# Zhengxiang Wang

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#### EDUCATION

Stony Brook UniversityStony Brook, NYPh.D. in Computational Linguistics. Advisors: Owen Rambow, Jeffrey HeinzAug 2022 - Present

University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Canada

M.A. in Applied Linguistics. Advisor: Zhi Li Sep 2019 – May 2021

Hunan University

B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature

Changsha, China
Sep 2015 – Jun 2019

## INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

• Data Scientist Intern, The Home Depot Tentative plan: May 2024 - Aug 2024

- Topic Modelling: Using LLMs, build a standardized and reusable framework to categorize themes within a text
  - corpus in a hierarchical and mutually exclusive way Classification Framework: Build a Scalable and Dynamic framework to fine-tune classification models based on
  - the topics and their context

     Autonomous Validation Framework: Utilize LLMs to build an autonomous validation tool to verify the accuracy
  - Autonomous Validation Framework: Utilize LLMs to build an autonomous validation tool to verify the accuracy
    of the classification model, aiming to reduce the effort for manual validation

#### Publications & Manuscripts

#### **Book Chapters**

- 1. Makarova, V., Li, Z. & Wang, Z. (2024). Can ChatGPT Grade Non-Native Academic English Writing? In AI Approaches to Literacy in Higher Education, page 97-116.
- 2. Wang, Z. (2023). Probabilistic Linguistic Knowledge and Token-level Text Augmentation. In *Practical solutions for Diverse Real-World NLP Applications*, page 1-20. Springer book series *Signals and Communication Technology*.

#### Articles

- 1. Li, Z., Makarova, V. & Wang, Z. (2023). Developing Literature Review Writing Skills through an Online Writing Tutorial Series: Corpus-based Evidence. Frontiers in Communication.
- 2. Hao, H., Cui, Y., Wang, Z. & Kim, Y. (2022). Thirty-Two Years of IEEE VIS: Authors, Fields of Study and Citations. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*.
- 3. Peng, L., & Wang, Z. (2017). The Contemporary Reflection on the Sentence-based Theory Postulated by New Grammar of Modern Chinese. *Journal of Hengyang Normal University*.

#### **Proceedings**

1. Wang, Z. & Rambow, O. (2024). Clustering Document Parts: Detecting and Characterizing Influence Campaigns From Documents. Proceedings of the 6th Workshop on Natural Language Processing and Computational Social Science. (Collocated at NAACL 2024)

- 2. Li, Z., Makarova, V. & Wang, Z. (2023). Assessment of Academic ESL Writing in an Online Tutorial for Graduate Students. Proceedings of the 22nd European Conference on e-Learning: ECEL 2023.
- 3. Wang, Z. (2023). Learning Transductions and Alignments with RNN Seq2seq Models. Proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Grammatical Inference. In Proceedings of Machine Learning Research, Volume 217.
- 4. Wang, Z. (2022). Linguistic Knowledge in Data Augmentation for Natural Language Processing: An Example on Chinese Question Matching. Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Natural Language and Speech Processing.
- 5. Wang, Z. (2022). Random Text Perturbations Work, but not Always. Proceedings of the 3rd Workshop on Evaluation and Comparison of NLP Systems (co-located at AACL 2022).

# Manuscripts

- 1. Wang, Z. (2021). A Macroscopic Re-examination of Language and Gender: A Corpus-based Case Study in University Instructor Discourses. MA Dissertation, University of Saskatchewan.
- 2. Wang, Z. (2019). Analysis on the quantitativeness of reduplication in Modern Mandarin. BA Dissertation (in Chinese), Hunan University.
- 3. Wang, Z. (2017-2019). Grammar as science: Rethinking the construction of Modern Chinese Grammar. Granted project (outcomes are 99 pages/11 papers in Chinese) for the National Student Innovation Training Program.

# AWARDS & HONORS

• Distinguished Travel Award, Graduate Student Organization	2023
• Professional Development Award, Graduate Student Employees Union	2023
• Mitacs Globalink Graduate Fellowship, Mitacs	2019
• Excellent Graduate of the year, Hunan University	2019
• Chinese Government Scholarship, China Scholarship Council	2018
• The First-Class Scholarship, Hunan University	2017, 2018
• National Student Innovation Training Program Grant, Ministry of Education of China	2017
• Triple-A student, Hunan University	2016
• National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of China	2016

#### Research Employment

- Research Assistant, under Owen Rambow, SUNY Research Foundation May 2023 May 2024 DARPA-funded project: Influence Campaigns Awareness and Sensemaking (INCAS).
- Research Assistant, under Veronika Makarova & Zhi Li, University of Saskatchewan

  May 2020 Jun 2021

  Assessing the development of Academic ESL Writing by international graduate students.
- Research Assistant, under Benjamin V. Tucker, University of Alberta Summer 2018
  Phonological perceptions of Chinese English learners for reduced English sounds.

## TEACHING EMPLOYMENT

Instructor: Jordan Kodner. Stony Brook University.

Summer Youth Camp in Computational Linguistics. Instructor
 Organizer: Jeffrey Heinz, Stony Brook University
 LIN335: Computational Linguistics. Teaching Assistant
 Spring 2023

• LIN120: Language and Technology. Teaching Assistant Instructor: Owen Rambow. Stony Brook University.

#### CERTIFICATES

• Machine Learning Specialization, Deeplearning.AI	2022
• Practical Data Science on the AWS Cloud, Deeplearning.AI	2022
• Deep Learning Specialization, Deeplearning.AI	2021
• Machine Learning, Stanford Online	2021
• Deep Learning Based Natural Language Processing, Baidu PaddlePaddle	2021

## SKILLS

- Programming: Python, R, LATEX, Octave, HTML, C/C++, Haskell, Bash
- Frameworks: PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, PaddlePaddle, NumPy, Jax, scikit-learn
- Cloud Computing: AWS, Baidu AI Studio, Google Colab
- Languages: Mandarin, English, Fuqing Dialect

#### Presentations

#### **Talks**

- 1. Wang, Z. June 2024. Clustering Document Parts: Detecting and Characterizing Influence Campaigns From Documents. The 6th Workshop on Natural Language Processing and Computational Social Science. Collocated at NAACL 2024, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2. Wang, Z. July 2023. Learning Transductions and Alignments with RNN Seq2seq Models. The 16th International Conference on Grammatical Inference (ICGI), Rabat, Morocco.
- 3. Wang, Z. March 2023. Understanding how RNN seq2seq models learn alignment. SYNC (STONY BROOK, YALE, NYU, CUNY Linguistics Conference) 2023, Yale University.
- 4. Wang, Z. December 2022. Linguistic Knowledge in Data Augmentation for Natural Language Processing: An Example on Chinese Question Matching. The 5th International Conference on Natural Language and Speech Processing, Online.
- 5. Wang, Z. October 2022. Random Text Perturbations Work, but not Always. The 3rd Workshop on Evaluation and Comparison of NLP Systems (co-located at AACL 2022), Online.

#### Posters

- 1. Wang, Z. April 2023. Exploring RNN Seq2seq Models via Transduction Tasks that Require Alignments. The 10th Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning (MASC-SLL 2023), George Mason University.
- 2. Wang, Z. April 2023. Probing the learning capabilities of RNN seq2seq models. IACS (Institute for Advanced Computational Science) Research Day, Stony Brook University.
- 3. Wang, Z. March 2023. Probing the learning capabilities of RNN seq2seq models. The 47th Penn Linguistics Conference, University of Pennsylvania.
- 4. Wang, Z., Tucker, B. V. & Mukai, Y. August 2018. How does Chinese learner of English perceive and comprehend phonetic reduction? Summer Poster Symposium, University of Alberta.

# SERVICE

Skillz Hour organizer	Sep $2023 - \text{Dec } 2023$
Linguistics Department, Stony Brook University	
• Student organizer	Aug 2022 - May 2023
Mathematical Linguistics Reading Group, Stony Brook University	
• ESL classroom volunteer	Dec 2019 - Mar 2020
The Global Gathering Place, Saskatoon	
• Co-founder and president	May 2016 - Jun 2019
Hunan University Student Ambassadors Association, Hunan University	
• Student organizer	May 2019
University of Regina's China Study Tour (4 weeks), Hunan University	
• Volunteer and interpreter	Sep 2018
UNESCO conference "Role of linguistic diversity" (3 days), Changsha	

# AFFILIATION

• Member of Institute for Advanced Computational Science, SBU	Mar 2023 - Present
• BIAS National Science Foundation Research Traineeship	$\mathrm{Jun}\ 2023-\mathrm{Present}$
• Association for Computational Linguistics	Feb 2022 – Present
• Linguistics Society of America	Apr 2023 - Apr 2024