-2179. doi:10.1002/aic.13844

Book Chapters

Lan, K. Park, S. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Biofuels for a More Sustainable Future: Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment, Multi-Criteria Decision Making, and Supply Chain Design, Chapter 10, Challenges and Status Quo of Models for Biofuel Supply Chain Design. Elsevier.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-815581-3.00010-5>.

Conference Proceedings:

9. Liao, M. and **Y. Yao*** (2018). The Predictive Life Cycle Assessment of Activated Carbon Production via different Pathways: An Artificial Neural Network and Kinetic based Model (poster), Frontiers in Biorefining Conference, St. Simons Island, GA, USA.
8. Echeverria, D., Venditti, R., Jameel, **Y. Yao*** (2018). Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Peracetic Acid Application in the Pulp and Paper Industry, AIChE, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
7. **Yao, Y***, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2015). Looking Into the Future of the Ethylene Industry: A Generic Assessment Model for Emerging Technologies”, AIChE Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
6. **Yao, Y***(2015). Accelerating the Development of Green Technologies for Chemical Production through Multiscale Life-Cycle Technology Assessment, AIChE Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
5. **Yao, Y.**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2014). A Macro-Level Impact Assessment Tool for Emerging Technologies in Chemical Industry. AIChE Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia
4. **Yao, Y***, Chang, Y., and E. Masanet (2013). Hybrid Life Cycle Assessment Model of Silicon Photovoltaics. AIChE Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, USA.
3. **Yao, Y.**, Thwaites, F., and E. Masanet (2013). Hybrid Techno-economic Modeling Tool for Greener Chemicals Supply Chains. AIChE Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California
2. **Yao, Y.** and F. You (2013). “Life Cycle Energy, Environmental and Economic Comparative Analysis of CdTe Thin-film Photovoltaics Domestic and Overseas Manufacturing Scenarios”. Proceedings of the 23rd European Symposium on Computer Aided Process Engineering (ESCAPE). Computer Aided Chemical Engineering, 32, 733-738.
1. Gebreslassie, B.H., **Yao, Y.**, and F. You (2012). Multiobjective Optimization of Hydrocarbon Biorefinery Supply Chain Designs under Uncertainty. Proceedings of the 51st IEEE Conference on Decision and Control (CDC), 5560-5565.

Research Grants and Contracts

- CAREER: Biochar Systems for Sustainable Applications in the Food-Energy-Water Nexus (2019-2024). U.S. National Science Foundation, Single PI. \$519,562
- Brown Postdoctoral Fellowship (2021-2022). Yale University. Lead PI. \$56,629
- FMRG: Eco: Future Eco Manufacturing of Recyclable Soft Electronics (2022-2025). U.S. National Science Foundation. Lead PI of Yale Sub-Award. \$400,000
- Wood Honeycombs for Lightweight, Energy-Efficient Structural Applications. ARPE-E (2021-2023). Lead PI of Yale Sub-Contract. \$45,000

- Investigating the Energy and Environmental Implications of Artificial Intelligence Applications in the Chemical Manufacturing Industry (2018-2020). Environmental Law Institute – Prime: Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Single PI. \$35,000
- Developing Standards-Based Educational Modules for Green Buildings and Sustainable Materials (2018-2020). NIST. Lead PI at NCSU. \$75,000
- Holistic Assessment of End of Life Options of Cotton for Environmental and Economic Sustainability in the Promotion of Cotton Recycling (2018-2019). Cotton, Inc. Lead PI. \$70,000
- Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Woody Biomass to Biofuels/Biochemical (2018-2019). Argonne National Laboratory – Prime: US Department of Energy. Lead PI. \$74,812
- Life Cycle Inventories of Pulp (2018-2020). Eastman. Lead PI. \$134,901
- Optimizing Biochar Systems for Transformative Food-Energy-Water Nexus (2018-2019). NCSU Faculty Research & Professional Development Fund. Lead PI. \$7,500
- Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Peracetic Acid Application in the Pulp and Paper Industry (2018-2019). Eastman. Lead PI. \$80,343
- Database Integration Workshop: Building the Data Capacity for Food-Energy-Water Research (2017-2018). US Department of Agriculture - National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Lead PI. \$37,198
- Scaling Up Biocrude Derived Anode Material (BDAM) (2021-2025). US Department of Energy. Co-PI. \$3,999,938
- Renewable Natural Gas from Carbonaceous Wastes via Phase Transition CO₂/O₂ Sorbent Enhanced Chemical Looping Gasification (2019-2022). US Department of Energy. Co-PI. \$2,499,461
- Interdisciplinary Doctoral Education Program in Animal Production from Renewable Forest Resources (2018-2023). US Department of Agriculture - National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Co-P. \$238,500
- Catalytic Upgrading of Carbohydrates in Waste Streams to Hydrocarbons (2018-2021). US Department of Energy. Co-PI. \$2,475,807
- Green Infrastructure in Schools: Creating a Network for Stormwater Management and Student Engagement and Well-being (2018-2019). Water Resource Institute of the UNC System. Co-PI. \$10,000
- Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Woody Biomass Torrefaction Process to Displace Coal at Portland General Electric's Boardman Power Plant. US Endowment of Forestry and Communities (2017-2019). Co-PI. \$249,227
- The Potential for Tall Wood Building to Sequester Carbon, Support Forest Communities and Create New Options for Forest Management (2017-2018). US Endowment of Forestry and Communities. Co-PI. \$300,013
- Preparing Diverse and Rural Students and Teachers to Meet the Challenges in the Bioproducts and Bioenergy Industry (2017-2021). US Department of Agriculture. Co-PI. \$2,750,000
- Next Generation Logistics Systems for Delivering Optimal Biomass Feedstocks to Biorefining Industries in the Southeastern United States (2016- 2019). US Department of Energy. Co-PI. \$561,000

- Carbon Cycling, Environmental & Rural Economic Impacts from Collecting & Processing Specific Woody Feedstocks into Biofuels (2015- 2019). US Department of Energy. Co-PI. \$240,000

Service

Advisory Board and Committees

- Technical Advisory Group, The Partnership on Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance, Food and Agriculture Organization of the *United Nations*, 2018-2020
- Provisional Committee for Current Methods for Life Cycle Analyses of Low-Carbon Transportation Fuels in the United States. The *National Academies* of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology, 2021-2022

Invited Reviewer

- Proposal Reviewer:
 - U.S. National Science Foundation:
 - Environmental Sustainability Program
 - Graduate Research Fellowships Program
 - Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER)
 - National Research Foundation of Singapore
- Journal Reviewer:
 - Nature Climate Change
 - Nature Communications
 - Joule
 - Journal of Cleaner Production
 - Journal of Industrial Ecology
 - Energy Science & Engineering
 - Science of the Total Environment
 - Current Opinion in Chemical Engineering
 - Bioresources
 - International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment
 - Journal of Engineering
 - Energy Reports
 - Energy & Fuels
 - Journal of Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy
 - Physicochemical Problems of Mineral Processing
 - Energy and Environmental Science
 - Environmental Science and Technology
 - Environmental Research Letters
 - Resources, Conservation & Recycling;
 - ACS Sustainable Chemistry & Engineering
 - Reaction Chemistry & Engineering
 - Renewable & Sustainable Energy Reviews
 - Biofuels, Bioproducts & Biorefining
 - Sustainable Materials and Technology
 - Renewable Energy
 - ACS ES&T Engineering
 - BioEnergy Research
 - Water-Energy Nexus
 - Computers and Chemical Engineering
- Book Proposal Reviewer – Elsevier
- Conference Reviewer:
 - ASME 2021 International Design Engineering Technical Conferences and Computers and Information in Engineering Conference IDETC/CIE2021
 - Joint Conference ISIE and ISSST, Chicago, IL, 2017
 - International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology, 2018, 2019, 2021

Service to Scientific and Professional Organizations

- Invited participant, Cross Laminated Timber Workshop, Department of Energy, BTO. April 19th, 2021
- Invited participant, Carbon Negative Building Materials Workshop, ARPA-E, March 23th and 25th, 2021

- Working Group on New Technologies in LCA, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, North America, 2021 – present.
- Invited Author for “Goals, Strengths, and Limitations Governing the Use of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) in Food and Agriculture”, Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, United States.
- Program Chair, Organizing Committee of ISSST (International Symposium for Sustainable Systems and Technology), 2020 – 2021
- Board member of ISIE Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment Division (ISIE: International Society of Industrial Ecology), 2017 - present
- Chair for Food-Energy-Water Nexus Systems in International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology (ISSST), Portland, Oregon, 2019.
- International Scientific Committee, 26th Life Cycle Engineering (LCE) conference, the International Academy for Production Engineering, 2018-2019
- Invited participant, Interagency Working Group on Biological Data Sharing Workshop, Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research, Rockville, MD, 2019
- Chair of Organizing Committee, USDA funded workshop on database integration for Food-Energy-Water Nexus (FEW), 2018-2019
- Discussion Lead, NSF INFEWS Solicitation Workshop, RTP, organized by NCSU, Duke University, and Chapel Hill, 05/2018
- Chair of Joint Conference ISIE and ISSST on Session LCA Applications, Chicago, IL, 2017
- Chair/Co-Chair of AIChE National Meeting Sessions on
 - Life Cycle Analysis of Bio-Based Fuels, Energy, and Chemicals, 2017 - 2021
 - The Food-Energy-Water Nexus, 2017 – 2021
 - Going to a Decision Point in Sustainability Analysis, 2020
 - Process Design: Innovation for Sustainability, 2017 and 2018
- Participant, Department of Energy Biorefinery Optimization Workshop, Chicago, 10/2016
- Co-Chair of AIChE Midwest Session on Energy, Sustainability and the Environment, Chicago, IL, 2014.
- Chair of LCA XIII Conference Session on Fossil Fuels 1, Orlando, FL, 2013
- Chair of LCA XIV Conference Session on Health, San Francisco, CA, 2012

University Service

- Committee Chair for the Mochen Liao Award, 2021
- Judge for 2021 YSE Research Day, 04/16/2021
- Liaison for the Yale School of the Environment, Faculty Steering & Council of the Women Faculty Forum at Yale University, 2020 - present.
- Member of the advisory committee for the climate positive forest product, The Forests Dialogue, Yale School of the Environment, 2020 - present.
- Session Coordinator, Hixon Center Urban Conference- Future Cities’ Material Flows: Implications of Design, Production & Waste, Yale, November 6, 2020
- Forest Biomaterials Faculty Search Committee, NCSU, 2019-2020.
- Ph.D. Qualify Exam Committee. Department of Forest Biomaterials, 2018 and 2019.
- The Research and Extension Computing Advisory Team (RECAT), School of Natural Resources, NCSU, 2018-2020
- System Programmer Analyst Search Committee, School of Natural Resources, NCSU, 2018 Fall
- Graduate School Representative for Ph.D. preliminary and final exams, NCSU:

- Berit Janssen, College of Textile, 2016-2017;
- Alec Falzone, Chemistry, 2016-2017;
- James Michael Madden, Marine, Earth & Atmos Sciences, NCSU, 2018-2019;
- IT Director Search Committee, School of Natural Resources, NCSU, 2017 Fall
- Faculty Search Committee, Department of Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2017-2018

Professional Affiliations

- Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors (AEESP) (2020-present)
- American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) (2012-present)
- LCSA Division Board Member, International Society of Industrial Ecology (ISIE) (2017-present)
- International Society of Industrial Ecology (2013-present)
- American Center for Life Cycle Assessment (ACLCA) (2013-present)
- American Chemical Society (ACS) (2017-present)
- Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (2017-present)

Education Activities

Courses

- 2021 - ENV 884a Industrial Ecology, Yale School of the Environment
- 2021 - ENV 838b Life Cycle Assessment, Yale School of the Environment
- 2021 - ENV 695 01 (FA21): YFF Series: The Future of Wood Building Products in a Changing Climate: Mass Timber and Biomaterials
- 2019 - 2020 FB 595 Standards of Sustainable Materials and Green Building, NCSU
- 2018 - 2020 PSE 476/FB 576 Environmental Life Cycle Analysis, NCSU
- 2017 - 2020 SMT 483 Capstone in Sustainable Materials and Technology, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU
- 2017 - 2020 NR 595 Interdisciplinary Approach to Sustainability Science, NCSU

Online Education Materials Developed

- Green Buildings and Sustainable Materials, sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology. URL: <https://faculty.cnr.ncsu.edu/yuanyao/green-buildings-and-sustainable-materials/>
- Environmental Life Cycle Analysis, <https://campus.extension.org/enrol/index.php?id=1778>

Students and Postdoctoral Scholars

- **Current Ph.D. Students (Committee Chair)**
 - Jennifer Kroeger, Yale School of the Environment, Yale University, 2021 – present
 - Hannah Wang, Yale School of the Environment, Yale University, 2021 – present
- **Current Ph.D. Students (Committee Member)**
 - Rodrigo Buitrago, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU 2018 - present
 - Darlene Echeverria, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2018 - present
 - Zhenzhen Zhang, Forestry and Environmental Resources, NCSU, 2017 - present
 - Maria Herrera, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2016 – present
- **Current Postdoctoral Scholars**
 - Kai Lan, Ph.D. in Forest Biomaterials, 2021 – present
 - Na Wu, Ph.D. in Agricultural & Biological Engineering, 2021 – present
 - Bingquan Zhang, Ph.D. in Renewable Energy System Analysis, 2021– present
- **Past PhD Students (Committee Chair)**
 - Kai Lan, 2020, PhD in Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2017-2020
Dissertation Topic: Dynamic and Parametric Life Cycle Assessment Modeling Frameworks for Biomass Production and Biomass-based Products.

- **Past Master Students (Committee Chair)**
 - Mochen Liao, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2017-2020
Thesis Topic: Evaluating the Variability of Energy Consumption and Carbon Footprints of Activated Carbon Production Using Machine Learning Integrated Process Simulation
 - Darlene Echeverria, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2017-2018
Thesis Topic: Life Cycle Assessment of Peracetic Acid and Application in the Pulp and Paper industry
 - Kristen Tomberlin, Forest Biomaterials, NCSU, 2017-2019
Thesis Topic: Life Cycle Carbon Analysis of US Pulp and Paper Grades Using Self-Reported Mill Data.
- **Past Master Students (Research Project Advisor)**
 - Wan Ping Chua, Master of Environmental Management, Yale University, 2021 summer
Current Title and Affiliation: Life Cycle Associate, SCS global
 - Hardik Pokhrel, Master of Environmental Management, Yale University, 2020-2021
Current Title and Affiliation: Associate, Sol Systems
 - Sara Johnson, Textile Engineering, NCSU, 2018-2019.
Current Title and Affiliation: Circularity Analyst, PVH Corp.
- **Past Undergraduate Researcher**
 - Alec Nabinger, Sustainable Materials and Technology, NCSU, 2017-2019. Project “Data-Driven Approach to Unveil Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensities of Different Pulp and Paper Products”.
 - Ross Petersen, Sustainable Materials and Technology, minor in Computer Science, NCSU, 2019-2020. Project “Data Analysis for Sustainability Reporting”.
- **Visiting Scholar**
 - Sophie Van Schoubroeck, Hasselt University, Belgium. PhD Dissertation Topic: “A techno-sustainability assessment framework: Indicator selection and integrated method for sustainability analysis of biobased chemicals”.

Workshop Organized

- Database Integration Workshop: Building the Data Capacity for Food-Energy-Water Research. Sept 11, 2018, NC State University Raleigh, NC. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Workshop URL: <https://faculty.cnr.ncsu.edu/yuanyao/database-integration-workshop-building-the-data-capacity-for-food-energy-water-research/>

Invited Talk

- 10/14/2021, Public Seminar, Wood as Sustainable Materials, Yale Forest Forum, US
- 10/6/2021, Seminar, UC Davis, California, US (virtual)
- 09/30/2021, Seminar, Yale Beijing Center, Beijing, China (virtual)
- 09/24/2021, Seminar, Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, Yale University
- 09/22/2021, Invited Talk, Environmental Impacts of Textiles, Facilitating a Circular Economy for Textiles, NIST, virtual workshop
- 8/15/2021, Plenary Speaker, Sustainable Materials Research Summit (SMART), Annual Meeting 2021, Kunming, China.
- 10/30/2020 Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, University of Cincinnati
- 10/02/2020 NSF Convergence Accelerator Workshop: Re-think Nature for Innovative Solutions to Grand Challenges, hosted by the University of Maryland.
- 09/09/2020 Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, Yale University, New Haven, CT

- 06/14-06/19/2020 Plenary speaker, 2020 Industrial Ecology Gordon Research Conference - The Impact of Data Science Advances on Industrial Ecology and Sustainability Systems Science, Newry, ME (rescheduled due to COVID-19)
- 03/05/2020 McCormick School of Engineering, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- 02/20/2020 School of Environment and Sustainability, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 02/06/2020 School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 10/01/2019 Energy Seminar Series, NC State University, Raleigh, NC
- 06/06/2019 American Chemistry Society Climate Change and Sustainability Seminar, Research Triangle Park, NC
- 04/25/2019 Natural Resources Foundation, Raleigh, NC
- 03/21/2019 University Research Symposium, NCSU, Raleigh, NC
- 11/09/2018 Digital Economy Project, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
- 06/08/2018 FREEDM Annual Conference Meeting, Raleigh NC
- 02/16/2018 NCSU Energy Collaboration Group, Raleigh, NC
- 12/07/2017 ExxonMobil Research Center, Houston, TX
- 08/24/2017 Water-Nano GRIP Meeting (Game-Changing Research Incentive Program), Raleigh, NC
- 08/18/2017, NSF Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace Meeting, Raleigh, NC
- 06/21/2017 U.S. Forest Product Lab, Madison, WI
- 12/21/2016 Argonne National Lab Meeting, NCSU, Raleigh, NC
- 11/21/2016 Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, NCSU, Raleigh, NC

Oral Presentations

Presenter underlined

44. Yuan, Y.*(2021). Systems Modeling Approaches to Support Decision-Making for Sustainable Materials. Sustainable Materials Research Summit (SMART) Annual Meeting 2021, August 15–17, 2021. Virtual.
43. Lan, K., Stephen SS., Prakash, N. and **Y. Yao*** (2021). Understanding the dynamic and variabilities in life cycle carbon and energy analysis for cross-laminated timber produced in the Southeastern United States. ISSST Conference. Virtual. 2021.
42. Yao, Y* (2020). Life Cycle Modeling for Emerging Technologies: A Parametric Approach to Guide Research and Development for Additive Manufacturing. AIChE Annual Meeting, virtual.
41. Lan, K., Ou, L., Park, S., Stephen SS. and **Y. Yao*** (2020). Carbon and Energy Implications of Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks and Decentralized Supply Chain Design in the Southeastern United States. AIChE Annual Meeting.
40. Liao, M., Kelley, SS, and Y. Yao* (2020). Integrating Machine Learning and Process Simulation to Estimate Energy and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Activated Carbon Production. AIChE Annual Meeting.
39. Lan, K. and **Y. Yao*** (2020). A Life-Cycle Modeling Framework for Dynamic Energy And water Footprints of Agriculture Systems. AIChE Annual Meeting
38. Lan, K., Ou, L., Stephen SS., Park, S., Kwon, H., Cai, H., Wang, W. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Understanding the Uncertainties in Environmental Life Cycle Energy and Carbon Analysis for Biofuel from Forest Residue in the United States. AIChE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL
37. Lan, K., Park, S., Kelley, SS., Ou, L., English, B., Yu, T., Larson, J. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Techno-Economic Analysis and Life Cycle Assessment of Decentralized Preprocessing System for Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks in the Southeastern USA. AIChE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL

- 36 Liao, M., Kelley, SS, and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Evaluating Variability of Energy Consumption and Carbon Emissions of Activated Carbon Production from Wood Using Artificial Neural Network Integrated Process Simulations. AIChE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL
- 35 Liao, M., Kelley, SS, and **Y. Yao*** (2019). A Data-Driven Framework for Biomass Selection and Process Optimization of Activated Carbon Production. AIChE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL
- 34 Lan, K., Ou, L., Stephen SS., Park, S., Kwon, H., Cai, H., Wang, W. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Quantifying Variability in Life Cycle Environmental Footprints of Biofuel Produced from Forest Residues in the United States. AIChE Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL
- 33 Lan, K., Ou, L., Park, S., Stephen SS., and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Life Cycle Carbon and Energy Analysis of Decentralized Preprocessing Systems for Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks. LCA XIX Conference, Tucson, AZ
- 32 Lan, K., Ou, L., Stephen SS., Park, S., Kwon, H., Cai, H., Wang, W. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Dynamic Life-Cycle Energy and Carbon Analysis for Biofuel from Forest Residue in the United States. LCA XIX Conference, Tucson, AZ
31. **Y. Yao*** and R. Huang (2019). A Parametric Life Cycle Modeling Framework for Identifying Research Development Priorities of Emerging Technologies: A Case Study of Additive Manufacturing. 26th CIRP Conference on Life Cycle Engineering: Advancing Industrial Sustainability. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
30. Nabinger, A., Tomberlin, K., Venditti, R., and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Using a Data-Driven Approach to Unveil Greenhouse Gas Emission Intensities of Different Pulp and Paper Products. 26th CIRP Conference on Life Cycle Engineering: Advancing Industrial Sustainability. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
29. **Yao, Y.***, Liao, M., and SS. Kelley, (2019). A Machine Learning-Based Modeling Framework for Generating Life Cycle Inventory Data of Activated Carbon Production from Woody Biomass, LCA XIX Conference, Tucson, AZ
28. Buitrago, R., D., Venditti, R., Jameel, H., **Y. Yao*** (2019). Process Simulation-Based Life Cycle Inventory Analysis of Dissolving Pulp from the Sulfite Process, LCA XIX Conference, Tucson, AZ
27. **Yao, Y.***, Liao, M., and SS. Kelley (2019). Data-Driven Approaches for Sustainable Biochar Production and Applications, Biochar & Bioenergy 2019, Fort Collins, CO, USA.
26. Liao, M., Kelley, SS, and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Quantifying Energy Demand and GHG Emissions of Activated Carbon Production from Diverse Woody Biomass: A Predictive Modeling Framework of Artificial Neural Network and Kinetic Based Simulation, ISSST Conference, Portland, Oregon, USA.
25. Lan, K. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). An Integrated Life-Cycle Modeling Framework for Dynamic Agriculture Systems, ISSST Conference, Portland, Oregon, USA.
24. **Yao, Y.*** Huang, R., Venditti, R., Lan, K., and Z. Zhang (2019). Insights from the Database Integration Workshop: Building the Data Capacity for Food-Energy-Water Research, ISSST Conference, Portland, Oregon, USA.
23. **Yao, Y.*** and R. Venditti (2019). Using Big Data to Understand the Variability of Carbon and Energy Footprints of Pulp and Paper Products, ISSST Conference, Portland, Oregon, USA.
22. **Yao, Y.***, Venditti, R. and SS. Kelley (2018). Promoting Bioeconomy for Sustainable Food-Energy-Water Systems: The Need of Interdisciplinary Research from a Data Point of View, Database Integration Workshop: Building the Data Capacity for Food-Energy-Water Research, Raleigh, NC, USA.

21. **Yao, Y***, and R. Huang. (2018) Using Life Cycle Analysis to Understand the Sustainability of Emerging Technologies and Guide Research and Technology Development, International Workshop for Global Sustainability, Research Triangle, NC, USA.
20. **Echeverria, D.**, Venditti, R., Jameel, H., **Y. Yao*** (2018) Comparative Life Cycle Assessment of Peracetic Acid Application in the Pulp and Paper Industry, ACLCA, Fort Collins, CO, USA.
19. **Yao, Y***, and R. Huang (2018). Using Prospective Life Cycle Assessment to Guide Research and Technology Development, ISSST Conference (International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology), Buffalo, New York, USA.
18. **Echeverria, D.**, **Yao, Y***, Venditti, R., Jameel (2017). Environmental Life Cycle Assessment of Peracetic Acid Application in the Pulp and Paper Industry, AIChE, Minneapolis, MN, USA.
17. **Yao, Y***, Huang, R., and E. Masanet (2017). Multi-Scale Prospective Modeling to Enhance Decision Making for Next-Generation Technologies, ISIE-ISSST 2017: Science in Support of Sustainable and Resilient Communities, Chicago, IL, USA.
16. **Huang, R.**, **Yao, Y**, and E. Masanet (2017). Enabling Retrospective Life Cycle Assessment in the Prospective Context for Emerging Technologies, ISIE-ISSST 2017: Science in Support of Sustainable and Resilient Communities, Chicago, IL, USA.
15. **William R.**, Marano, J., and **Y. Yao*** (2017). A Techno-Economic Assessment of Centralized Carbon Capture in US Petroleum, Refineries," IETC, College Station, TX, USA.
14. **Yao, Y***, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2015) Looking into the Future of the Ethylene Industry: A Generic Assessment Model for Emerging Technologies, AIChE Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
13. **Yao, Y***. (2015) Accelerating the Development of Green Technologies for Chemical Production through Multiscale Life-Cycle Technology Assessment, AIChE Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA.
12. **Yao, Y**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2015) A Case Study of MAMTech Assessment Model: Prospective Life-cycle Technology Assessment of Future U.S. Ethylene Production, LCA XV Conference, Vancouver, Canada.
11. **Yao, Y**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2015) Integrated Life-cycle Technology Assessment Model for Sustainable Chemical Production, International Society for Industrial Ecology Conference, London, U.K.
10. **Yao, Y.**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2015). Opportunities and Challenges for Energy-Intensive Chemicals: Emerging Technology Review. 7th Annual Midwest AIChE Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, USA.
9. **Yao, Y.**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2014). A Life-cycle, Techno-economic Modeling Framework for Net Impact Assessment of Emerging Technologies in the U.S. Chemical Industry. LCA XIV Conference, San Francisco, California, USA.
8. **Yao, Y.**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2014). A Macro-level Impact Assessment Tool for Emerging Technologies in Chemical Industry. AIChE Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia
7. **Yao, Y.**, Graziano, D., Riddle, M., and E. Masanet (2014). Investigating the Impact of Shale Gas Utilization in Bulk Chemical Production. Annual AIChE Midwest Meeting, Chicago, Illinois
6. **Yao, Y***, Chang, Y., and E. Masanet (2013). Hybrid Life Cycle Assessment Model of Silicon Photovoltaics. AIChE Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, USA.
5. **Yao, Y.**, Thwaites, F., and E. Masanet (2013). Hybrid Techno-economic Modeling Tool for Greener Chemicals Supply Chains. AIChE Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California
4. **Yao, Y.**, Chang, Y., and E. Masanet (2013). Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Consumption of Silicon Photovoltaics Based on Hybrid Assessment Model. LCA XIII Conference, Orlando, Florida, USA.

3. **Yao, Y.** and F. You (2012). Optimal Design of County-level Hydrocarbon Biorefinery Supply Chains Under Uncertainty: A Case Study for the State of Illinois Using Spatially-Explicit Model. AIChE Annual Meeting, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA.
2. **Yao, Y.** and F. You (2012). Multiobjective Stochastic Programming Models and Algorithms for Robust Design and Optimization of Biofuels Supply Chains. AIChE Annual Meeting, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA.
1. **Yao, Y.** and F. You (2012) Life Cycle Assessment of Thin-Film CdTe Photovoltaics. AIChE Annual Meeting, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA.

Poster Presentations

Presenter underlined

9. **Echeverria, D.**, Venditti, R., Jameel, H., **Y. Yao*** (2019) Generating Life Cycle Inventory Data of Pre-Hydrolysis Kraft Pulp from Diverse Wood Sources Using Process Simulation, LCA XIX Conference, Tuscon, AZ
8. **Lan, K.**, Park, S., Kelley, SS., Ou, L., English, B., Yu, T., Larson, J. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Techno-Economic Analysis and Life Cycle Assessment of Decentralized Preprocessing System for Fast Pyrolysis Biorefineries with Blended Feedstocks in the Southeastern United States, ISSST Conference, Portland, Oregon, USA.
7. Liao, M. and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Investigating the Environmental Implications of Artificial Intelligence Applications in the Chemical Manufacturing Industry, NCSU Cybersecurity Manufacturing Summit, NCSU, Raleigh, NC, USA.
6. Parida, D., Zambrano, M., **Venditti, R.** and **Y. Yao*** (2019). Development of Non-Conventional Sustainability Indicators for Biopolymers, 26th Bio-Environmental Polymer Society (BEPS), Clemson University International Center for Automotive Research, Greenville, SC, USA.
5. **Yao, Y.*** (2019). Developing Decision-Support Tool for Industrial Sustainability, University Research Symposium, NCSU, Raleigh, NC, USA.
4. **Zhang, Z.**, Martin, K., Grey, J., Stevenson, K.T., & **Y. Yao** (2018). Evaluating Machine Learning Approaches for Mapping Flood Risk. Poster presented at the American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, USA.
3. **Liao, M.** and **Y. Yao*** (2018) The Predictive Life Cycle Assessment of Activated Carbon Production via different Pathways: An Artificial Neural Network and Kinetic based Model, Frontiers in Biorefining Conference, St. Simons Island, Georgia, USA.
2. **Liao, M.** and **Y. Yao*** (2018) A Predictive Life Cycle Assessment Model of Activated Carbon Production using Artificial Neural Network, ACLCA, Fort Collins, CO, USA.
1. **Lan, K.** and **Y. Yao*** (2018) Integrating Life Cycle Assessment and Agent-Based Modeling: A Dynamic Modeling Framework for Sustainable Agriculture Systems, ACLCA, Fort Collins, CO, USA.