

Songgaojun (Amy) Deng

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a PhD candidate in the Department of Computer Science at Stevens Institute of Technology. My research interests are **machine learning** and **data mining** motivated by real-world problems in social informatics and health informatics. My research focuses on developing deep graph learning models that capture spatio-temporal, dynamic and interpretable patterns.

EDUCATION

Stevens Institute of Technology

Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science; GPA: 4.0/4.0

Hoboken, NJ

Aug 2018 - May 2022 (Expected)

Advisor: [Dr. Yue Ning](#)

Relevant Coursework: Deep Learning, Machine Learning, Intro Text Mining/Nat. Lang Proc, Adv. Algorithm Dsgn & Implement

Beijing Institute of Technology

Master of Engineering in Software Engineering; GPA: 4.0/4.0

Beijing, China

Sep 2016 - May 2018

Thesis: Evolutionary Neural Network Algorithm Based on Triplet Nucleotide Coding

China University of Mining and Technology

Bachelor of Science in Electronic Information Science and Technology; GPA: 3.7/4.0

Xuzhou, China

Sep 2012 - May 2016

PUBLICATIONS

- **Deng, S.**, Rangwala, H. and Ning, Y., 2021, November. "Understanding Event Predictions via Contextualized Multilevel Feature Learning". In Proceedings of the 21st ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM).
- **Deng, S.**, Wang, S., Rangwala, H., Wang, L. and Ning, Y., 2020, October. "Cola-GNN: Cross-location Attention based Graph Neural Networks for Long-term ILI Prediction". In Proceedings of the 20th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM).
- **Deng, S.**, Rangwala, H. and Ning, Y., 2020, August. "Dynamic Knowledge Graph based Multi-Event Forecasting". In Proceedings of the 26th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (pp. 1585-1595)
- **Deng, S.**, Rangwala, H. and Ning, Y., 2019, July. "Learning Dynamic Context Graphs for Predicting Social Events". In Proceedings of the 25th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (pp. 1007-1016).
- Yang, X., **Deng, S.**, Ji, M., Zhao, J. and Zheng, W., 2018. "Neural Network Evolving Algorithm Based on the Triplet Codon Encoding Method". Genes, 9(12), p.626.
- Yang, X., Liu, G., **Deng, S.**, Wei, Z., He, H., Shang, Y. and Deng, N., 2019. "Exploration of a mechanism to form bionic, self-growing and self-organizing neural network". Artificial Intelligence Review, 52(1), pp.585-605.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Causality Enhanced Societal Event Forecasting With Heterogeneous Graph Learning:** (preprint) 2022
 - Introduced a method to discover topics that have a causal effect on future events and proposed a causality-enhanced heterogeneous graph learning framework where topics, documents, and words are represented as nodes.
- **Robust Event Prediction with Temporal and Dynamic Treatment Effect Learning:** (preprint) 2021
 - Introduced a robust deep learning framework that includes individual treatment effect (ITE) estimation for event prediction.
- **Understanding Event Predictions via Contextualized Multilevel Feature Learning:** 2021
 - Proposed a contextualized multilevel feature learning framework, for interpretable temporal event prediction.
- **Dynamic Knowledge Graph based Multi-Event Forecasting:** 2019
 - Proposed a temporal graph learning method with heterogeneous data fusion for predicting concurrent events of multiple types and inferring multiple candidate actors simultaneously.
- **Forecasting Long-term Spatio-Temporal Epidemic Outbreaks:** 2019
 - Studied a cross-location attention based graph neural network for learning multivariate time series embeddings and location aware attentions, which achieves the state-of-the-art prediction performance in long lead time settings (e.g. 15 weeks).
- **Learning Dynamic Context Graphs for Predicting Social Events:** 2018
 - Presented a novel graph convolutional network for predicting future events. Designed a temporal encoding module to capture temporal dependencies and event context graphs.
- **Evolutionary Neural Network Algorithm Based on Triplet Nucleotide Coding:** (prior to my PhD studies) 2018

- Proposed a new evolutionary heuristic approach inspired by biological DNA genetic information and evolutionary mechanisms, which uses a triple nucleotide coding scheme to encode a neural network and a set of genetic operators to search for global optimal solutions.
- **Face Detection Using Multi-Task Convolutional Neural Networks:** (course project) 2017
 - Implemented three Concatenated Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to predict face and landmark locations in a coarse-to-fine manner.

EXPERIENCE

- Yahoo Research** (remote) Sunnyvale, CA
Research Engineer Intern, Targeting Science Team June 2020 - Aug. 2020
- **Applied Machine Learning:** Developed novel unsupervised clustering methods for cookieless ads targeting by studying the correlations between users' behaviors and appearances of their identities.

- Institute of Electronics, Chinese Academy of Sciences** Suzhou, China
Research & Development Intern July 2015 - Mar 2016
- **Distributed System:** Participated in distributed system testing, operation, and maintenance work.
 - **Visualization:** Implemented data visualization for social network mining.

SKILLS

- **Programming languages:** Python, SQL, C++, PHP, JavaScript, Scala
- **Libraries:** PyTorch, Keras, DGL, Scikit-Learn, NLTK, Numpy, Pandas

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2022 Recipient of the Excellence in Graduate Research at Stevens.
- Received Stevens Excellence Doctoral Fellowship (2021-2022).
- Speaker of the tutorial *Explainable AI for Societal Event Predictions: Foundations, Methods, and Applications* at AAAI 2021.
- Departmental nomination for Microsoft PhD Fellowship 2021.
- Oral presentation of work *Cola-GNN: Cross-location Attention based Graph Neural Networks for Long-term ILI Prediction* at CIKM 2020.
- Oral presentation of work *Dynamic Knowledge Graph based Multi-Event Forecasting* at KDD 2020.
- Received KDD 2019 and 2020 student travel award.
- Received Women in Machine Learning (WiML @ NeurIPS 2019) travel grant.
- Oral presentation of work *Learning Dynamic Context Graphs for Predicting Social Events* at KDD 2019.
- Received travel grant to attend CRA Women in Computing Workshop 2019.

EXTERNAL SERVICES

- **Student Reviewer/Subreviewer:** WWW, IEEE BigData, ICML, NeurIPS, ICLR, AAAI, IJCAI, KDD, SDM, PAKDD, WiML, ASONAM
- **Program Committee Member:** AAAI(2022), CIKM(2022)
- **Journal Reviewer:** PeerJ, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, Cybernetics and Systems