

# YIXUAN HE

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University of Oxford

## EDUCATION

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**University of Oxford, Dphil in Statistics** Oct. 2020 - Jun. 2024 (expected)

**Clarendon Scholar (fully funded)**, Balliol Jason Hu Scholarship

College: Balliol, supervisors: [Mihai Cucuringu](#) & [Gesine Reinert](#)

Research area: **graph neural networks**

**Teaching assistant** for: Applied Statistics (SB 1.1, MT 2022), Advanced Topics in Statistical Machine Learning (SC 4, HT 2022), Computational Statistics (SB 1.2, HT 2021), Statistics and Data management (for DTC in Department of Zoology, MT 2020)

**Reviewer** for: AAAI 2024, NeurIPS 2023, ICML 2023, WWW 2023, AAAI 2023, NeurIPS 2022, SIGKDD 2022, ICML 2022, WSDM 2022, IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE), Journal of Complex Networks, Statistics and Computing etc.

One of the **organizers** for: [LoG<sup>2</sup> @ Oxford: the Learning on Graphs and Geometry seminar series](#).

**University of Edinburgh, UoE**

Sept. 2018 - June 2020

Major: **(BSc Hons) Maths & Stats (92.33% Avg., Rank # 1 in Maths & Stats, First Class)**

Courses: Stats Methodology(**100%**), Financial Maths(**100%**), Numerical PDEs(**100%**), Fundamentals of Optimization(**98%**), Nonparametric Regression Models(96%).

Paid job at UoE: **Digital Skills Trainer-Python**

**University of California, Berkeley**

Jan. 2018 - May 2018

Courses: Numerical Analysis (**A+**), Complex Analysis (**A+**), Abstract Algebra (**A**)(GPA: **4.0/4.0**)

**South China University of Technology, SCUT**

Sept. 2016 - June 2020

Major: **Mathematics & Applied Mathematics** (Rank **1/60**)(Outstanding graduate)

Overall GPA for 2016-18: **3.99/4.0**, Major GPA: **4.0/4.0**; transferred to Edinburgh on 2+2 program

Winning 2 years' **National Scholarship** granted by Ministry of Education of China

**650/710** in CET6, overtaking **99.98%** students in SCUT

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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***Oxford: Graph Neural Networks and its Applications***

Oct. 2020 -

*Doctoral research*

*Supervisors: [Mihai Cucuringu](#), [Gesine Reinert](#)*

- Geng, H., Chen, C., **He, Y.**, Zeng, G., Han, Z., Chai, H., Yan, J. [Pyramid Graph Neural Network: a Graph Sampling and Filtering Approach for Multi-scale Disentangled Representations](#). (**KDD 2023**)
- Wu, Q., Yang, C., Zhao, W., **He, Y.**, Wipf, D., & Yan, J. [DIFFormer: Scalable \(Graph\) Transformers Induced by Energy Constrained Diffusion](#). (**ICLR 2023**)
- **He, Y.**, Reinert, G., & Cucuringu, M. [DIGRAC: Digraph Clustering Based on Flow Imbalance](#). (**LoG 2022**)
- **He, Y.**, Perlmutter, M., Reinert, G., & Cucuringu, M. [MSGNN: A Spectral Graph Neural Network Based on a Novel Magnetic Signed Laplacian](#). (**LoG 2022**)
- Wang, X., Chen, S., **He, Y.**, Wang, M., Gan, Q., & Yan, J. [CEP3: Community Event Prediction with Neural Point Process on Graph](#). (**LoG 2022**)
- **He, Y.**, Gan, Q., Wipf, D., Reinert, G. D., Yan, J., & Cucuringu, M. [GNNRank: Learning Global Rankings from Pairwise Comparisons via Directed Graph Neural Networks](#). (**ICML 2022**)
- **He, Y.**, Reinert, G., Wang, S., & Cucuringu, M. [SSSNET: Semi-Supervised Signed Network Clustering](#). (**SDM 2022**)
- **He, Y.** [GNNs for Node Clustering in Signed and Directed Networks](#). (**WSDM 2022** Doctoral Consortium)

- **He, Y.**, Zhang, X., Huang, J., Rozemberczki, B., Cucuringu, M., & Reinert, G. [PyTorch Geometric Signed Directed: A Software Package on Graph Neural Networks for Signed and Directed Graphs](#). (ArXiv 2022)
- Zhang, X., **He, Y.**, Brugnone, N., Perlmutter, M., & Hirn, M. [MagNet: A Neural Network for Directed Graphs](#). (NeurIPS 2021)
- Rozemberczki, B., Scherer, P., **He, Y.**, Panagopoulos, G., Riedel, A., Astefanoaei, M., ... & Sarkar, R. [PyTorch Geometric Temporal: Spatiotemporal Signal Processing with Neural Machine Learning Models](#). (CIKM 2021 **best paper award**).

***UoE: AUROC vs AUPRC: A Comparison of Performance Measures in Classification Problems***

Sept. 2019 - Apr. 2020

*UoE Honors Project*

*Supervisor: Timothy I. Cannings*

- Collected data, compared measure scores, **analysed measure properties** & data properties.

***UCLA CSST summer research/REU: Deforestation Brazil***

June 2019 - Sept. 2019

*Funded by NGA & NSF Supervisors: Christian Parkinson, Andrea L. Bertozzi, Stanley J. Osher*

- Conducted data mining, data analysis, matlab programming & model construction.
- Implemented **level set method**, numerical PDEs, optimal path searching, satellite image processing, Maximum Penalized Likelihood Estimation (MPLE), time series simulation etc.
- **Delivered a talk** at IPAM's "The Level Set Collective" seminar invited by Professor Stanley Osher.
- **Presented a poster** at Intelligence Community Academic Research Symposium (ICARS) 2019.

***SCUT: Robust Image Salient Object Perception Prior for Image Segmentation based on PDEs Related Methods***

May 2018 - May 2020

*Funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)*

*Supervisor: Delu Zeng*

- Studied level set methods and **neural networks** on **semantic image segmentation**.
- **He, Y.**, Hu, T., & Zeng, D. [Scan-flood Fill \(SCAFF\): an Efficient Automatic Precise Region Filling Algorithm for Complicated Regions](#). (CVPR 2019 workshop)
- Worked on lung nodule segmentation using MEnet.
- Zeng, D., **He, Y.**, Liu, L., Chen, Z., Huang, J., Chen, J., & Paisley, J. [Ro-SOS: Metric Expression Network \(MEnet\) for Robust Salient Object Segmentation](#). (ArXiv 2018)
- Utilized Linux, Colab, Caffe, TensorFlow, PyTorch & programming in Python.

***SCUT: Efficiency of Collaborative Innovation Knowledge Output in Professional Towns in Internet + Times***

May 2017 - May 2018

*Funded by MOE of PRC*

*Supervisors: Shifu Wang, Miaoqi Zhao, Shenquan Liu*

- **Cross-disciplinary**: Maths & Urban Planning. Responsible: data mining & analysis, paper writing.
- **Led** the project as part of the National Training Program of Innovation for Undergraduates.

## CONFERENCES/SUMMER SCHOOLS

|  |                  |            |
|--|------------------|------------|
| Workshop: statistical learning on LARge scale GRaphs (LARGR)           | Presenter        | Mar. 2023  |
| 1st Learning on Graphs (LoG) Conference                                | Author           | Dec. 2022  |
| 4th IMA Conference on The Mathematical Challenges of Big Data          | Speaker          | Sept. 2022 |
| UC Berkeley Simons Institute Deep Learning Theory Workshop             | Participant      | Aug. 2022  |
| 39th International Conference on Machine Learning ( <b>ICML</b> )      | Author           | Jul. 2022  |
| SIAM International Conference on Data Mining ( <b>SDM</b> )            | Author           | Apr. 2022  |
| 15th ACM Int. Conf. on Web Search and Data Mining ( <b>WSDM</b> )      | Doctoral Cons.   | Feb.2022   |
| 35th Conf. on Neural Information Processing Systems ( <b>NeurIPS</b> ) | Author           | Dec.2021   |
| The 10th Int. Conf. on Complex Networks and their Applications         | Author           | Nov.2021   |
| Int. Conf. on Information and Knowledge Management ( <b>CIKM</b> )     | Author           | Nov.2021   |
| Intelligence Community Academic Research Symposium ( <b>ICARS</b> )    | Poster presenter | Sept. 2019 |
| Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition ( <b>CVPR</b> )                | Author           | June 2019  |
| European Conf. on Computer Vision ( <b>ECCV</b> ) pre-conference       | Attendee         | July 2018  |
| Berkeley Undergraduate Number Theory Conference                        | Attendee         | Apr. 2018  |

## MAJOR AWARDS

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2023 Balliol College Floreat Grant for Sports   |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2022 ICML Participant Award   |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2022 Simons Institute Summer School Fund  |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2022 Balliol's fund on IMA Conf. on The Mathematical Challenges of Big Data reg.                      |
| <b>Award</b>        | 2022 SIAM Student Travel Award for SDM'22   |
| <b>Award</b>        | 2022 SIGIR Student Registration Award for WSDM'22   |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2021 Balliol's fund on Complex Networks 2021 reg.   |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2021 Balliol's fund on NeurIPS 2021 reg.  |
| <b>Grant</b>        | 2021 Balliol's fund on ACM membership & CIKM'21 registration  |
| <b>Prize</b>        | 2020 <a href="#">Napier Medal and Gangadhar Balwant Gadgil Prize</a> ( <b>top</b> Maths student @UoE) |
| <b>Prize</b>        | 2020 Lawley Memorial Prize ( <b>top</b> student in Maths & Stats @UoE)                                |
| <b>Scholarship</b>  | 2020 <b>Clarendon Scholarship</b> & Balliol Jason Hu scholarship at Oxford                            |
| <b>Honor</b>        | 2020 Outstanding Graduate at SCUT Maths Dept.   |
| <b>Prize</b>        | 2019 Arthur Erdelyi Prize (For top 3 performing Math students @UoE)                                   |
| <b>Prize</b>        | 2019 James Ward Memorial Prize ( <b>top</b> student in Maths & Stats @UoE)                            |
| <b>Second Prize</b> | 2018 ICM/MCM International <b>Mathematical Modeling</b> Competition                                   |
| <b>Grand Prize</b>  | 2018 Maths Competition of SCUT (Maths Group) ( <b>Rank # 1</b> )                                      |
| <b>Honor</b>        | 2017-2018 one of the ten <b>Role Models to Merit Students</b> at SCUT                                 |
| <b>Prize</b>        | 2017 & 2018 <b>National Scholarship</b>   |
| <b>Second Prize</b> | 2017 "9 <sup>th</sup> National College Student <b>Maths Competition</b> (Maths)" in Guangdong         |
| <b>Second Prize</b> | 2017 National College Student Mathematical Modeling Competition (Guangdong)                           |

## COMPUTER SKILLS

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|-----------------------|--|
| Programming:          | <b>Python (Advanced)</b> , C++ (Intermediate), VB (Basic) & Pascal (Basic) |
| Statistical Analysis: | <b>R (Advanced)</b> , SQL (Intermediate) & SPSS (Intermediate)             |
| Modelling:            | <b>Matlab (Advanced)</b> , Maple (Intermediate) & Xpress (Intermediate)    |
| Paper writing:        | <b>Latex (Advanced)</b>  |

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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|--|-------------|
| <b>President of Oxford University Table Tennis Club (OUTTC)</b>  | May 2023 -  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Organized club activities.</li><li>Participated in table tennis competitions.</li></ul>            |             |
| <b>Applied Scientist Intern at Amazon Web Services AI Shanghai Lablet</b>  | Nov. 2021 - |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mentor: <a href="#">David Wipf</a>.</li><li>Conducted research on graph neural networks.</li></ul> |             |

**Director of Department of Visiting Scholars in Oxford Chinese Students & Scholars Association (OXCSSA)** July 2021 - July 2022

- **Co-organized** 2021 welcoming event for new students to University of Oxford, hosted the Shenzhen welcoming event.
- Collected information for visiting scholars & built contact.
- **Divided work** as the **leader** of a team of over 15 members.
- **Organized** events for visiting scholars: visiting scholars' tea party, hiking, formal, punting etc..
- Collaborated with other departments such as the academic department to hold virtual and in-person talks.

**NetEase Games Programmer** Jun. 2020 - Aug. 2020

- Project: Behaviour-based Anti-cheating in FPS Games (Supervisor: Xin Wen)
- Extracted features from logs using multiprocessing & built multi-input single-output models with TensorFlow 2.2.
- Selected as **Outstanding Intern** to present my work.

**UoE's Digital Skills Trainer - Python** Dec. 2019 - May 2020

- **Delivered Python training courses**, reviewed & improved existing Python training.
- Recorded lectures: [Introduction to Python](#) and [Python for Data Science](#).

**Head of Class** Sept. 2013 - June 2018

- Conveyed notifications, organized activities & led by example.
- 2017 & 2018 South China University of Technology **Outstanding Student Leader**.
- 2016-2017 **outstanding class** of SCUT & 2017-2018 top-16 classes of SCUT.

**University Student Representative** May 2017 - May 2018

- Actively listened to students' opinions & participated in raising proposals.
- Outstanding Student Representative of South China University of Technology in 2017.

**Member of Public Relationship Dept., Math Student Union** Sept. 2016 - Oct. 2017

- **Led** the hosting of a social party in School of Mathematics.
- 2017 **Star** in Mathematics Student Union.

**Student Assistant for School of Mathematics** Sept. 2016 - Aug. 2017

- Assisted in organizing materials & releasing notifications.
- Outstanding individual in work study of South China University of Technology.

**Teaching Support in a Primary School in Longsheng Rural Village** July 2017

- Devised & delivered lectures in singing, dancing, craftsmanship & story-telling.
- **Leader** in hosting the closing ceremony.
- **Visited families** to collect information & offer suggestions.