

# Xia Li

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## Research Interests

**Software Engineering**, in particular: software testing and debugging involving dynamic/static program analysis, machine learning, deep learning and big-code mining.

## Education

- 2014 – 2020 **Ph.D. in Computer Science**  
(Expected) The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, US  
GPA: 3.67/4.0, Advisor: Lingming Zhang ([lingming.zhang@utdallas.edu](mailto:lingming.zhang@utdallas.edu))
- 2012 – 2014 **M.S. in Information Technology and Management**  
The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, US
- 2009 – 2012 **M.S. in Management Science and Engineering**  
Shandong Jianzhu University, Jinan, China
- 2004 – 2008 **B.S. in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics**  
Jiangxi University of Science and Technology, Ganzhou, China

## Publications

- Yiling Lou, Ali Ghanbari, **Xia Li**, Lingming Zhang, Dan Hao, Lu Zhang. **Can Automated Program Repair Refine Fault Localization?** *arXiv preprint arXiv:1910.01270*, October 2019.
- Xia Li**, Wei Li, Yuqun Zhang, and Lingming Zhang. **DeepFL: Integrating Multiple Fault Diagnosis Dimensions for Deep Fault Localization.** In *Proceedings of the 28th ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA 2019)*, July 2019. **ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award**
- Mengshi Zhang, Yaoxian Li, **Xia Li**, Lingchao Chen, Yuqun Zhang, Lingming Zhang, Sarfraz Khurshid. **An Empirical Study of Boosting Spectrum-based Fault Localization via PageRank.** *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE)*, April 2019.
- Xia Li** and Lingming Zhang. **Transforming Programs and Tests in Tandem for Fault Localization.** In *Proceedings of the ACM SIGPLAN Conference on Object-Oriented Programming System, Languages, and Applications (SPLASH/OOPSLA 2017)*, October 2017.

- Mengshi Zhang, **Xia Li**, Lingming Zhang and Sarfraz Khurshid. **Boosting Spectrum-based Fault Localization using PageRank**. In *Proceedings of the 26th ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA 2017)*, July 2017. **Nomination for ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award**
- **Xia Li**, Jiajun Jiang, Yingfei Xiong and Lingming Zhang. **A Massive Study on API Misuses in the Wild and Its Implications**. In *Proceedings of the 29th ACM SIGSOFT International Symposium on Software Testing and Analysis (ISSTA 2020)*, July 2020. *Manuscript in preparation*.
- Junjie Chen, **Xia Li**, Lingming Zhang, Dan Hao, Lu Zhang and Bing Xie. **Boosting Automated Debugging Supports via Delta Debugging: An Extensive Study**. *Manuscript in preparation*.
- **Xia Li**, Wei Li, Yuqun Zhang, and Lingming Zhang. **An Empirical Study of Integrating Multiple Fault Diagnosis Dimensions for Boosting Fault Localization via Deep Learning**. *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering (TSE)*. *Manuscript in preparation*.

## Research Experience

- 2018 – 2019 **Detecting GitHub Bugs via Big Code Mining and Static Analysis.**
- Mined millions of historical bug-fixing commits from GitHub and automatically extracted various bug-fixing patterns via static program analysis.
  - Implemented a bug detection tool according to the patterns to detect bugs in the latest Apache projects.
  - Detected 400+ bugs and 55 of them are confirmed and fixed by developers to date.
- 2017 – 2019 **Deep-Learning-Based Fault Localization.**
- Extracted suspiciousness-based features, fault-proneness-based features and textual-similarity-based features via dynamic analysis, static analysis and information retrieval.
  - Implemented various Deep Learning techniques via TensorFlow such as Multiple Layer Perceptron (MLP), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN) and a tailored hierarchical MLP for fault localization by combining these features.
  - Ranked 213 bugs (out of 395 studied real bugs) within Top-1, the best result compared with other state-of-the-art techniques.
  - Published one paper in ISSTA 2019.
- 2016 – 2017 **Localizing Bugs by Transforming Programs and Tests via Learning-to-Rank.**
- Transformed test cases to capture more detailed failure messages and assertion outcomes.
  - Used LIBSVM and XGBoost to implement the Learning-to-Rank algorithm for localizing bugs by combining spectrum-based and mutation-based fault localization via various failure messages.
  - Localized 142 bugs (out of 357 real bugs) within Top-1 by LIBSVM.
  - Published one paper in OOPSLA 2017.
- 2016 – 2017 **Boosting Spectrum-Based Fault Localization via PageRank.**
- Collected spectrum information between tests and source code entities as well as the static call graph information among source code entities via bytecode instrumentation and analysis.
  - Used PageRank to re-compute the spectrum information by considering the contributions of different tests.
  - Found 104 bugs (out of 357 studied real bugs) within Top-1 by PageRank.
  - Published one paper in ISSTA 2017.

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## Industry Experience

- Summer 2018 **R&D Software Support Engineer Intern**, *FutureWei Technologies, Inc*, Plano, TX, US.
- Worked as an R&D intern to work on an automated program repair project of the company.
  - Helped set up a state-of-the-art repair tool and mined bug-fixing patterns from GitHub for improving the tool.

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## Teaching Experience

- Summer 2019 **Teaching Assistant**, Organization of Programming Languages (CS4337), The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, US
- Spring 2016 **Teaching Assistant**, Big Data Management and Analytics (CS6350), The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, US

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## Expertise and Skills

Languages Python, Java, R

Systems Windows, Linux

Tools TensorFlow, PyTorch, Spark, Scikit-learn, Eclipse, JUnit, ASM Bytecode Manipulation Framework, Eclipse JDT, Git

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## Professional Service

- 2020 **Co-Reviewer**: ICSE
- 2019 **Co-Reviewer**: ICST, ISSTA, QRS, ICSME, ASE
- 2018 **Reviewer**: Journal of Systems and Software (JSS)  
**Co-Reviewer**: QRS, COMPSAC, ASE, SPE
- 2017 **Co-Reviewer**: ICST, QRS, COMPSAC, ASE

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## References

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Co-Author **Dr. Sarfraz Khurshid**, Professor  
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