Xizhu Zeng

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Education

M.A. in Sociology   *East China University of Science and Technology*
-   *Sep.2022 - Dec. 2024*

Relevant courses: Digital sociology,Quantitative research methods(Stata),Spatial analysis of social sciences(ArcGIS Pro)
Self-study courses: media theories(MOOC 2022), R(xuetangX 2023)

B.A. in Sociology   *Xiangtan University*
-   *Sep. 2018 - Jul. 2022*

Graduated with honors(top 10%)
Honored thesis: Local practices and organizational method of digitization of grassroots governance

Research experience

Shanghai Municipal Agricultural Commission Project   *March 2023 - May 2023*
Changes in Peasants' Lifestyles   China Urban and Rural Development Research Center, Shanghai

- Questionnaires designing and revising
- Field questionnaire collection
- Revision of the final report for the government, Making charts and Clean data

Challenge Cup competition   *June 2021*
The Problem of Intrinsic Dynamics of Rural Self-governance   *Hunan, China*

- Analysis of rural governance multiple subjects from the perspective of ANT theory: Villagers, Wechat group, government, Poverty Alleviation Policy, company, key villagers who were not present
- 187 questionnaires from two villages in Sichuan
- Interviews with 9 people, 30-60 minutes each

Provincial-level Project of College Students'innovation Competition   *May 2020 - July 2021*
The Digital Transformation of Relations of Compassionate Society   *Sichuan, China*

- Principal of this project
- Participatory observation in a Sichuan county
- Writing report named "Multilayered Medialization of Social Life" and participating in school forum

Works In Progress

The impact of heterogeneous actors in the Internet on the coherence and change of personal perspectives

Research Background: There has been a transformation and disruption in the construction of the individual "self." The establishment of the dichotomy between the public and private spheres was closely associated with industrialized societies. In the internet age, this distinction between the public and private realms has been shattered, necessitating a reevaluation of the concept of public space.

Research Hypothesis In the context of social media interactions, individuals are not stable subjects. Actions become detached from human actors.

Methods and Theorie: ABM, ANT, IAT

Ethics in cyber violence: Who takes action? Machines or human beings?

Research Background: Online violence is rampant, but it is difficult to hold perpetrators accountable.

Research Hypothesis Platform mechanisms, social robots, and media agendas lead to cyber violence together
Methods and Theories: IAT

The Relationship between Cyberspace and Locality

Research Background: Localities are increasingly interconnected with global networks, and the advent of mobile media has diminished the explanatory power of traditional sociological spatial analyses focused solely on locality. There is a need for new theories to integrate the emerging spatial sensibilities associated with these changes.

Research Hypothesis: Introducing materiality theory, focusing on the interactions of objects within space, and incorporating flows as a new variable to describe spatial dynamics.
Methods and Theories: Media Geography, phenomenology,Spatial Sociology

Academic Interests

Relevant Area
The societal changes brought by digital technologies
Especially, Cyber Violence, Digital Transformation in developing area, Heterogeneous Actors in Self-Action Construction

Theories And Methods
STS and Technology Philosophy
In particular: Media Geography, phenomenology, Mechanism Explanation, Actor-Network Theory, Information Action Theory, Agent-Based Modeling (ABM)

Skills

Statistical Programming Languages/Tools	Python, R,Stata, SPSS, QGIS, Arc GIS pro
Language	Mandarin , English, German(Elementary)

Most relevant projects

Paper	Community Size and User Migration: Population Model Based on Opinion Dynamics
Survey	The Digital Transformation of Relations of Compassionate Society
Paper	The Impact of Digital Technology on Grassroots Government
Survey	The impact of social bots and platforms on the expression of opinions on the Internet

Grants(projects)

Provincial-level Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship Project	¥10000 No.S202010530040
University-level Social Practice of "Three into the Country"	¥4000