

Mike (Michael) Gee

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Education

University of Southern California

B.S. in Computer Science, GPA : 3.50 / 4.0

Los Angeles, CA

Jan 2021 – Dec 2025

- **Dean's List:** Spring 2021, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

- **Relevant Coursework:** Machine Learning*, Deep Learning*, Natural Language Processing

* Graduate-level course

Under Review

Conference:

- [1] **Conversational Time Series Foundation Models: Towards Explainable and Effective Forecasting**

Defu Cao, *Michael Gee*, Jinbo Liu, Hengxuan Wang, Wei Yang, Rui Wang, Yan Liu

ICLR 2026.

Research Experience

Undergraduate Researcher

USC Melady Lab

Oct 2024 – Present

Advisor: Yan Liu

- Designed LLM agent framework to improve generalizability and explainability in zero-shot time series forecasting that creates ensemble of Time Series Foundation Models (TSFMs)
- Engineered distributed pre-training and inference pipelines for TSFMs scaling up to 1 TB of data with GluonTS, PyTorch, and Hugging Face
- Achieved 1st place overall on GIFT-Eval Time Series Forecasting Leaderboard, resulting in 2nd author ICLR 2026 submission

Undergraduate Researcher

USC DILL Lab

Feb 2025 – Present

Advisors: Swabha Swamyamdipta, Yixin Wang (UMich)

- Leading project to improve interpretability in LLM evaluations by identifying fine-grained capabilities that benchmarks test
- Initiated project ideation and designed experiments assessing how well sparse autoencoders identify fine-grained capabilities in LLM benchmarks
- Presented weekly findings with graduate student collaborators and advisors to decide future research directions

Projects

Self-Supervised Contrastive Learning For Semantic Textual Similarity

Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

- Elucidated success of fine-tuning models for semantic textual similarity via self-supervised contrastive learning in low-resource settings using PyTorch and Sentence-BERT
- Achieved 36% performance improvement after fine-tuning and utilized hypothesis testing to prove statistical significance of performance gains

Effects of Model Size on Machine Translation

Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

- Evaluated how model size affects performance on German-to-English machine translation to provide cost-benefit analysis between using small- and large-scale translation models
- Developed PyTorch and Transformers pipeline for fine-tuning models with LoRA and found that performance gains plateaued with increasing model size

Leadership

Treasurer

Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers at USC

May 2022 – May 2024

- Organized professional and social events for 300+ STEM students of Asian heritage with 10-person team
- Managed \$5,000+ annual budget and coordinated trips to conferences in San Diego, CA and Atlanta, GA

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, Java, MATLAB, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, SQL

ML/DL Libraries: PyTorch, GluonTS, Hugging Face, Sentence-BERT, scikit-learn

Technologies: Git, SLURM, W&B, L^AT_EX, Linux