Zihan Zhou

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University Park, PA 16802, USA

07/2017 - present

APPOINTMENTS

The Pennsylvania State University

• Assistant Professor

The Pennsylvania State University

01/2013 - 06/2017

• Research Associate

EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

08/2007 - 12/2012

• Ph.D., ECE, Degree conferred in May, 2013 Thesis: Exploring Structural Regularities for Robust 3D Reconstruction of Urban Scenes

• Master of Science, ECE, Degree conferred in May, 2010 Thesis: Face Recognition under Varying Illumination, Pose and Contiguous Occlusion

• Advisor: Prof. Yi Ma

Tsinghua University

08/2003 - 07/2007

• Bachelor of Engineering, Automation

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

09/2005 - 12/2005

• Exchange Student, Mechanical and Automation Engineering

Research Interests I am interested in computer vision, machine learning, signal processing, and applied data sciences. My research focuses on developing novel computational tools to model and analyze the 3D environments from big visual data, with applications in VR/AR, vision-based navigation, architectural design and engineering, social media, and more.

BOOK CHAPTERS

• Face Recognition by Sparse Representation John Wright, Allen Yang, Arvind Ganesh, Andrew Wagner, Zihan Zhou, and Yi Ma. In Compressed Sensing: Theory and Applications, Cambridge University Press, 2012.

JOURNAL Publications AND PREPRINTS

- Discovering Triangles in Portraits for Supporting Photographic Creation Sigiong He, Zihan Zhou, Farshid Farhat, and James Z. Wang. IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (TMM), vol. 20, no. 2, 2018.
- Detecting Dominant Vanishing Points in Natural Scenes with Application to Composition-Sensitive Image Retrieval Zihan Zhou, Farshid Farhat, and James Z. Wang. IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (TMM), vol. 19, no. 12, 2017.
- Label Information Guided Graph Construction for Semi-Supervised Learning Liansheng Zhuang, **Zihan Zhou**, Shenghua Gao, Jingwen Yin, Zhouchen Lin, and Yi Ma. IEEE Transactions on Image Processing (TIP), vol. 26, no. 9, 2017.
- Modeling Photographic Composition via Triangles **Zihan Zhou***, Siqiong He*, Jia Li, and James Z. Wang (* = equal contribution). arXiv:1605.09559, 2016.

- Fast \(\ell_1\)-Minimization Algorithms for Robust Face Recognition
 Allen Yang, Zihan Zhou, Arvind Ganesh, Shankar Sastry, and Yi Ma. IEEE
 Transactions on Image Processing (TIP), vol. 22, no. 8, 2013.
- Towards a Practical Face Recognition System: Robust Alignment and Illumination by Sparse Representation
 Andrew Wagner, John Wright, Arvind Ganesh, Zihan Zhou, Hossein Mobahi, and Yi Ma. IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence (PAMI), vol. 34, no. 2, 2012.

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS (REVERSE CHRONOLOGICAL)

- Learning to Parse Wireframes in Images of Man-Made Environments Kun Huang, Yifan Wang, **Zihan Zhou**, Tianjiao Ding, Shenghua Gao, and Yi Ma. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (**CVPR**), 2018.
- Beyond Saliency: Assessing Visual Balance with High-Level Cues
 Baris Kandemir, Zihan Zhou, Jia Li, and James Z. Wang. Engagement Workshop,
 ACM Multimedia Conference (ACM MM), 2017.
- Improving Offline Handwritten Chinese Character Recognition by Iterative Refinement Xiao Yang, Dafang He, Zihan Zhou, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee Giles. International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2017.
- Learning to Read Irregular Text with Attention Mechanisms
 Xiao Yang, Dafang He, **Zihan Zhou**, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee Giles. International
 Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI**), 2017.
- Smart Library: Identifying Books in a Library using Richly Supervised Deep Scene Text Reading
 Xiao Yang, Dafang He, Wenyi Huang, Alexander Ororbia, Zihan Zhou, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee Giles. ACM/IEEE-CS Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL, short paper), 2017.
- Multi-scale FCN with Instance Aware Segmentation for Arbitrary Oriented Word Spotting In The Wild
 Dafang He, Chen Liang, Xiao Yang, Zihan Zhou, Alexander Ororbia, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee Giles. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2017.
- Robust Plane-based Calibration of Multiple Non-Overlapping Cameras Chen Zhu, **Zihan Zhou**, Ziran Xing, Yanbing Dong, Yi Ma, and Jingyi Yu. International Conference on 3D Vision (**3DV**), 2016.
- Aggregating Local Context for Accurate Scene Text Detection
 Dafang He, Xiao Yang, Wenyi Huang, **Zihan Zhou**, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee
 Giles. Asian Conference on Computer Vision (**ACCV**), 2016.
- Detecting Arbitrary Oriented Text in the Wild with a Visual Attention Model Wenyi Huang, Dafeng He, Xiao Yang, Zihan Zhou, Daniel Kifer, and C. Lee Giles. ACM Conference on Multimedia (ACM MM, short paper), 2016.
- Modeling Perspective Effects in Photographic Composition
 Zihan Zhou, Siqiong He, Jia Li, and James Z. Wang. ACM Conference on Multimedia (ACM MM), Oct. 2015.
- Plane-Based Content Preserving Warps for Video Stabilization
 Zihan Zhou, Hailin Jin, and Yi Ma. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), June 2013.

- Single-Sample Face Recognition with Image Corruption and Misalignment via Sparse Illumination Transfer
 Liansheng Zhuang, Allen Yang, Zihan Zhou, Shankar Sastry, and Yi Ma. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), June 2013.
- Robust Plane-Based Structure From Motion
 Zihan Zhou, Hailin Jin, and Yi Ma. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), June 2012.
- Holistic Reconstruction of Urban Structures from Low-rank Textures
 Hossein Mobahi, Zihan Zhou, Allen Yang, and Yi Ma. Workshop on 3D Representation
 and Reconstruction, International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV-3dRR),
 Sept. 2011.
- Towards a Robust Face Recognition System using Compressive Sensing Allen Yang, Zihan Zhou, Yi Ma, and Shankar Sastry. InterSpeech, Sept. 2010.
- Stable Principal Component Pursuit

 Zihan Zhou, Xiaodong Li, John Wright, Emmanuel Candès, and Yi Ma. IEEE
 International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT), June 2010.
- Face Recognition with Contiguous Occlusion using Markov Random Fields
 Zihan Zhou, Andrew Wagner, Hossein Mobahi, John Wright, and Yi Ma. IEEE
 International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV), Sept. 2009.
- Towards a Practical Face Recognition System: Robust Registration and Illumination via Sparse Representation

 Andrew Wagner, John Wright, Arvind Ganesh, Zihan Zhou, and Yi Ma. IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), June 2009.
- Separation of A Subspace-Sparse Signal: Algorithms and Conditions Arvind Ganesh, **Zihan Zhou**, and Yi Ma. IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (**ICASSP**), April 2009.
- Nearest-Subspace Patch Matching for Face Recognition Under Varying Pose and Illumination
 Zihan Zhou, Arvind Ganesh, John Wright, Shen-Fu Tsai, and Yi Ma. IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition (FG), Sept. 2008.

Patents

- Composition Modeling for Photo Retrieval through Geometric Image Segmentation Zihan Zhou, Siqiong He, Jia Li, and James Z. Wang. U.S. Patent No. 9,626,585, Apr. 2017.
- Plane-based Self-Calibration for Structure form Motion Hailin Jin, and **Zihan Zhou**. U.S. Patent No. 9,202,278, Dec. 2015.
- Plane Detection and Tracking for Structure from Motion Hailin Jin, and **Zihan Zhou**. U.S. Patent No. 9,153,025, Oct. 2015.

Professional Experience

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Research Assistant

08/2007 - 12/2012 Urbana, IL, USA

 My research has been focused on developing and analyzing new computational tools for robust and efficient discovery of structural regularities in images and videos, and applying them to solve challenging real-world problems such as face recognition, structure from motion, and video stabilization. Results have been published in top-tier conferences and journals in computer vision including TPAMI, TIP, CVPR, ICCV, etc.

Visual Computing Lab, Adobe Systems Inc.

05/2011 - 08/2011 San Jose, CA, USA

Research Intern

• Research on a novel approach to structure and motion recovery directly from one or more large planes in the scene. Built a complete plane-based structure from motion system and shown its advantage over conventional systems in handling two important issues in practice, namely, the plane degeneracy and the dynamic foreground problems.

Visual Computing Group, Microsoft Research Asia

05/2009 - 08/2009 Beijing, China

Research Intern

 Research on the theory and first-order convex optimization algorithms for robust low-rank matrix recovery from grossly corrupted observations. As an application, I developed a new approach to reconstructing accurate camera geometry and 3D models from multiple uncalibrated large-baseline images for urban structures. This new method works in a holistic fashion by using global features based on transform-invariant low-rank textures, instead of relying on traditional local features such as points and edges.

Tsinghua University

02/2006 - 07/2007

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Beijing, China

- Project on mobile phone camera-based name card recognition system.
- Project on 2D barcode recognition system.
- Research on multi-view face recognition.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Supervised

IST210 Organization of Data

01/2013 - present

Instructor

Penn State University

IST220 Networking and Telecommunications

01/2015 - present Penn State University

Instructor

STUDENTS • Ph.D. d

- Ph.D. dissertation advisor of:
 - Fengting Yang (IST, Penn State)
- On Ph.D. committee of:
 - Baris Kandemir (IST, Penn State)
 - Farshid Farhat (IST, Penn State)
 - Dafang He (IST, Penn State)
 - Yuchen Bian (IST, Penn State)
 - Xiao Yang (CSE, Penn State)
- M.S. thesis advisor of:
 - Qian Sun (IST, Penn State)
- On M.S. committee of:
 - Sigiong He (IST, Penn State)
 - Yan Wang (IST, Penn State)
 - Pengwei Lan (IST, Penn State)

Talks and Presentations

- "Robust Plane-based Calibration of Multiple Non-Overlapping Cameras", 3DV Conference Poster Presentation, Stanford, CA, Nov. 2016.
- "Towards Automatic Composition Modeling and Feedback for Photographers", Vision and Learning Seminar (VALSE), July 2016.
- "Beyond Structure From Motion: Exploring Structure Regularities for 3D Vision", Seminar Series of SIST, ShanghaiTech University, July 2016.
- "Modeling Perspective Effects in Photographic Composition", ACM Multimedia Conference Talk, Brisbane, Australia, Oct. 2015.

- "Plane-Based Content-Preserving Warps for Video Stabilization", CVPR Conference Poster Presentation, Portland, OR, June 2013.
- "Plane-Based Structure From Motion", CVPR Conference Poster Presentation, Providence, RI, June 2012.
- "Holistic Reconstruction of Urban Structures from Low-rank Textures", ICCV-3dRR Workshop Talk, Barcelona, Spain, Sep. 2011.
- "A Holistic Approach to 3D Modeling, Reconstruction and Recognition of Objects", Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship Final Presentation, Bridgewater, NJ, Apr. 2011.
- "TILT: Transform Invariant Low-rank Textures", Illinois Vision Workshop Talk, Chicago, IL, Dec. 2010.
- "Stable Principal Component Pursuit", ISIT Conference Talk, Austin, TX, June 2010.
- "Face Recognition with Contiguous Occlusion using Markov Random Fields", ICCV Conference Poster Presentation, Kyoto, Japan, Sep. 2009.

Honors and Awards

- Finalist, Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship, 2011.
- Finalist, ISIT Best Student Paper Award, 2010.
- Tsinghua Outstanding Graduate (B. Eng.), 2007.
- Beijing Outstanding Graduate (B. Eng.), 2007.
- Second Prize of Excellent Student Scholarship of Tsinghua University, 2006 (top 5%).
- Third Prize of the Mathematical Modeling Contest of Tsinghua University, 2006 (top 5%).
- The HSBC Scholarship, 2005 (top 1%).
- First Prize in Chinese Physics Olympiad, 2003.

Professional Activities

- Journal Reviewer (a partial list):
 - International Journal of Computer Vision
 - IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence
 - IEEE Transactions on Image Processing
 - IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing
 - IEEE Transactions on Multimedia
 - IEEE Transactions and Medical Imaging
 - Proceedings of the IEEE
 - ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology
 - Transportation Research Part C
- Conference Program Committee (regular service):
 - IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)
 - IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)
 - European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)