Kuo-Hsin Yang is from Tainan, Taiwan. He is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering at the University of Texas since January 2005. He passed the qualifying exam and became a Ph.D. candidate at September 2006 and is expected to graduate in 2008. His research interests are on the application and utilization of geosynthetics on geo-eco-environment (e.g. human & animal habitat), pollution remediation, and debris flow related slope stability problems. From engineering aspect and approach, He wants to analyze, manage and improve the complex ecological system and geo-environment problems and, finally, to achieve the ultimate goal of exploitation as well as conservation of water and land resource.

His current research is looking into the design and the basic mechanics of narrow retaining wall systems. This project is sponsored by Texas Department of Transportation, (TxDOT) under the supervision of Professor Zornberg, who is an expert in the field of retaining structures and geosynthetics. Besides, he also focuses on the computation modeling of soil behavior using the finite element method. He also have a wide range of interests, and look forward to expanding his research into new areas such as reliability-based design, uncertainty analyses and optimization of geotechnical structures.

In spring 2006, he participated in the graduate engineering student paper competition at the University of Texas at Austin. His paper was ranked the top 10 papers and selected for the oral presentation. He represented UT team (two graduate students and two undergraduate students) for the Student Paper Retaining Wall Competition at Geo-Denver 2007. Their design paper was awarded the top ranked team and travel grant. He passed the Fundamental Engineering exam at and become an EIT in April 2007. He also awarded scholarships from Cockrell School of Engineering in 2006 and Department of Civil Engineering in 2007.

He actively participated in research and projects during his master's education at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and the bachelor's education at National Taiwan University, Taiwan. The content of those research and projects involved stochastic, physic models, numerical programming, and laboratory work. His research has been published in several famous journals.

In his life of leisure, he likes exercise and outdoor activities (e.g. baseball, basketball, swim, work out, hiking and rock climbing). He is fascinated with nature, science, and experiencing the new things through traveling. He loves to see the movies, shows, concerts and museums. He also enjoys cooking Chinese food.