

ZIRUI CHENG

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana-Champaign, IL

2024 - 2026 (Expected)

M.S. in Computer Science

Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

2019 - 2024

B.Eng. in Computer Science and Technology (major)

B.Econ. in Economics and Finance (minor)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning; Human-Computer Interaction.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Papers

[4] **How Far Are We From AGI?**

Tao Feng*, Chuanyang Jin*, Jingyu Liu*, Kunlun Zhu*, Haoqin Tu, Zirui Cheng, Guanyu Lin, Jiaxuan You. (* indicates co-first author)

TMLR 2024 – *Transactions of Machine Learning Research*.

[3] **Wikibench: Community-Driven Data Curation for AI Evaluation on Wikipedia**

Tzu-Sheng Kuo, Aaron Halfaker, Zirui Cheng, Jiwoo Kim, Meng-Hsin Wu, Sherry Tongshuang Wu, Kenneth Holstein, Haiyi Zhu.

CHI 2024 – *2024 ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

[2] **TreeQuestion: Assessing Conceptual Learning Outcomes with LLM-Generated Multiple-Choice Questions**

Zirui Cheng, Jingfei Xu, Haojian Jin.

CSCW 2024 – *2024 ACM SIGCHI Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing*.

[1] **Modeling the Trade-off of Privacy Preservation and Activity Recognition on Low-Resolution Images**

Yuntao Wang*, Zirui Cheng*, Xin Yi, Yan Kong, Xueyang Wang, Xuhai Xu, Yukang Yan, Chun Yu, Shwetak Patel, Yuanchun Shi. (* indicates co-first author)

CHI 2023 – *2023 ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

Preprints

[1] **TeacherLM: Teaching to Fish Rather Than Giving the Fish, Language Modeling Likewise**

Nan He*, Hanyu Lai*, Chenyang Zhao*, Zirui Cheng, Junting Pan, Ruoyu Qin, Ruofan Lu, Rui Lu, Yunchen Zhang, Gangming Zhao, Zhaohui Hou, Zhiyuan Huang, Shaoqing Lu, Ding Liang, Mingjie Zhan. (* indicates co-first author)
arXiv:2310.19019, 2023.

PROJECTS

[1] **Research Town: Simulator of Research Community**

A multi-agent platform for simulating community-level automatic research.

Core contributor. GitHub: <https://github.com/ulab-uiuc/research-town>.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

2024 Spring - Now

Research Assistant at Siebel School of Computing and Data Science

Advisor: **Jiaxuan You**

Topics: Large Language Models, Graph Machine Learning

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

2023 Summer

Research Intern at Human-Computer Interaction Institute

Tsinghua University - Carnegie Mellon University Summer Program

Advisor: **Ken Holstein, Haiyi Zhu**

Topics: Human-AI Interaction, Social Computing

University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA

2023 Spring

Research Intern at Halicioğlu Data Science Institute

Advisor: **Haojian Jin**

Topics: Human-AI Interaction, Computer-Supported Cooperative Work

Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

2022 Spring - 2024
Spring

Research Assistant at Department of Computer Science and Technology

Advisor: **Yuntao Wang, Yuanchun Shi**

Topics: Human-AI Interaction, Ubiquitous Computing

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Deep Learning with Graphs

2024 Fall

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, CS598

Instructor: Jiaxuan You

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

SenseTime Research, Beijing, China

2022 Autumn

Research Intern at Natural Language Processing Group

Topics: Large Language Models, Complex Reasoning

HONORS

Outstanding Graduate Award, Department of Computer Science and Technology, Tsinghua University

2024

Research Excellence Scholarship, Tsinghua University

2023

Social Service Excellence Scholarship, Tsinghua University

2022 - 2023

Academic Performance Excellence Scholarship, Tsinghua University

2021

Comprehensive Excellence Scholarship, Tsinghua University

2020

Freshmen Scholarship, Tsinghua University

2019

SKILLS

Programming Skills

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, JavaScript/CSS/HTML, Java, R, Matlab, Verilog, VHDL, Rust.

Language Skills

Chinese: native in Mandarin, fluent in Wu, Yue.

English: fluent, TOEFL 105.

German: basic, equivalently CEFR A2.