

# Mingda Wu

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## EDUCATION

**Capital Normal University** | Beijing, China  
*Bachelor of Science in Geographic Information Science*  
GPA: 4.34/5 (93.4/100), Major Top 1

Sep 2020-Present

**Northern Illinois University** | DeKalb, IL, USA  
*Bachelor of Science in Geography* (Exchange, Hon)

Aug 2021-May 2023

GPA: 3.99/4, Dean's List for 4 semesters, Full University Honors, Summa Cum Laude, GIS Certificate

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Wu, M.**, Sui, T., Huang, Q., & Wu, M. (2023). Multiclass Wildfire Burnt Area Detection using Deep Learning and Sentinel-2 Imagery. *Science of Total Environment*. (To be submitted in Nov 2023)
- Sui, T., **Wu, M.**, Wu, M., & Huang, Q. (2023). Empowering Wildfire Burnt Area Detection with Deep Learning. *International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)*. (To be submitted in Nov 2023)
- **Wu, M.**, Huang, Q., Sui, T., & Wu, M. (2023). *Pixel-wise Wildfire Burn Severity Classification with Bi-temporal Sentinel-2 Data and Deep Learning*. 2023 6th International Conference on Big Data Technologies (ICBDT 2023). <https://doi.org/10.1145/3627377.3627433> (**Excellent Presentation Award**, under publication)
- **Wu, M.** (2023). Pixel-Wise Machine Learning and Deep Learning Methods Implementation on Multi-Class Wildfire Mapping. *Honors Capstones, 1464*. <https://huskiecommons.lib.niu.edu/studentengagement-honorscapstones/1464> (**Third Prize poster presentation**)

## PRESENTATIONS

- **Wu, M.**, Sui, T., Huang, Q., & Wu, M. (2024). *Bi-RAUnet: A Multiclass Wildfire Burnt Area Assessment Framework using Deep Learning and Sentinel-2 Imagery*. Association of American Geographers (AAG) 2024, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States of America. (Upcoming)
- Huang, Q., **Wu, M.**, & Sui, T. (2023). *Empowering Wildfire Damage Assessment with Bi-temporal Sentinel-2 Data and Deep Learning*. 2023 American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA, United States of America. (Invited, upcoming)
- **Wu, M.** (2023). *Pixel-Wise Machine Learning and Deep Learning Methods Implementation on Multi-Class Wildfire Mapping*. Illinois GIS Association (ILGISA) - the Geographic Society of Chicago (GSC) Student Poster Symposium, Chicago, IL, United States of America. (**First Prize in undergraduate group**)
- Sui, T., **Wu, M.**, Wu, M., & Huang, Q. (2023). *Empowering Urban Wildfire Burnt Area Detection with Deep Learning*. Global Smart Cities Summit Cum the 3rd International Conference on Urban Informatics (GSCS & ICUI 2023) Conference, Hong Kong, China.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCES

### Wildfire Damage Assessment with Deep Learning and Sentinel-2

Jan 2023-Present

*Spatial Computing and Data Mining Lab, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Advised by Dr. Qunying Huang

Objective: Perform multiclass wildfire semantic segmentation to detect burnt area using deep learning

- Labeled fire images in QGIS based on NBR values, made Adobe Photoshop adjustments, and converted them for model input using Python.
- Designed a Bi-Temporal U-Net structure for pre- and post-fire data, integrating attention gates and residual blocks to focus on challenging classes. Used ArcGIS Pro's Deep Learning toolbox to generate training data for the models.
- Compared to the standard U-Net, we improved overall accuracy by 5%, the Kappa coefficient by 11%, and the mean IoU by 15%.
- Plotted an AUC-ROC curve to illustrate our model's training performance. It demonstrated excellent accuracy with a mean AUC > 0.93, while class 1 (AUC=0.87) needs further improvement.

## Multiclass Wildfire Mapping using Machine Learning

Jan 2023-May 2023

Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment, Northern Illinois University

Advised by Dr. Wei Luo & Dr. Alex Haberlie

Objective: Map wildfire burnt area using traditional machine learning algorithms

- Selected a study area and acquired Sentinel-2 images from ESA. Utilized Erdas to pick false-color bands emphasizing wildfire features.
- Employed QGIS for basic preprocessing tasks like cropping, mosaicking, and stacking. Calculated NDVI values and extracted wildfire features using Erdas.
- Utilized various machine learning algorithms, including Random Forest (RF), eXtreme Gradient Boosting (XGBoost), and Support Vector Machine (SVM).
- Assessed the results using standard metrics, such as overall accuracy (OA), precision, recall, F1-score, and mean IoU. SVM outperformed other models, achieving the highest accuracy.

## INTERNSHIP

### Geological and Geomorphological Field Trip

May 2021

School Practice

Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province, China

College of Resource Environment and Tourism, Capital Normal University

- Explored geological ages, rock formations, and mapped topography using GPS and a compass to understand mountainous and coastal terrain formation.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

Firs-Class Scholarship, Capital Normal University	Nov 2023
Academic Merit Scholarship, Capital Normal University	Nov 2023
Excellent Presentation Award, 2023 6 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Big Data Technologies	Sep 2023
GIS Certificate, Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment, Northern Illinois University	May 2023
Richard E. Dahlberg Scholarship, Northern Illinois University	May 2023
First Prize of the undergraduate group, ILGISA Poster Symposium	May 2023
Full University Honors, Northern Illinois University	Apr 2023
Third Prize of the environment category, NIU CURE Poster Symposium	Apr 2023
Second Prize of general news photo, Illinois College Press Association	Feb 2023
Third-Class Scholarship, Capital Normal University	May 2022
Outstanding Student Cadre Award, Capital Normal University	May 2021
Third Prize in camera group, Second Annual Fall Photo Contest, Capital Normal University	Nov 2020
Fourth Prize in 2020 Fall Photo Contest, Capital Normal University	Oct 2020

## WORK EXPERIENCES

<b>Senior Photojournalist</b>   DeKalb, IL, USA	Aug 2021-May 2023
Northern Star, Northern Illinois University	Part-time, Paid
<b>Scanning Technician</b>   DeKalb, IL, USA	Jan 2022-May 2022
Founders Memorial Library, Northern Illinois University	Part-time, Paid
<b>Photographer</b>   Beijing, China	Sep 2020-Jun 2021
Youth Radio & College of Resource Environment and Tourism, Capital Normal University	Part-time, Volunteer

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

<b>Volunteer of “Week of Welcome 2022”</b>   DeKalb, IL, USA	Aug 2022
Responsible for organizing the welcome event and arranging the welcome picnic.	
<b>Volunteer of “Give DeKalb 2022”</b>   DeKalb, IL, USA	Mar 2022
Participated in the annual event of DeKalb County.	

## SKILLS

- Programming Language and Libraries: Python, GDAL, Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow, Pytorch (learning)
- Major Software: ArcGIS Pro, QGIS, Erdas, GeoDa, Tableau, SPSS, Google Earth Engine (learning)
- Other: Photoshop, Lightroom, Premiere
- Languages: Chinese (native), English (TOEFL iBT 106)