

## Michael Evans

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### EDUCATION

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**Old Dominion University**, Norfolk, VA, United States

Sept 2023-May 2025

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

Minor in Applied Mathematics

GPA: 3.9/4.0

**Tidewater Community College**, Portsmouth, VA, United States

Associate of Science in Computer Science

May 2021-May 2023

Associate of Science in Business Administration

May 2017-May 2019

GPA: 3.9/4.0

### PUBLICATIONS

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**Michael Evans**, Dominik Soós, Ethan Landers, and Jian Wu. 2023. MSVEC: A Multidomain Testing Dataset for Scientific Claim Verification. In *The Twenty-fourth International Symposium on Theory, Algorithmic Foundations, and Protocol Design for Mobile Networks and Mobile Computing (MobiHoc '23)*, October 23–26, 2023, Washington, DC, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 6 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3565287.3617630>

### TALKS

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#### **The Potential of Large Language Models in Evaluating Scientific Claims**

Undergraduate Research Symposium; 2024 Mar 30; Norfolk, Virginia (VA): ODU Digital Commons (URS '24).

#### **MSVEC: A Multidomain Testing Dataset for Scientific Claim Verification**

The Twenty-fourth International Symposium on Theory, Algorithmic Foundations, and Protocol Design for Mobile Networks and Mobile Computing (MobiHoc '23).

#### **Scientific News Verification With GPT**

Research Experience for Undergraduates in Disinformation Detection and Analytics, Old Dominion University, 2023 (REU '23).

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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#### **NSF REU - Disinformation Detection and Analytics**

June-Aug 2023

Old Dominion University, advised by Dr. Jian Wu

Lab for Applied Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing Systems

- Worked on *MSVEC: A Multidomain Testing Dataset for Scientific Claim Verification* as the lead researcher and first author.
- Contributed to the project corpus by expanding the multidomain testing dataset containing scientific claims from news articles with evidence papers from 56 to 200 discrete data objects for testing the effectiveness of the gpt-3.5-turbo model.
- Performed prompt engineering to solve the research problem of querying GPT for *Sentence Rationales* by experimenting with refining the language used in the existing query.
- Extracted the metadata of 200 scientific news articles and evidence paper pairings and empirically annotated the ground truth for the task of identifying sentence rationales.
- Evaluated the performance of a zero-shot method with GPT-3.5 against the MSVEC dataset on two sub-tasks: stance labeling and identifying sentence rationales. Compared the capabilities of GPT on the task of scientific claim verification against several domain-specific datasets for training models.
- Contributed various Python scripts to the LAMPS-Lab GitHub repository for querying GPT, ran the experiments, analyzed the results, wrote the paper, and presented the findings at the MobiHoc conference.

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

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### Hard to Find Party Supplies

Dec 2021-June 2022

Junior PHP Web Developer

- Worked closely with the director of IT to build and maintain \$1m/year eCommerce platform by performing server maintenance, writing documentation, designing web page features, managing Google AD campaigns and updating inventory of 35,000 products.
- Re-wrote XML web page modifications from PHP to TWIG during complete server rework while utilizing the MVC design pattern, CSS, and HTML.
- Optimized legacy inventory processes with the use of CRON jobs to save 30 minutes of work time per week for current and future developers.
- Improved site Admin page by writing quality-of-life features for back-end users and setup network for secondary location during business expansion.

## AWARDS

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College of Sciences Dean's List – Old Dominion University

Dec 2023-May 2024

BIO, GEO, CISE and OCE REU Travel Grant – \$1,200

Sept 2023

Academic Excellence Award – Tidewater Community College

April 2020

Young Authors Writing Competition – 1st place

May 2010

## CERTIFICATIONS

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### CITI Program

July 2023

Social and Behavioral Research - Basic/Refresher

Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research

Responsible Conduct of Research for Engineers

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC), *Surveyor*

Jun 2024

Undergraduate Research Symposium at ODU, *Presenter*

March 2024

University Accountability Board, *Member*

March 2024-Present

Association for Computing Machinery Group at ODU, *Member*

Jan 2024-Present

ACM MobiHoc 2023 Symposium, *Presenter*

Oct 2023

STEM Day Expo, Wilson High School, *Volunteer Exhibitor*

March 2019

National Mathematics Honor Society at TCC (MAΘ), *Member*

Feb 2019-Present

## REFERENCES

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### Dr. Jian Wu

Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Old Dominion University

**Email:** jwu@cs.odu.edu

**Tel:** (757) 683-7753

### Dr. Sampath Jayarathna

Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Old Dominion University

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### Mrs. Marija Raskovic

Adjunct Professor of Physics at Tidewater Community College

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