CYNTHIA ZENG

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EDUCATION

Imperial College London | BSc in Mathematics

Oct. 2014 - Jun. 2017

First-class honours · top 15% class rank

Western Academy of Beijing | International Baccalaureate Diploma

Aug. 2011 - Jun. 2014

International high school · IB grades: 41/45 · academic awards: Economics, Chinese Literature, and Physics

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

MIT Media Lab | Research Intern

Jul. 2018 - Aug. 2018

Computational social science model to study urban planning. Applied multi-agent system to simulate the coupling effect of urban expansion and sea level rise to the mangrove ecosystem in Rio de Janeiro. [pdf]

Opinion Dynamics | Undergraduate Research Project

Jan. 2017 - Jun. 2017

Agent-based modelling approach to study opinion formation to explore the danger of populism, alternative poll forecast model. Theoretical model using statistical mechanics and computational simulation in Python. [pdf]

Introduce Gaussian Processes into Bayesian Linear Regression | Group Project – Jun. 2016 - Jul. 2016 Investigated and formulated theoretical statistical model, applied computational calculation to weather forecasting. Maths and Mozart | IB Diploma Research Project – Apr. 2013 - Nov. 2013

Function transformation and theme variation; frequency ratio and harmony; golden ratio of section lengths.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

BlackRock Active Equities (London, UK) | Research Analyst

Jul. 2017 - Jun. 2018

Data scientist for an algorithmic fund, conducted statistical analysis on data sets to generate mid/long-horizon trading strategies. Previously, 9-month rotation to learn fundamental research with exposure to retail, manufacturing and automobile sectors.

China Bridge Capital (Beijing, China) | Summer Intern

Jul. 2016 - Aug. 2016

Boutique investment bank, participated in two cross-border M&A deals.

Shanshui Environmental Conservation Centre (Beijing) | Summer Intern

Jul. 2014 - Sept. 2014

Developed honey products to encourage sustainable honey farming within panda habitats, led two honey harvesting trips, organised a marketing gala with 100+ guests.

EXTRA-CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES

Volunteering Experiences

· Nepal: mountain school teacher, sponsored one disadvantaged student Summer, 2015

· France: goat's cheese farm in Bretagne, organic farming, self-sufficient living Winter, 2015

· Taiwan: organic rice farm, gave a talk about the social enterprise industry in China

Summer, 2014

Leadership Positions

· Imperial College Hiking Society, social secretary

2016/17

· Imperial College Maths Society, vice president

2015/16

· Animal shelter volunteering club, founder and leader

Aug. 2012 - Jun. 2014

Achievements

· BlackRock Hackathon EMEA Category Championship

Apr. 2018

 \cdot 40-mile orientation challenge, completed in 17 hours

Apr. 2016

· Maths championship among international schools in China

May 2011

· Youngest participant of the river preservation act, Yangtze River white-water rafting adventure

Apr. 2009

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Languages Mandarin, English, Italian (improving)

Programming Python, Matlab, HTML, LATEX

Hobbies Hiking, yoga, tennis, volleyball, philosophy, travel

Qualifications CFA Level 1

GRE: quantitative 169 (96% percentile), verbal 158 (80%), analytical writing 5.0 (92%)