Zeqiu (Ellen) **Wu**

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My current research is focused on designing algorithms for language/knowledge representation to facilitate downstream applications like dialogue, summarization, question answering systems.

Education

University of Washington	*Seattle, WA*
PhD in Electrical & Computer Engineering	*2018 - PRESENT*

- Advisors: Mari Ostendorf & Hannaneh Hajishirzi (NLP Research Group)

University of Illinois	*Urbana, IL*
M.S. in Computer Science	*2016 - 2018*

- Advisor: Jiawei Han (Data Mining Research Group)

University of Illinois	*Urbana, IL*
B.S. in Electrical Engineering, with Minors in Computer Science, Math and Business	*2010 - 2014*

- Highest Honor Graduate, James Scholar, Dean's list

Awards

2018	**University of Washington Top Scholar Recruitment Fellowship**
2017	**SIGIR Student Travel Grant**
2014	**Brian & Sophie Leung Scholarship**
2013	**Professor N. Narayana Rao Scholarship**

Publications

HiExpan: Task-Guided Taxonomy Construction by Hierarchical Tree Expansion

J. Shen, Z. Wu, D. Lei, C. Zhang, X. Ren, M. T. Vanni, B. M. Sadler and J. Han. KDD, 2018.

Indirect Supervision for Relation Extraction Using Question-Answer Pairs

Z. Wu, X. Ren, F. F. Xu, J. Li, J. Han. WSDM, 2018.

SetExpan: Corpus-Based Set Expansion via Context Feature Selection and Rank Ensemble

J. Shen*, Z. Wu*, D. Lei, J. Shang, X. Ren, J. Han. ECML-PKDD, 2017.

CoType: Joint Extraction of Typed Entities and Relations with Knowledge Bases

X. Ren, Z. Wu, W. He, M. Qu, C. R. Voss, H. Ji,T. F. Abdelzaher, J. Han. WWW, 2017.

Life-iNet: A Structured Network-Based Knowledge Exploration and Analytics System for Life Sciences

X. Ren, J. Shen, M. Qu, X. Wang, Z. Wu, Q. Zhu, M. Jiang, F. Tao, S. Sinha, D. Liem, P. Ping, R. Weinshilboum, J. Han. (system demo) ACL, 2017.

Improving Question Answering Sentence Ranking by Rank Propagation

H. Ng, X. Wang, X. Zhang, Z. Wu. KBCOM Workshop at WSDM, 2018.

Research Experience

UW NLP Research Group	*Seattle, WA*
Advisors: Mari Ostendorf & Hannaneh Hajishirzi	*Fall 2018 – Present*

- Work on dialogue systems and text summarization projects, with the aim to leverage external knowledge and to improve factual correctness and model interpretability in text generation.

Microsoft Research NLP Team	*Seattle, WA*
Mentor: Michel Galley	*Summer 2019*

- Worked on improving knowledge-grounded dialogue systems.

UIUC Data Mining Research Group
Advisor: Jiawei Han

Urbana, IL

Fall 2016 – Spring 2018

- Improved **distantly supervised information extraction** (detection/classification of entities and relation triples in unstructured text corpora), which replaces human annotation with linking to knowledge bases, by developing noise-robust systems that extracts entities and relations.
- Designed and built systems that facilitate automatic **faceted taxonomy construction** from any given text corpus in scientific domains, with a small number of user provided seed examples.

UIUC MRI Lab
Advisor: Zhi-Pei Liang

Urbana, IL

Spring 2012 - Summer 2012

- Applied signal processing techniques to optimize real-time cardiac image reconstruction and de-noise dynamic MRI.

Industry Experience

GrapeTech
Co-Founder

Shanghai, China

2016 - 2018

- GrapeTech was a startup in Shanghai, providing a platform HackX to promote technology innovation.
- Helped organizing Hackathon events, building business connections and launching the website for HackX.

IXL Learning
Software Engineer, Product Team

San Mateo, CA

2015 - 2016

- Maintained and developed IXL web education application and data analysis reporting systems.

Goldman Sachs
Software Engineer, Fixed Income Products Team

New York, NY

Summer 2013 & 2014 - 2015

- Built a market data monitoring system to inform high frequency traders of data trustworthiness.
- Developed the next-gen, scalable fixed-income trading applications for daily trading, clearing and reporting.

Altera Corporation
Software Engineer Intern, FPGA Compiler Team

San Jose, CA

Fall 2012

- Worked on FPGA synthesis optimization and language extraction.

Teaching Experience

EE 511 (Machine Learning)
Teaching Assistant

Seattle, WA

Winter 2019

CS 412 (Data Mining)
Teaching Assistant

Urbana, IL

Fall 2016 & Spring 2018

Miscellaneous

2017-2018 **Visitor Coordinator, Data Mining Research Group** *Urbana, IL*

2011-2012 **Alumni Chair, Women in Electrical and Computer Engineering** *Urbana, IL*