

MENGDI ZHANG

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Knowledge Engineering Group Lab.
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EDUCATION

Shandong University	Shandong, China
Bachelor of Engineering in Software Engineering	Sep. 2010 - July 2014
GPA: 82/100 3.40/4.00	
Undergraduate Thesis: <i>Topic-targeted Influence Maximization in Social Network</i>	
Advisor: Prof. Jun Ma	

OBJECTIVE

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- PhD position under the supervisor of Prof. Heng Ji, BLENDER Lab, Computer Science Department, Rensselaer Polytechnic.
 - Research interests: Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning and Data Mining

PUBLICATIONS

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1. Linmei Hu, Xuzhong Wang, **Mengdi Zhang**, Juanzi Li: "Learning Topic Hierarchies For Wikipedia Category" *ACL*, (2): 346–351, 2015.
 2. **Mengdi, Zhang**, Tao Huang, Yixin Cao, Lei: "Target Detection and Knowledge Learning for Domain Restricted Question Answering." *NLPCC*, accepted, 2015.
 3. Junbo, Xia, **Mengdi, Zhang**, Lei Hou, Yixin Cao: "CNME: A system for Chinese News Meta-data Extraction" *JIST*, submitted, 2015.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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- **Research Assistant** Oct 2014 - Present
KEG Lab, Tsinghua University
Joint 5Ws Modeling and Event Extraction, (June 2015 - Present): I'm working with Prof. Heng Ji and Juanzi Li's group on document-level event extraction. Beyond the traditional sentence-level IE task, I try to connected all the event pieces cross the whole news document by adding discourse relation between sentences. A event network model is expected to constructed firstly. Then propagate the temporal and geometry information through the network, and jointly infer each event's 5Ws and the salient event from this network.
Chinese News Analysis, (Oct 2014 - Mar 2015): I worked with Prof. Juanzi Li's group on Chinese News Analysis. We automated crawling articles from 12 news media sites and classifying news to 8 categories, mining hot topic, tracing salient event and analysing media's reporting trends. I extracted the 5Ws of each news, by firstly locating the topic sentences, and then using separately trained classifiers to discern the five news elements. Both the Stanford parser and HIT parser are tested in the experiments. Our work was presented at the APEC in Beijing.
Automated Question Answering, (Sep 2014 - Dec 2014): this is a collaborated project with Sinovoice Co. on question answering system for bank's consultant service. We try to automated answer users' question based on FAQ corpus. We collected the Frequent Asked Questions from the bank consult log; proposed and trained a target-word model for the informative words in question; learned a two-layer product-and-attribute knowledge by clustering the FAQ and predicting each cluster's target-words. Finally, a new query is analysed by the same target-word classifier and . The best matched answer is returned to the user from the mapped FAQ cluster based on the obtained domain knowledge, and ranked by our target-word based BM25.
 - **Undergraduate Research Assistant** Jan 2014 - Sep 2014
IRLab, Shandong University
Information Propagation on Weibo, (Aug 2014 - Sep 2014). I worked on social media and data mining with Professor Jun Ma as RA in I.R. Lab at Shandong University. I proposed a combination model considering

both locality influence measure and message exposure probability. By treating the retweet prediction as a classification problem, use logistic regression to predict a messages propagation on network.

Topic-targeted Influence Maximization, (Feb 2014 - May 2014): I worked on influence maximization problem as my undergraduate thesis. I adjusted the classic influence maximization problem by adding topic factor into influence model. Coded in Python. I completed my undergraduate honors thesis with Prof. Jun Ma as my advisor.

- **Undergraduate Research Assistant** Jan 2011 - Sep 2012
Database&Search Lab, Shandong University

Distributed Resource Retrieval, (Jan 2011 - Sep 2012) : I worked with lab group, build a distributed resource retrieval system, based on Lucene&Natuch open structure, combining XML and Hadoop technology. I took charge of the designing and programming of search module, dynamic organization for distributed server module and UI. We won a first prize on Qilu Software competition.

INTERN EXPERIENCE

- **Software Engineer Intern, Yingc Education Software Development Company, Shandong**, Jul 2014 - Aug 2014.

Education quality analysis and evaluation system: I independently built a B/S structure e-learning platform for a local education government, in two weeks, completed all steps, including requirement analyse, function modules design, Web front-end development and PHP back-end development. Coded in PHP.

- **Undergraduate Research Intern, Micro Security Corporation, Jinan**, Jun 2013 - Aug 2013.

Intelligent Campus: Remote Control System Based on 433MHz Internet of Thing: We built an Internet of Thing system enabling users to use mobile phone app to remotely check real-time environment condition and control equipment. Acted as team leader to take responsibility of the development of sensing layer with C on STM32 chip and the design of whole system communication structure, made a present as outstanding student on behalf of my group. Coded in C++ and Java.

PATENTS

1. Zhang Mengdi. One Type of Variable Screen Mesh, App. No. 201120196592.0, App. Date: Feb. 01. 2012.
2. Zhang Mengdi. One Type of Linkage Distance Adjusting Mesh Screen, App. No. 201120296585.0, App. Date: Nov. 03. 2011.

ACTIVITIES

- Poster on ACL, Beijing, Jul 2015.
- Team leader in CSDGC YCISL program of Stanford University, San Francisco, Feb 2014.
- Team leader in MSRA Student Summer Camp, Beijing, Aug 2013.
- Team leader in Youth Volunteer Activity of community-supported volunteer teacher, Jinan, 2010 - 2011.

HONORS

- 2014.03 Research and Innovation Scholarship, Shandong University,
- 2012.10 Outstanding Student Scholarship, Shandong University.
- 2012.09 Outstanding Innovation individual of College Award, Shandong University.
- 2012.03 Third Prize, 2012 Mathorcup Global Mathematical Modeling Challenge.
- 2011-2012 One First and Two Second Prizes in Tenth Qilu Software Design and Foreign Competition.

SKILLS

- High level language: Java, C/C++.
- Script language: JavaScript, PHP, Python.
- Software development tools: Eclipse, Visual Studio, Processing.
- Database: Oracle, Mysql, MongoDB.
- Others: Matlab, Latex.