

TONG XIANG

xtong@vt.edu [◇ LinkedIn](#) [◇ Github](#) [◇ Google Scholar](#)

EDUCATION

Virginia Tech

Master of Engineering in Computer Science

Aug. 2021 - May 2023 (Expected)

Georgetown University

Master of Science in Computer Science

Aug. 2019 - May 2021

Thesis: [A Predictive and Interpretable Model for Toxic Content Classification](#)

Wuhan University

Bachelor of Engineering in Computer Science

Sep. 2015 - Jun. 2019

PUBLICATIONS

* equal contribution

- 1 **Tong Xiang**, Eugene Yang, Sean MacAvaney, and Nazli Goharian. 2021. [ToxCCIn: Toxic Content Classification with Interpretability](#), In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Computational Approaches to Subjectivity, Sentiment and Social Media Analysis (WASSA@EACL)*.
- 2 Jiayuan Ding*, **Tong Xiang***, Zijing Ou*, Ruihui Zhao, Yefeng Zheng, and Bang Liu. 2022. [Tell Me What to Read: Literature Review Made Simple with Automatic Reading Path Generation](#), In *International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE)*.
- 3 Jacob Daniel Beel, **Tong Xiang**, Sandeep Soni, and Diyi Yang. 2022. [Linguistic Characterization of Contentious Topics Online: Case Studies on Controversy in Abortion, Climate Change, and Gun Control](#), In *International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*.
- 4 Sajad Sotudeh*, **Tong Xiang***, Hao-Ren Yao, Sean MacAvaney, Eugene Yang, Nazli Goharian, and Ophir Frieder. 2020. [GUIR at SemEval-2020 Task 12: Domain-Tuned Contextualized Models for Offensive Language Detection](#), In *Proceedings of the International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval@COLING)*.

SELECTED PROJECTS

Toxic Language Identification and Analysis in Social Media

Georgetown University, [Information Retrieval Lab](#)

Dec. 2019 - Apr. 2021

Supervised by [Prof. Nazli Goharian](#)

- Proposed a two step domain-tuning method to improve model performance, by first further pre-training the contextualized language model on domain corpus and then fine-tuning it on task-specific data
- Ranked 4/82 in sub-task A, 6/41 in sub-task B, and 11/37 in sub-task C, in SemEval 2020 task 12
- System description paper [4] accepted to [\[SemEval 2020\]](#)
- Proposed a sample yet efficient assumption to improve interpretability for neural models
- Incorporated the assumption with transformer-based models using multi-task learning framework
- Long paper [1] accepted to and orally presented at [\[WASSA 2021\]](#)

TEACHING

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Virginia Tech, Department of Computer Science

- CS-2104: Intro to Problem Solving in CS
- CS-5824: Advanced Machine Learning

Aug. 2021 - Dec. 2021

Jan. 2021 - May 2022

Teaching Assistant

Georgetown University, Department of Computer Science

- COSC-576: Introduction to Deep Learning
- COSC-051: Computer Science I

Jan 2020 - May 2020

Feb. 2021 - May 2021

SKILLS

Programming languages: Python, C++, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, SQL, Java

Packages/Frameworks: Pytorch, Scikit-learn, Transformers, Numpy, Pandas, Matplotlib, NLTK, Git, \LaTeX , spaCy, XGBoost, React, Django, Keras, Gensim, SciPy, Scrapy

Databases: MySQL, MongoDB