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Hannah Cyberey

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Research Interests

- Trustworthy & Responsible AI
- Natural Language Processing (NLP)
- AI Ethics & Safety
- Large Language Models (LLMs)

Education

University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA
Ph.D. in Computer Science 2019 – 2025
Advisors: David Evans, Yangfeng Ji

Chang Gung University Taoyuan, Taiwan
B.S. in Information Management 2014 – 2018

Experience

University of Virginia Charlottesville, VA
Graduate Research Assistant Apr 2019 – Aug 2025

- Conducted research on trustworthy NLP—robustness, bias & fairness, and censorship.
- Published five peer-reviewed papers as first author, and presented research at conferences
- Mentored five undergraduate students, providing guidance on their research projects

Microsoft Redmond, WA
Research Intern – Cryptography and Privacy Group Feb 2022 – May 2022

- Worked with a multidisciplinary research team to investigate privacy leakage and copyright implications of code generation models
- Implemented membership inference and training data reconstruction attacks
- Proposed several mitigation methods to improve the current pipeline

Institute for Information Industry Taipei, Taiwan
Machine Learning Intern – Cybersecurity Technology Institute Jun 2018 – Dec 2018

- Analyzed trends in security vulnerabilities and exposures on Twitter
- Built binary classifiers for the Secbuzzer System to identify security-related Tweets
- Developed Sec2Vec embedding method.

Chang Gung University Taoyuan, Taiwan
Undergraduate Research Assistant Jul 2017 – Jun 2018

- Assisted in IoT security research project
- Programmed device authentication and Raspberry Pi sensors for capturing environmental data

Awards & Honors

UVA Engineering Dean's Scholar Fellowship (2019 – 2024)

Student member of IEEE HKN Gamma Pi Chapter at UVA (2021)

Chang Gung University Presidential Awards (Top 3% of class): 2016 Fall, 2017 Spring, and 2017 Fall

First runner-up of Chang Gung University English Speech Contest (2014)

Publications

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Unsupervised Concept Vector Extraction for Bias Control in LLMs. In *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, Nov 2025.

Hannah Cyberey, David Evans. Steering the CensorShip: Uncovering Representation Vectors for LLM "Thought" Control. In *Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)*. Oct 2025.

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Do Prevalent Bias Metrics Capture Allocational Harms from LLMs? In *Proceedings of the Fifth Workshop on Insights from Negative Results in NLP*. May 2025

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Addressing Both Statistical and Causal Gender Fairness in NLP Models. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: NAACL 2024*. Jun 2024.

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Balanced Adversarial Training: Balancing Tradeoffs Between Oversensitivity and Undersensitivity in NLP Models. In *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*. Oct 2022.

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Finding Friends and Flipping Frenemies: Automatic Paraphrase Dataset Augmentation Using Graph Theory. In *Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2020*. Nov 2020.

Hannah Cyberey, Yangfeng Ji, David Evans. Pointwise Paraphrase Appraisal Is Potentially Problematic. In *Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Student Research Workshop*. Jul 2020.

Talks

Invited Talk: "Debiasing Can Be Complementary," *The AI and Machine Learning Seminar at UVA*, Nov 2023
Guest Lecture: "Adversarial Attacks and Defenses for NLP Models," *UVA CS6501/CS4501 Data Privacy*, Sep 2022

Selected Projects

Countering Censorship in Instruction and Reasoning LLMs GitHub 2025

- Examined LLM censorship mechanisms through internal representations and uncovered a distinct type of censorship in reasoning LLMs (e.g., DeepSeeek-R1)
- Developed a method for detecting and controlling the level of censorship in LLM outputs
- Built a demo app with Gradio and deployed models with Docker on HuggingFace endpoints

Bias Mitigation using Representation Engineering GitHub 2024

- Proposed a method that finds "steering vectors" to control model outputs related to a specific concept
- Demonstrated the effectiveness of our method in reducing gender bias in model predictions

Improving Adversarial Robustness in NLP Models GitHub 2021 – 2022

- Demonstrated robustness tradeoffs in NLP models arise from common adversarial training methods
- Proposed a new adversarial training method with minimal tradeoffs in model robustness

Leadership Experience

Co-Lead – Causal Learning Reading Group at UVA Summer 2023
President – Taiwanese Graduate Student Association at UVA 2022 - 2023

Teaching Experience

Graduate Teaching Assistant – CS6501/4501 Data Privacy (Fall 2022), CS6501 AI for Social Good (Fall 2021), CS6501 Natural Language Processing (Spring 2021), DS5001 Exploratory Text Analytics (Fall 2020)

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – Python Programming (Spring 2018)

Professional & Public Service

Reviewer: NLPCC 2021, IJCNLP-AACL 2023, NeurIPS SoLaR Workshop 2023, NAACL Insights Workshop 2025, ACL Rolling Review 2023-now

Volunteer: IEEE-HKN High School Outreach Program (2021)

Skills

Programming: Python, HTML/CSS, JavaScript

Frameworks/Tools: Pytorch, HuggingFace, Git, Jupyter Notebook, FastAPI, Docker

Libraries: Transformers, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, NumPy, SciPy, Plotly, Matplotlib, Gradio

Languages: English, Mandarin Chinese