# Siting Li

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#### **Education**

## **University of Washington**

Sep. 2023 - Present

Ph.D., advised by Prof. Simon S. Du

Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering

### **Tsinghua University**

Sep. 2019 – Jun. 2023

B.Eng in Computer Science (Yao class)

Institute for Interdisciplinary Information Sciences

Overall GPA: 3.78/4.0

# Research experiences

## **Towards Understanding Multi-modal Contrastive Learning**

Feb. 2022 - Present

Mentor: Professor Simon S. Du (University of Washington)

• Built the theoretical framework for multi-modal contrastive learning by analyzing the gradient flow dynamics. Designed and tested regularizers for improving the quality of learned representations.

Towards Understanding Multi-modal Robustness from an Information-Theoretical ViewJul. 2021 – Jun. 2023 *Mentor: Professor Hang Zhao (Tsinghua University)* 

- Proposed an information-theoretical framework to explain the discrepancy among previous conclusions on multi-modal robustness. Designed and tested a metric and its calculating pipeline based on mutual information for evaluating modality complementarity on multi-modal datasets.
- Summary of findings available here.

**Difference-in-Differences: Bridging Normalization and Disentanglement in PG-GAN**Jul. 2020 – Jul. 2021

Mentor: Professor Yang Yu (Tsinghua University)

- Conducted experiments and plotted graphs to verify the DID counterfactual framework which clarifies the mechanisms how pixel normalization causes PG-GAN entanglement.
- · Summary of findings available here.

# Selected projects

## Real Image Editing on User-Specified Semantics by GAN Inversion model

Feb. 2021 - Jul. 2021

2021 Spring Computer Vision course project

 Implemented a compact application to find user-defined semantic directions in GAN's latent space and do real image editing, taking advantage of pre-trained GANs and corresponding inversion models. See our codes here and final report available here.

Photon Mapping Dec. 2021 – Jan. 2022

2021 Fall Advanced Computer Graphics course project

• Implemented the photon mapping algorithm and other functions including anti-aliasing, texture mapping, KD-Tree and so on. See the codes and results here.

#### **Bayesian Stackelberg Game Model for Multi-Objective Inspection**

Feb. 2023 - Jun. 2023

2023 Spring Game theory course project

• Use Bayesian Stackelberg Game for modeling and derive the best fare inspection and safety patrol strategies in the LA Metro Rail System in Matlab. See the codes and final report here.

## Honors and scholarships

Paul G. Allen First-Year Graduate Student Fellowship, Univ. of Washington	2023
Volunteer Excellence Scholarship, IIIS, Tsinghua University	2022
Spark Scientific and Technological Innovation Fellowship, Tsinghua University  • top 1% of 3800+ Tsinghua '23 undergraduate students for outstanding research performance	2021
Sports Excellence Scholarship, IIIS, Tsinghua University	2021
Silver Medal (Rank 21/318) in China Collegiate Programming Contest (Regional, Harbin)	2021
Gold Medal in National Olympiad in Informatics (Invitational)	2018
First Prize in National Olympiad in Informatics in Provinces	2016,2017

## Service and leadership

Council Member of Spark Innovative Talent Cultivation Program

Sept. 2021 - Jun. 2023

• Worked on the review committee of the Spark Fellowship and was an organizer of Spark Days.

Member of Class Committee, Yao Class 92

Sept. 2020 - Jun. 2023

Member of Beijing Volunteer Service Federation

Sept. 2019 – Jun. 2023

• 118.5 hours of recorded volunteer experience

#### **Skills**

Languages: Python, C/C++, Go, Matlab, LaTeX, SQL, Verilog

Framework: Pytorch

Languages: Chinese (Native), English (TOEFL 110 (R30+L29+W28+S23); GRE 332 (V162+Q170) + AW4.0)

## **Preprints**

- 1. Siting Li, Chenzhuang Du, Yue Zhao, Yu Huang, Hang Zhao: What Makes for Robust Multi-Modal Models in the Face of Missing Modalities? CoRR abs/2310.06383 (2023)
- 2. Zhengqi Gao, Sucheng Ren, Zihui Xue, Siting Li, Hang Zhao: Training-Free Robust Multimodal Learning via Sample-Wise Jacobian Regularization. CoRR abs/2204.02485 (2022)
- 3. Xiao Liu, Jiajie Zhang, Siting Li, Zuotong Wu, Yang Yu: Difference-in-Differences: Bridging Normalization and Disentanglement in PG-GAN. CoRR abs/2010.08402 (2020)