

# John Dang

COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENT · SOFTWARE ENGINEER · AI RESEARCHER

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## Education

### University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

Los Angeles, CA

B.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE, GPA: 3.8

Sep. 2018 - Jun. 2022

- Achievement Scholarship Recipient, Association for Computing Machinery (AI Projects Officer), Upsilon Pi Epsilon (CS Honor Society)
- Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning, Computer Vision, Data Mining, Algorithms and Complexity, Data Structures and Algorithms, Object-Oriented Programming, Software Construction, Probability Theory, Linear Algebra, Multivariate Calculus, Discrete Structures, Statistical Reasoning, Research, Computer Organization

## Work Experience

### Center for Vision Cognition Learning and Autonomy (VCLA)

UCLA CS and Statistics Departments

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER; PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: PROFESSOR SONG-CHUN ZHU

May. 2019 - Present

- Researching causal, transfer, and reinforcement learning. Working jointly at International Center for AI and Robot Autonomy Inc. (CARA).
- Developing VRGym, an AI research platform for training and evaluating agents in 3D environments built on Unreal Engine (C++ and Python).
- Designed and implemented automatic structured, stochastic scene generation including integration with Shapenet and Partnet.
- Integrating Pyro, a Pytorch-based probabilistic programming language into VRGym for probabilistic inference and learning.
- Created demo presented by Professor Song-Chun Zhu during part of an invited talk at World AI Conference 2019 in Shanghai.

### Sike AI

Los Angeles, CA

DEEP LEARNING ENGINEER

Oct. 2018 - Present

- Created deep learning model for accurate five-factor OCEAN personality trait extraction from text for helping client companies' employee onboarding process. Clients include Heal, Wistmo, Saffron, and more. Working on extracting additional psychometrics from audio and video.
- Designed and implemented data infrastructure, including data storage on AWS Simple Storage Service and AWS Relational Database Service (MySQL), multi-GPU distributed Tensorflow model training on AWS Elastic Compute Cloud, and deployment on AWS Elastic Beanstalk.
- Sike AI is backed by the StartupUCLA Accelerator and Anderson Venture Accelerator

### Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) / Ozcan Research Group (ORG)

UCLA ECE Department

MACHINE LEARNING RESEARCHER; PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: PROFESSOR AYDOGAN OZCAN

Oct. 2018 - Jun. 2019

- Developed deep learning system for quick, mobile, and accurate protein particle analysis of blood samples for disease diagnosis in Tensorflow.
- Custom Convolutional Neural Network system achieved tenfold improvement over traditional methods in efficiency on embedded devices.
- Presented work at Howard Hughes Medical Institute Day Undergraduate Research Conference. Poster here: [www.johndang.me/ozcan](http://www.johndang.me/ozcan)

### Logos News LLC.

Los Angeles, CA

SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INTERN

Oct. 2018 - Dec. 2018

- Developed iOS app in Swift for diverse, crowd-sourced news platform. Performed various app and database bug fixes and refactoring.
- Implemented article text highlighting feature enabling text-specific social interaction, discussion, and bias ratings.
- Redesigned Firebase database structure and wrote new Google Cloud Functions for faster data processing and app loading times.

## Projects

### Sincerely, AI

DEVELOPER

- Trained Tensorflow deep learning model for detection of insincere questions using transfer learning. Achieved 96% accuracy and 0.7 F1-score on Quora Insincere Questions Dataset (over 1.3 Million data samples). Built at SB Hacks 2019.
- Deployed model on Python Django web server for use with Chrome Extension that determines sincerity of highlighted text on webpage.

### Perspective

DEVELOPER

- Developed Java web app that allows user to read two news articles side by side that are likely to differ in perspective on the user's search query.
- Integrated Bing News Search API for article retrieval and scraped web for bias data for determining likelihood of articles differing in perspective.
- Winner of Most Useful Hack at EV Hacks 2018.

## Skills

**Programming** Python, C++, C, Java, Javascript, Matlab, HTML, CSS, Bash, Octave, Swift, SQL

**Technologies** Git, Github, Tensorflow, Pytorch, Keras, OpenAI Gym, Amazon Web Services, Firebase, Unreal Engine, LaTeX

**Languages** English, Vietnamese