

# DAN ‘MAGGIE’ ZHU

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## EDUCATION

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**  
M.S. in Analytics (Computational Analytics)

*Online*  
Expected June 2027

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**  
M.S. in Agricultural Production (Crop Science)  
Bayer Youth Ag Summit Delegate

*Urbana-Champaign, IL*  
December 2021

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO**  
B.S. in Environmental Systems (Ecology, Behavior and Evolution)  
UC Global Food Initiative Fellow

*La Jolla, CA*  
June 2020

## EXPERIENCE

### BAYER CROP SCIENCE

*DeForest, WI*

#### Pipeline Enablement Associate

July 2022 - March 2025

- Managed vegetable breeding cycle from seed production through field testing, establishing clear milestones and timelines to ensure on-time progression of the global pipeline.
- Served as the key contact between R&D, Production, Field Operations, Data Science teams, and intellectual property (IP) partners, fostering a collaborative environment to align goals and ensure seamless workflow execution.
- Implemented standardized operating procedures (SOPs) for core workflows, enhancing operational clarity, reducing errors, and improving overall efficiency.
- Contributed to the development and deployment of a centralized data management platform, integrating disparate data sources to support robust data analysis.
- Developed and managed the annual budget, consistently delivering projects under budget while optimizing resource allocation.

#### Vegetable R&D Breeding Intern

June 2021 - September 2021

- Designed and Executed a proof of concept for a high-throughput phenotyping method to address the inefficiency in manual data collection methods and the high labor cost.
- Participated in the development of deep learning algorithms that integrated high-throughput phenotyping data with crop genomic information.
- Co-led monthly global meetings focusing on integrating new technologies (digital data capture, analysis software) into the traditional breeding pipeline, increasing data accuracy and accelerating the trial analysis cycle.

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

*La Jolla, CA*

#### Global Food Initiative Research Fellow

July 2018 - June 2020

- Operated research equipment to capture soil data and identified heavy metal contaminations from sites in San Diego and Mexico.
- Facilitated communication between ~50 professors, students and community members to share ideas and seek continuous improvement for executing the soil testing project.
- Held over 10 workshops (~200 attendees) to raise students' awareness of food safety issues.

### UCSD BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT

*La Jolla, CA*

#### Plant Biology Lab Assistant

July 2018 - July 2020

- Assisted with plant tissue processing using Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry.
- Set up and maintained greenhouse systems; Gained familiarity with hydroponic techniques.
- Initiated search for new grant opportunities and received \$5000 Green Initiative Fund.

## ADDITIONAL

- Interests: Technology & Innovation, Sustainability, Diversity & Inclusion
- Professional Skills: International Collaboration, Stakeholder Engagement, SOP Development, Problem-Solving, Risk Management, Budgeting & Forecasting, Results-Oriented
- Technical Skills: R, Python, MS Office, Data Management & Integration, Workflow Automation
- Language: English (fluent), Chinese (native)