MELISSA CHEN

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign   *Aug 2018 - May 2022*
B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Mathematics   GPA: 3.98/4.00
Relevant Coursework Software Engineering Studio, Discrete Structures, Statistics and Probability for CS, Data Strutures, Computer Architecture, Numerical Methods, Linear Algebra, Systems Programming, Database Systems, Bioinformatics, Differential Equations, Algorithms and Models of Computation*, Artificial Intelligence*   (* FA20 courses)
Honors Chancellor's Scholar, James Scholar, Phi Eta Sigma, Tau Beta Pi

EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Intern, Facebook (Privacy Infra Org)   *May 2020 - Aug 2020*
Developed a new framework to test feature extractors used to detect user-identifiable information
Decreased the time needed to run experiments by half and created an intuitive UI to expedite feature extractor development

Course Assistant, CS 233 Computer Architecture   *Jan 2020 - Present*
Hosted office hours to help students with labs in Verilog and MIPS
Assisted a TA in weekly discussion sections to reinforce computer architecture concepts in small-group settings

Undergraduate Researcher, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign   *Sept 2018 - Sept 2019*
Studied the theory of non-negative matrix factorization and applied knowledge on cancer genomics data
Researched missingness mechanisms and imputation methods to compare their relative speeds
Performed literature survey on missing data and neural networks to create classifier to handle missing features

Summer Research Intern, Academia Sinica Institute of Information Sciences   *June 2018 - Aug 2018*
Analyzed academic papers on various topics in computer vision
Experimented with Tensorflow and Keras on open source examples

PROJECTS

Safeways, CS 196 Semester Project   *Sept 2018 - Dec 2018*
A webapp that plots safe routes around recent and frequent crime locations, using data from the MotoSocrata crime API

Non-negative matrix factorization on cancer gene expression data   *Sept 2018 - Dec 2018*
Used non-negative matrix factorization to achieve 85% accuracy on the PANCAN dataset of cancer genomics data
Awarded People's Choice Award at end-of-semester poster session

ACTIVITIES

Co-Director, HackIllinois 2020   *Apr 2019 - Mar 2020*
Oversaw and coordinated efforts of 50 team members to build the premier collegiate open source hackathon, hosting 800 attendees, 35 mentors, 17 companies, and 200 volunteers for 36 hours at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Content x Diversity Co-Chair, Reflections | Projections 2020   *Dec 2019 - Present*
Coordinated committee of 15 students to plan a week of events for the largest student-run tech conference in the midwest
Reimagined ACM Symposium to become an event to match K-12 classrooms with college students' projects to inspire young students, especially those from underrepresented groups, to consider computing

Events Chair, CS Mental Health Committee   *Aug 2020 - Present*
Spearheaded ideation and implementation of events to facilitate and normalize discussion about mental health in CS
Managed marketing and branding for social media and event promotion

Explorations (Technical) Co-Chair, Women in Computer Science   *May 2020 - Present*
Created and hosted workshops to help female students feel more comfortable studying computing

Other: Girls Who Code Facilitator, Sail 2019 Staff Member

SKILLS

Programming Languages and Frameworks C, Python, C++, MongoDB, Neo4J, SQL, Verilog, MIPS, Java, Keras, Django, React.js, Hacklang
Languages English, Chinese, Spanish, Japanese