

Ziming Li, Ph.D.

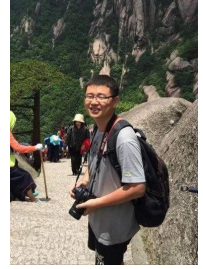
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🌐 <https://zimingli.info/>

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📌 My research interest is developing advanced dialogue systems, including both open-domain and task-oriented dialogue systems. I'm also interested in the fields of information retrieval and optimizing interactive systems by learning from users.



Education and Experience

- 07/2021 – present 📌 **Applied Scientist, Amazon Alexa AI, Seattle, USA**
- 03/2021 – 05/2021 📌 **Post-doc, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands**
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Evangelos Kanoulas
Research Topic: Dialogue systems and Learning through interaction
- 09/2016 – 02/2021 📌 **PhD Candidate, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands**
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Maarten de Rijke
Co-Supervisor: Dr. Julia Kiseleva
Research Topic: Information Retrieval, Dialogue systems and Inverse Reinforcement Learning
- 09/2013 – 07/2016 📌 **M.Sc. Computer Science, Xiamen University, China**
Supervisor: Dr. Xiangrong Liu
Research Topic: Membrane Computing, Bioinformatics
Thesis Title: Research on Some Mathematical Problems Based on Time-free P Systems (9.2/10, Outstanding Master Thesis Title)
- 09/2009 – 07/2013 📌 **B.Sc. Computer Science, Xiamen University, China**
Thesis Title: Parameterization of Triangular Meshes (graded 8.9/10, Outstanding Bachelor Thesis Title)

Internships

- 05/2019 – 08/2019 📌 Deep Learning Group, Microsoft Research, Redmond
- 05/2020 – 08/2020 📌 Amazon Alexa, Seattle

Research Publications

- 1 Kiseleva, J., Li, Z., Aliannejadi, M., Mohanty, S., ter Hoeve, M., Burtsev, M., ... Srinet, K. et al. (2021). Neurips 2021 competition iglu: Interactive grounded language understanding in a collaborative environment. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2110.06536*.
- 2 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J. & de Rijke, M. (2021). Improving response quality with backward reasoning in open-domain dialogue systems. *SIGIR 2021*.
- 3 Li, Z., Park, D., Kiseleva, J., Kim, Y.-B. & Lee, S. (2021). A data-driven approach to estimate user satisfaction in multi-turn dialogues. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2103.01287*.
- 4 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J., Agarwal, A., de Rijke, M. & White, R. W. (2020). Optimizing interactive systems via data-driven objectives. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2006.12999*.

- 5 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J. & de Rijke, M. (2020). Rethinking supervised learning and reinforcement learning in task-oriented dialogue systems. *Findings of EMNLP 2020*.
- 6 Li, Z., Lee, S., Peng, B., Li, J., Kiseleva, J., de Rijke, M., ... Gao, J. (2020). Guided dialogue policy learning without adversarial learning in the loop. *Findings of EMNLP 2020*.
- 7 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J., Agarwal, A. & de Rijke, M. (2019). Learning data-driven objectives to optimize interactive systems. *LIRE workshop, NeurIPS 2019*.
- 8 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J. & de Rijke, M. (2019). Dialogue generation: From imitation learning to inverse reinforcement learning. *AAAI 2019*.
- 9 Li, Z. & de Rijke, M. (2017). The impact of linkage methods in hierarchical clustering for active learning to rank. *SIGIR 2017*, 941–944.
- 10 Li, Z., Kiseleva, J., de Rijke, M. & Grotov, A. (2017). Towards learning reward functions from user interactions. *ICTIR 2017*, 289–292.
- 11 Liu, X., Li, Z., Liu, J., Liu, L. & Zeng, X. (2015). Implementation of arithmetic operations with time-free spiking neural p systems. *IEEE transactions on nanobioscience*, 14(6), 617–624.
- 12 Liu, X., Li, Z., Suo, J., Liu, J. & Min, X. (2015). A uniform solution to integer factorization using time-free spiking neural p system. *Neural Computing and Applications*, 26(5), 1241–1247.
- 13 Liu, X., Suo, J., Li, Z., Zou, Q., Liu, J. & Ju, Y. (2015). Reusable logic gates based on dna strand branch migration. *Journal of Computational and Theoretical Nanoscience*, 12(8), 1624–1629.
- 14 Liu, X., Li, Z., Suo, J., Ju, Y., Liu, J. & Zeng, X. (2014). Solving multidimensional 0-1 knapsack problem with time-free tissue p systems. *Journal of Applied Mathematics*.

Academic Activities

- Reviewer for CIKM'21, AAAI'21, AAAI'20, TOIS, IPM and Information Retrieval Journal
Sub-reviewer for ECIR'18, SIGIR'18, CIKM'18, NAACL'19 and SIGIR'19
- Organizer for Neurips 2021 competition "IGLU: Interactive grounded language understanding in a collaborative environment"
- European Summer School in Information Retrieval 2017, Barcelona, Spain

Skills

- Tools & Technologies ■ Numpy, PyTorch, Tensorflow, PySpark
Coding ■ Python, C, L^AT_EX


Awards and Achievements

- 2014 ■ National Scholarship for outstanding Postgraduate students, China
2015 ■ National Scholarship for outstanding Postgraduate students, China

Teaching Experience

- TAing ■ Information Retrieval I (2018), University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Teaching Experience (continued)

Supervision  Two Master theses (2018), University of Amsterdam, Netherlands


- Title: *Cyclists' Route Choice in Amsterdam: Finding Factors of Influence and Predicting Cyclists' Route Choice*, with Chris Olberts
- Title: *How to measure a neighborhood: Exploring geo-spatial data enrichment and neighborhood embeddings for housing price prediction*, with Guus Bobeldijk

Two Master theses (2019), University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

- Title: *Text Classification for Ground Lease Documents*, with Rouel de Romas
- Title: *Predicting salary using Job posting data*, with Roma Bakhyshev

Languages

Native  Chinese

Professional working proficiency  English