

# Ryan Zhenqi Zhou

(Last update: January 2024)

Email: [zhenqizh@buffalo.edu](mailto:zhenqizh@buffalo.edu)  
Website: [www.ryanzhenqizhou.site](http://www.ryanzhenqizhou.site)

## EDUCATION

---

**2021 - Present**     **Ph.D. (Geographic Information System)**  
University at Buffalo - SUNY, USA  
**Supervisor:**     Prof. Yingjie Hu

**2018 - 2021**     **Master of Engineering (Landscape Architecture)**  
Nanjing Forestry University, China

**2014 - 2018**     **Bachelor of Agriculture (Landscape Architecture)**  
Zhejiang A&F University, China

## RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE

---

**May 2023 – Present**     **Research Assistant to Prof. Yingjie Hu**  
GeoAI Lab, Department of Geography, University at Buffalo - SUNY, USA

**August 2023 – August 2023**     **Research Fellow**  
NSF I-GUIDE Summer School, UCAR, Boulder, Colorado, USA

**August 2022 – May 2023**     **Teaching Assistant to Prof. Yingjie Hu**  
Department of Geography, University at Buffalo - SUNY, USA  
GEO 481/506 Geographical Information Systems

**May 2022 – August 2022**     **Research Assistant to Prof. Yingjie Hu**  
Funded by NSF Research Experience for Graduates (REG) Grant

**August 2021 – May 2022**     **Research Assistant to Prof. Yingjie Hu**  
GeoAI Lab, Department of Geography, University at Buffalo - SUNY, USA

**August 2020 - September 2020**     **Spatial data analyst (Intern)**  
MetroDataTech, China

**September 2018 – June 2021**     **Research Assistant to Prof. Zhen Xu**  
School of Landscape Architecture, Nanjing Forestry University, China

## RESEARCH EXPERTISE & SKILLS

---

- GeoAI, Geospatial Data Science, Spatial Analysis, Statistical Analysis, Spatial-Temporal Data Mining
- Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence
- Well versed in using Python, NumPy, Pandas, GeoPandas, Scikit-Learn, Keras, TensorFlow, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Bokeh, Request, Json, PyQt, R, SQL, GitHub, ArcGIS Pro

## PUBLICATIONS

---

**2023**     **Zhou R.Z.**, Hu Y., Sun K., & Kim J. (2023): Understanding the impacts of the 2022 Buffalo blizzard and community resilience via 311 calls and explainable AI. *On-going*.

**2023**     **Zhou R.Z.**, Hu Y., Zou L., Cai H., Bing Z., & Sun K. (2023): Understanding the disparate impacts of the 2021 Texas winter storm and power outages through mobile phone location data and nighttime light images. *Under Review*. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4631641>

**2023**     Sun K., Hu Y., Lakhanpal, G., & **Zhou, R.Z.** (2023): Spatial cross-validation for GeoAI. *Handbook of Geospatial Artificial Intelligence*, Taylor & Francis Group.

**2023**     Hu, Y., Mai, G., Cundy, C., Choi, K., Lao, N., Liu, W., Lakhanpal, G., **Zhou, R.Z.**, & Joseph, K. (2023): Geo-knowledge-guided GPT models improve the extraction of location descriptions from disaster-related social media messages. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*, 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2023.2266495>

- 2023** Sun K., Hu Y., Ma Y., **Zhou R. Z.**, & Zhu Y. (2023): Conflating point of interest (POI) data: A systematic review of matching methods. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, 103, 101977. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compenvurbsys.2023.101977>
- 2023** Xu Z., Li M., Chen Y., & **Zhou R.Z.** (2023): Assessing the cycling accessibility of comprehensive parks with online maps: a case study of Nanjing City. *Journal of Nanjing Forestry University Natural Science*, 1-8 (in Chinese).
- 2022** **Zhou R.Z.**, Hu Y., Tirabassi J.N, Ma Y., & Xu Z. (2022): Deriving neighborhood-level diet and physical activity measurements from anonymized mobile phone location data for enhancing obesity estimation. *International Journal of Health Geographics*, 21, 22. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12942-022-00321-4>
- 2022** Zhang B., Dong Y., Kelobonye K., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Xu Z. (2022): Delineating walking catchment of the existing and proposed public sports facilities with open-source data: a case study of Nanjing. *Applied Spatial Analysis and Policy*, 16, 729-749. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12061-022-09499-3>
- 2022** Chen Y., Zhang B., Li M., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Xu Z. (2022): Concatenating daily exercise routes with public sports facilities, bicycle lanes, and green spaces: a feasibility analysis in Nanjing, China. *Land*, 11, 2251. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11122251>
- 2022** Yue M., Hu Y., Moncrieff G.R., Slingsby J.A., Wilson A.M., Maitner B., & **Zhou R.Z.** (2022): Forecasting vegetation dynamics in an open ecosystem by integrating deep learning and environmental variables. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 114, 103060. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jag.2022.103060>
- 2022** Dong Y., Zhang B., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Xu Z. (2022): Assessing the accessibility of swimming pools in Nanjing by walking and cycling using Baidu Maps. *International Journal of Geo-Information*, 11(10), 515. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi11100515>
- 2021** **Zhou R.Z.**, Xu Z., Liu A., Zhou S., Mu L., & Zhang X. (2021): Mapping the accessibility of medical facilities of Wuhan during the COVID-19 pandemic. *International Journal of Geo-Information*, 10(5), 318. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi10050318>
- 2021** Xu Z., **Zhou R.Z.**, Wang Y., Han L., & Xing J. (2021): Analysis on walking shed in comprehensive parks and urban form from a Park-City perspective. *City Planning Review*, 45(03), 81-90 (in Chinese).
- 2021** Xu Z., Liu A., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Han L. (2021): Analyzing and scenarioizing walking routes and urban context of middle school students with Baidu Map: a case study of Jianye District of Nanjing. *Modern Urban Research*, 2, 33-40+91 (in Chinese).
- 2021** Xu Z., Gao Z., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Zhang J. (2021): Research on campus sitting space: a case study of Nanjing Forestry University. *Modern Urban Research*, 4, 30-35 (in Chinese).
- 2020** **Zhou R.Z.** & Xu Z. (2020): Detecting the pedestrian shed and walking route environment of urban parks with open-source data: a case study in Nanjing, China. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(13), 4826. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17134826>
- 2020** Liu A., Kelobonye K., **Zhou R.Z.**, Xu Q., Xu Z., & Han L. (2020): School commuting mode shift: a scenario analysis for active school commuting using GIS and online map API. *International Journal of Geo-Information*, 9(9), 520. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi9090520>
- 2020** Zhang J., **Zhou R.Z.**, & Xu Z. (2020): Suitability evaluation of university facilities layout based on demand characteristics: taking several universities in Nanjing as examples. *Modern Urban Research*, 4, 43-51 (in Chinese).

## CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

---

- 2023** Oral presentation (2023): Improving the 3D representation of rivers in digital elevation models (DEM), in the *2023 NSF I-GUIDE Summer School*, Aug. 11, 2023, Boulder, Colorado, USA.
- 2023** Oral presentation (2023): Understanding spatial and temporal impacts of the Texas winter storm in 2021 via mobile phone location data and nighttime light images, in the *2023 AAG Annual Meeting*, Mar. 26, 2023, Denver, Colorado, USA.
- 2022** Oral presentation (2022): Deriving neighborhood-level diet and physical activity measurements from anonymized mobile phone location data for enhancing obesity estimation, in the *GEOMED 2022*, Oct. 14, 2022, University of California, Irvine, California, USA.
- 2022** Poster presentation: Human mobility data demonstrates increase in park visitation since start of COVID-19 pandemic in Buffalo, New York, in the *American College of Preventive Medicine (ACPM) 2022 annual meeting*, Jun. 15-18, 2022, Denver, Colorado, USA (Co-Author).
- 2022** Poster presentation: Mapping the accessibility of medical facilities of Wuhan the COVID-19 pandemic, in the *University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (UCGIS) Symposium 2022*, Jun. 7-9, 2022, Syracuse, New York, USA.
- 2022** Oral presentation: The role of place visits related to diet and physical activity from mobile phone

location data in enhancing obesity estimation at the neighborhood level, in the *Graduate Student Lightning Talks, Spring 2022 Colloquium Speaker Series, UB Department of Geography*, Feb. 18, 2022, Buffalo, New York, USA.

- 2019** Poster presentation: Measuring the walkability around the urban parks: a case study of Nanjing, in the *16th International Conference on Urban Health*, Nov. 4-8, 2019, Xiamen, Fujian, China.
- 2019** Poster presentation: Mapping the service area and population of urban parks for park city initiative: a case study of Nanjing, in the *16th International Conference on Urban Health*, Nov. 4-8, 2019, Xiamen, Fujian, China.
- 2019** Oral presentation: Old community renovation based on data analysis, in the *9th Summer Workshop DigitalFUTURES YOUNG Forum 2019—Architectural Intelligence held at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP), Tongji University*, Jun. 30 to Jul. 6, 2019, Shanghai, China.
- 2019** Poster presentation: Intelligence and Strategy of Urban Deduction—Spark Planning (UrbanGAN), in the *9th Summer Workshop DigitalFUTURES SHANGHAI 2019—Architectural Intelligence held at the School of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP), Tongji University*, Jun. 30 to Jul. 6, 2019, Shanghai, China (Co-Author).
- 2019** Oral presentation: Social Loop, loops to connect city and communities, in the *International Digital Urban Design Week held by International Society of City & Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and Southeast University*, Jun. 10-15, 2019, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China.
- 2018** Poster presentation: The urban community agriculture practices in Chinese cities: case studies in Nanjing, in the *15th International Conference on Urban Health*, Nov. 27-30, 2018, Kampala, Uganda, Africa (Co-Author).

## AWARDS & GRANTS

---

- 2023** Travel Award, by 2023 NSF I-GUIDE Summer School Program
- 2023** Hugh W. Calkins Applied GIS Award, by Department of Geography at the University at Buffalo - SUNY
- 2022** NSF Research Experience for Graduates (REG) Grant, by Human-Environment and Geographical Sciences (HEGS) program in the National Science Foundation (NSF), Student PI
- 2021** Outstanding Graduate Award, by Nanjing Forestry University
- 2020** Funded student research project by the Postgraduate Research & Practice Innovation Program of Jiangsu Province (KYCX20\_0893), Department of Education, Jiangsu, China, Student PI
- 2020** National Scholarship Award, by Department of Education, China
- 2020** Outstanding Graduate Student Award, by Nanjing Forestry University
- 2020** First-class Scholarship Award, by Nanjing Forestry University
- 2019** Best Project Award, International Digital Urban Design Week held by International Society of City & Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and Southeast University in Nanjing
- 2019** Second-class Scholarship Award, by Nanjing Forestry University
- 2017** Third-class Scholarship Award, by Zhejiang A&F University
- 2016** Second Prize, 4th ZAFU Career Planning Competition, by Zhejiang A&F University
- 2015** Third Prize, 4th ZAFU 'Beautiful Village' Design Competition, by Zhejiang A&F University

## SERVICE

---

### Peer Review for Academic Journals

- Computational Urban Science
- Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science
- Journal of Map
- Royal Society Open Science

### Voluntary Service

- Co-host of GISalon, GISphere (Student-initiated volunteer organizations), Oct. 2021-present, USA.
- Faculty Liaison for PhD, Geography GSA, University at Buffalo - SUNY, Sept. 2022-present, USA.
- Conference Assistant, 2023 AAG Annual Meeting, Mar. 23-27, 2023, USA.