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# Alex Chen

PhD Candidate in Computer Science

### Education

2022-Present PhD in Computer Science, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

Expected Graduation: May 2026. Advisor: Prof. Evelyn Reed. Specialization: Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing.

2020–2022 M.S. in Computer Science, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

Thesis: "Advancements in Few-Shot Learning for Specialized Domains"

2016–2020 **B.S. in Computer Science**, *University of California, Berkeley*, Berkeley, CA,

Summa Cum Laude, Minor in Statistics

#### Awards and Honors

- 2024 Tom Wilson Leadership Person with Autism Award (Finalist)
- 2023 [COMPANY] PhD Fellowship (Fictive)
- 2022 Stanford Graduate Fellowship
- 2021 People with Autism Scholarship (2.7%) \$2,000 award.
- 2020 Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher Award, UC Berkeley
- 2019 Dean's High Honors List (Multiple Semesters), UC Berkeley
- 2018 ACM ICPC Regional Competitor

### Academic Research Experiences

Summer 2024 **Student Researcher (Anticipated)**, [COMPANY] Research, Mountain View, CA (or Remote)

Working with [COMPANY] research scientists on open-ended exploratory projects in advanced machine learning algorithms and their applications.

2022-Present Graduate Research Assistant, Stanford AI Lab (SAIL), Stanford, CA, USA

- O Conducting research on robust and interpretable Natural Language Understanding models, focusing on cross-lingual transfer learning and commonsense reasoning.
- Developing novel deep learning architectures for efficient information extraction from large-scale unstructured text data.
- Collaborating with a team of 5 researchers, contributing to algorithm design, experimental setup, and manuscript preparation.
- O Mentored junior PhD students in experimental design and paper writing.

- 2021–2022 Master's Thesis Researcher, Stanford NLP Group, Stanford, CA, USA
  - Investigated and developed few-shot learning techniques for text classification in specialized domains with limited labeled data.
  - Implemented and benchmarked various meta-learning algorithms, achieving stateof-the-art results on several internal datasets.
- 2019–2020 **Undergraduate Research Assistant**, Berkeley Al Research (BAIR) Lab, Berkeley, CA, USA
  - Assisted Prof. Ben Carter with projects on adversarial attacks and defenses for computer vision models.
  - O Contributed to the development of a new dataset for evaluating model robustness.

### **Publications**

**Chen, A.**, Lee, S., & Reed, E. (2024). "Cross-Lingual Alignment Strategies for Zero-Shot Commonsense Reasoning." *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*. (To Appear)

**Chen, A.**, & Reed, E. (2023). "Efficient Transformers for Low-Resource Language Understanding." *Findings of Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. pp. 1234-1245.

Kim, J., **Chen, A.**, & Davis, M. (2023). "Probing the Limits of Pre-trained Language Models in Scientific Literature." *Workshop on Scholarly Document Processing, NeurIPS*.

**Chen, A.** (2022). "Advancements in Few-Shot Learning for Specialized Domains." *Stanford University M.S. Thesis Archive*.

Carter, B., **Chen, A.**, & Zhao, L. (2020). "A Benchmark for Evaluating Robustness of Object Detection Models to Synthetic Perturbations." *arXiv* preprint arXiv:2005.XXXXX.

# Industry Experience

- Summer 2023 **Machine Learning Research Intern**, *Leading AI Startup X*, Palo Alto, CA, USA
  - O Designed and implemented a novel recommendation system using graph neural networks, resulting in a 15% improvement in user engagement metrics.
  - Collaborated with software engineering teams to integrate the ML model into the production environment.
  - O Presented research findings and model performance to senior leadership.

## Internship Experience

- Summer 2019 Software Engineering Intern, Tech Solutions Inc., San Francisco, CA, USA
  - Developed and tested new features for a large-scale data analytics platform using Python and Java.
  - Participated in agile development sprints, code reviews, and system design discussions.
  - Gained experience with cloud computing platforms (AWS).

# Teaching Experience

- Spring 2023 **Teaching Assistant**, CS224N: Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning, Stanford University
  - Led weekly discussion sections for 30+ students, explaining complex concepts and guiding them through assignments.
  - O Graded homework, quizzes, and exams, providing constructive feedback.
  - Held office hours and assisted students with project development.
  - Fall 2022 **Teaching Assistant**, *CS109: Introduction to Probability for Computer Scientists*, Stanford University
    - O Assisted in preparing course materials and grading assignments.
    - O Conducted review sessions before midterms and final exams.

## Speaker Experience

- 2023 Presenter, "Efficient Transformers for Low-Resource Language Understanding", EMNLP 2023 Conference, Singapore
- 2023 **Guest Lecturer, "Introduction to Meta-Learning"**, *Stanford CS330: Deep Multi-Task and Meta Learning*
- 2022 Poster Presenter, "Few-Shot Learning for Medical Text Classification", Bay Area NLP Meetup

#### Academic Service

- 2023-Present Reviewer, ACL, EMNLP, NeurIPS, ICML Conferences
  - 2023 Volunteer, NeurIPS 2023 Conference, New Orleans
  - 2022–2023 **PhD Admissions Committee Student Representative**, Stanford Computer Science Department
    - 2021 Organizer, Stanford Al Lab Seminar Series

#### DEI Panels

- 2025 Panelist. Students with Autism Panel at The Bush School
- 2024 **Panelist**, "Navigating Academia as an Underrepresented PhD Student", Stanford School of Engineering DEI Summit
- 2023 **Participant**, "Building Inclusive Research Environments" Workshop, Stanford University

### News and Other Coverage

- 2023 "Stanford Researchers Tackle Language Barriers in AI", Stanford Engineering News (Fictive article mentioning our EMNLP paper)
- 2020 "Berkeley Undergrad Shines in Al Robustness Research", The Daily Californian (Fictive article about BAIR Lab project)

#### Other Activities

- 2023-Present Member, National Association of Students with Autism
- 2022-Present Member, Stanford Alpine Club, Stanford Cycling Team

2016–2020 **Volunteer Tutor**, Berkeley High School (Mathematics and Computer Science)

Proficient in English (Fluent), Mandarin (Conversational)

Programming Languages: Python (Expert), Java (Proficient), C++ (Intermediate), JavaScript (Basic)

 $Frameworks/Libraries: \ \ TensorFlow, \ \ PyTorch, \ \ Scikit-learn, \ \ Pandas, \ \ NumPy,$ 

Hugging Face Transformers

Developer Tools: Git, Docker, SLURM, AWS, GCP