

# Wenzheng Zhang

vincentwzustc@gmail.com | wenzhengzhang.github.io | Google Scholar

## Summary

An AI researcher specializing in natural language processing and large language models, with a track record of publications in top venues (Google Scholar). My work spans LLM reasoning, retrieval- and memory-augmented generation, contrastive learning, and entity-centric language understanding, across both academia and industry. I am motivated to contribute to AI research with meaningful and positive impact.

## Employment

<b>Roblox</b>	Oct 2025 – Present
<i>Senior Machine Learning Engineer at Roblox Discovery</i>	
<b>Meta</b>	May 2024 – Dec 2024
<i>Research Scientist Intern at FAIR</i>	
• Designed and developed a unified retriever–generator model for latent retrieval-augmented generation based on Llama 3.	
• Demonstrated strong performance on knowledge-intensive and multi-hop reasoning benchmarks; results published in <b>EMNLP Findings 2025</b> . This work represents an early exploration toward latent retrieval and memory-augmented generation within a single language model.	
<b>Microsoft</b>	June 2022 – Aug 2022
<i>Applied Scientist Intern</i>	
• Designed a novel multitask learning framework to promote task specialization in multitask information retrieval using task-specific prompting and adaptive learning.	
• Achieved state-of-the-art performance on the KILT benchmark, surpassing task-specific retrievers; results published in <b>TACL 2023</b> .	

## Publications

- Wenzheng Zhang, Karl Stratos. *ReNCE: Learning to Reason by Noise Contrastive Estimation*. Preprint (under submission).
- Wenzheng Zhang, Xi Victoria Lin, Karl Stratos, Wen-tau Yih, Mingda Chen. *ImpRAG: Retrieval-Augmented Generation with Implicit Queries*. EMNLP Findings 2025.
- Wenzheng Zhang, Sam Wiseman, Karl Stratos. *Seq2seq is All You Need for Coreference Resolution*. EMNLP 2023.
- Wenzheng Zhang, Chenyan Xiong, Karl Stratos, Arnold Overwijk. *Improving Multitask Retrieval by Promoting Task Specialization*. TACL 2023.
- Wenzheng Zhang, Wenyue Hua, Karl Stratos. *EntQA: Entity Linking as Question Answering*. ICLR 2022 (Spotlight).
- Wenzheng Zhang, Karl Stratos. *Understanding Hard Negatives in Noise Contrastive Estimation*. NAACL 2021.

## Education

<b>Rutgers University</b> , PhD in Computer Science	Sept 2021 – Oct 2025
<b>Rutgers University</b> , MS in Computer Science	Jan 2020 – June 2021
<b>University of Science and Technology of China</b> , BS in Applied Physics	Sept 2015 – May 2019

## Honors

ICLR Spotlight Paper (Top 5%); Outstanding Publications Award (Rutgers University)

## Professional Service

Reviewer: NAACL 2021; EMNLP 2023, 2025; ICML 2026