Catherine Wah

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Google Inc., San Francisco, CA   10/2014–present
Staff Software Engineer
- *Technical Lead/Manager (TLM), Apparel ML* (2022–present): Leading an advanced research team focusing on ML-based image synthesis for apparel virtual try-on and fashion
- *TLM, Natural Language Understanding for Assistant* (2018–2021): Drove NLU launches on a new surface (Android Auto) for multiple locales
- *Photos Machine Intelligence* (2015–2018): Led end-to-end infra/algorithm design and implementation of "smart sharing" features in the Photos app; built dashboards to track metrics
- *Photo Search* (2014–2015): Developed ranking algorithms for Search features
- Filed 2 patents

Technical Lead, Google.org Software Engineering Fellow   9/2021–3/2022
- Led 9-person team in building a data platform solution for a non-profit organization, Benefits Data Trust, as part of a selective 6-month fellowship

Google Inc., Venice, CA
Software Engineering Intern, Visual Search   6/2013–9/2013
- Worked on attribute-based visual classification of shopping images

eBay Inc., San Jose, CA
Research Intern, eBay Research Lab   6/2012–9/2012
- Investigated visual retrieval of fine-grained clothing types and styles, resulting in an academic conference workshop presentation (CVPR 2013)

Amazon A9.com, Palo Alto, CA
Software Development Intern, Visual Search   6/2011–9/2011
- Prototyped an algorithm for mobile visual product search of visually similar items, aided by user input
- Filed patent *"Drawn Gesture Based Search to Identify Item"*

EDUCATION

University of California, San Diego (UCSD), La Jolla, CA
PhD, Computer Science, June 2014
C.Phil, Computer Science, June 2012
M.S., Computer Science, December 2011

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), Urbana, IL
B.S., Electrical Engineering with Honors, August 2008
- Computer Science Minor, Mathematics Minor

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Computer Science and Engineering Department, UCSD, La Jolla, CA
Graduate Student Researcher, advised by Serge Belongie   9/2008–6/2014
- *Visipedia*: Interactive visual recognition of fine-grained categories
- Published at top-tier computer vision conferences (see Google Scholar)
- Work has been cited 4000+ times
- Supported by NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and UCSD Powell Foundation Fellowship

Toyota Technological Institute, Chicago, IL

Visiting Research Intern, hosted by Subhransu Maji   1–3/2014, 2–5/2013
- Investigated interactive visual recognition of fine-grained categories from similarity-based comparisons with multiple perceptual similarity metrics
- Awarded *Best Paper: Vision and Learning* at WACV 2015

Electronic Engineering Dept., Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Visiting Research Staff, hosted by Xiaogang Wang   6/2010–8/2010
- Supported by NSF International Research and Education in Engineering (IREE) Award

SKILLS

Languages: C++, Java, Python
Environment: Linux/UNIX, MacOS
Other: MATLAB, SQL, JavaScript, HTML/CSS
Familiar with computer vision, machine learning, image processing topics

COMMUNITY

Women in Machine Learning (WiML) Board of Directors (2022-2023)
Program Committee Member, *Fine-Grained Visual Categorization (FGVC) Workshop* 2013, 2015, 2017
Reviewer for computer vision/machine learning conferences and journals (2013–present), including: NeurIPS, ICCV, IJCV, CVPR, ICLR, ECCV, BMVC, WACV
Mentorship: MAGIC (More Active Girls in Computing) (2015-2019), Lumiere high school research program (2021-present)
Volunteering: 18 Reasons Kitchen, 826 Valencia, SFFILM, SF Marin Food Bank, The Marine Mammal Center harbor seal crew

OTHER

U.S. Citizen