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, Golang, Java, Javascript/HTML, C/C++, SQL, Scheme
Tools	git, PyTorch, tensorflow, AWS/GCP, Apache Spark, Docker, D3.js

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

K. Hajjar, J. Laserre, **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.