Zhongling(Jonquil) Liao

ヹ zliao42@wisc.edu

www.linkedin.com/in/zhongling-jonquil-liao/

EDUCATION

•University of Wisconsin - Madison

Doctor of Philosophy in Statistics, Minoring in Computer Science

•University of Wisconsin - Madison

Master of Science in Statistics, Speciality in Data Science

•University of Wisconsin - Madison

Sept. 2021 - Expected 2025

CGPA: 4.0/4.0

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•University of Wisconsin - Madison

Sept. 2019 - May 2020

Visiting International Student

•Zhejiang University

Sept. 2016 - Jun. 2020

Bachelor of Natural Sciences in Statistics

CGPA: 3.8/4.0

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

• Pass-to-rank (PTR) Robust Spectral Clustering - In manuscript

Sept. 2022 - Present

 $Novel\ robust\ spectral\ clustering\ method\ utilizing\ rank\ statistics,\ eigendecomposition,\ and\ k-means$

UW - Madison

CGPA: 4.0/4.0

- Established tail bounds for the spectral norm of random matrices of normalized rank statistics by using random matrix theory.
- Proved the strong and weak consistency of the Pass-to-rank (PTR) spectral clustering method, providing optimal theoretical foundations.
- Evaluated the performance of the PTR spectral clustering by applying it to simulated gene co-expression data.

•Censored AcF Model for Financial Market Risk Studies

May 2020 - May 2021

Innovative stochastic time series model based on Extreme Value Theory

UW - Madison

- Developed the Censored Autoregressive conditional Fréchet (AcF) model, an extension of the classic AcF, for modeling block maxima of negative log returns in stock markets with daily price limits.
- Captured the dynamics of systemic risk by recovering time-varying GARCH-like tail index series using the CAcF model.
- Applied the CAcF model to diverse stock markets including CSI300, S&P500, DJI30, SET100, revealing interpretable market relationships.

•Sports Game Result Prediction using Latent Factor Model(LFM)

Jan. 2020 - May 2020

Application of LFM with Logit function and penalized loss function

Zhejiang University

- Utilized classical LFM on home team away team interaction matrices, achieving average 59.7% prediction accuracy for NBA game results.
- Extended the approach to three-dimensional tensor decomposition and introduced temporal factors for improved prediction accuracy.

Selected Projects

•Yelp Review Data Analysis

Nov. 2020 - Dec. 2020

 $Languages \ \& \ Tools: \ Python, \ R, \ Git, \ Github, \ Pandas$

- Employed Natural Language Processing techniques (LDA, LSA, NMF) to extract review topics from extensive Yelp review data.
- Quantified the correlation between ratings and reviews, constructing a multivariate regression model for rating prediction using Step-wise selection and cross-validation.
- Generated data-driven business advice for related industries.

•Spectrum Similarity Analysis for cB58 Galaxy

Oct. 2020

Languages & Tools: R, High Throughput Computing, Distributed Computing

- Devised an efficient algorithm using statistical characteristics to identify spectra closely resembling the cB58 galaxy from a 25GB spectrum dataset containing 2.5 million spectra.
- Utilized exponential smoothing for noise reduction and introduced Temporal Correlation Coefficient to evaluate spectral trend similarity.

•Server Storage Prediction

Sept. 2020

Languages & Tools: R

- Designed a robust Bayesian linear regression algorithm in R for predicting precise server storage capacity depletion times, outperforming ARIMA algorithm in speed.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Aug. 2020 Academic Excellence Award, UW-Madison, Department of Statistics

Oct. 2019 Hailiang First Class Scholarship (Ranked 2nd), Zhejiang University

Oct. 2019 Academic First Class Scholarship, Zhejiang University

Sept. 2018 Third Prize, China Undergraduate Mathematical Modeling Contest

Sept. 2018 Outstanding Student Leaders, Zhejiang University