

ALEX ZHAO

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EDUCATION

Tsinghua University, Schwarzman College

Expected May 2022

Master of Global Affairs

An elite international scholarship focused on international affairs, designed to prepare global leaders. One of 154 scholars selected from over 3,600 applicants.

University of California, Berkeley

August 2017-May 2021

B.S. Electrical Engineering & Computer Science/B.S. Business Administration || GPA: 3.82/4.00

Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology Program (M.E.T.)

Honors: Regent's & Chancellors' Scholar, Dean's List from 2018-19, Accel Scholars 2020-21, EECS Honors Program

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

POLITICO

June 2021 - August 2021

Interactive News Intern

Washington, D.C.

- Published stories on federal politics featuring interactive graphics on a small team of data journalists.
- Analyzed large datasets with Python and coded data visualizations for articles using React and D3.js.
- Built animated graphics for articles with **react-spring**.
- Reported, interviewed sources, and wrote on deadline.

Coral Genomics

June 2020 - August 2020

Machine Learning Intern

San Francisco, CA

YCombinator-funded startup applying artificial intelligence to personalize medicine

- Collaborate with two other engineers to create computational pipeline for product launch.
- Develop novel autoencoder model for genotype imputation on 1000 Genomes data and patient samples.

The Daily Californian

February 2020 - June 2021

Projects Editor

Berkeley, CA

Data desk at UC Berkeley's student newspaper

- Report on challenges in higher education through data-driven journalism (Clips at dailycal.org/author/alexzhao/).
- Led team of ten students to brainstorm visualizations, integrate multimedia, and write articles.
- Awarded Best Multimedia Package (1st) and Best Interactive Graphic (2nd place) by California College Media Association.

Zalando

June 2019 - August 2019

Data Science Intern

Berlin, Germany

Largest e-commerce company based in Europe, headquartered in Berlin

- Applied machine learning models in Pytorch to customize size & fit recommendations for customers, outperforming existing models across all accuracy metrics.
- Co-authored paper on recommendation algorithms (accepted at Workshop on Recommender Systems in Fashion 2020).

Pivotal Software

May 2018 - August 2018

Software Engineering Intern

San Francisco, CA

- Updated & integrated command line interface written in Golang to support new Cloud Controller API.
- Pair-programmed daily with small team for 12 weeks on Cloud Foundry, an open source multi-cloud platform.

SKILLS

Computer Languages

Python, Javascript, Java, Golang, C/C++

Tools

D3.js, React, react-spring, PyTorch, tensorflow, Spark, Docker

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

K. Hajjar, J. Lasserre, **A. Zhao**, R. Shirvany, "Attention Gets You the Right Size & Fit in Fashion." Paper presented at *Workshop on Recommender Systems in Fashion at Recsys*, 2020.

K. Krauth, **A. Zhao***, S. Dean*, W. Guo*, M. Curmei*, B. Recht, M. Jordan, "Do Offline Metrics Predict Online Performance in Recommender Systems?" Paper presented at *NeurIPS Workshop on Consequential Decision Making in Dynamic Environments*, 2020.

A. Zhao, K. Monroe. "Integrative Complexity in Election Cycles: Lessons from American Presidential Candidates." *Annual Conference of the International Society on Political Psychology*, 2017.