

# Li “Harry” Zhang

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing  
Large Language Models, Planning and Reasoning, Human-Centered AI, etc.

## ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

**Drexel University**, Philadelphia, PA  
Tenure-Track Assistant Professor  
Dec 2024 – Present

**University of Pennsylvania**, Philadelphia, PA  
Ph.D. Computer and Information Science  
Adviser: Prof. Chris Callison-Burch  
Thesis: *Structured Event Reasoning with Large Language Models*  
Committee: Prof. Dan Roth (chair), Prof. Rada Mihalcea, Prof. Graham Neubig,  
Prof. Mark Yatskar, Dr. Marianna Apidianaki  
Aug 2019 – Aug 2024  
GPA: 3.96/4.00

**University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI  
B.S.E. Computer Science, summa cum laude  
Mentors: Prof. Rada Mihalcea and Prof. Dragomir Radev  
Aug 2015 – Dec 2018  
GPA: 3.82/4.00

## PUBLICATIONS

26 papers published in top NLP/AI conferences and workshops  
⊃ 13 first-authored by self ∪ 7 first-authored by advised or mentored students.  
Total citations: 1000+; h-index: 10+  
(\*Equal contribution; ^Mentored students)

[30] C. Huang and **L. Zhang**. On the Limit of Language Models as Planning Formalizers. In ACL 2025.

[29] **L. Zhang**, P. Jansen, P. Clark, C. Callison-Burch and N. Tandon. PDDLEGO: Iterative Planning in Textual Environments. In \*SEM 2024.

[28] T. Zhang<sup>\*</sup>, **L. Zhang**<sup>\*</sup>, Z. Hou<sup>^</sup>, Z. Wang<sup>^</sup>, Y. Gu, P. Clark, C. Callison-Burch and N. Tandon. PROC2PDDL: Open-Domain Planning Representations from Texts. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Natural Language Reasoning and Structured Explanations Workshop at ACL 2024.

[27] Q. Lyu, K. Shridhar, C. Malaviya, **L. Zhang**, Y. Elazar, N. Tandon, M. Apidianaki, M. Sachan and C. Callison-Burch. Calibrating Large Language Models with Sample Consistency. In AAAI 2025; **Area Chair Award**.

[26] Y. Lal, **L. Zhang**, F. Brahman, B. Majumder, Peter Clark and N. Tandon. One Size Does Not Fit All: Customizing Open-Domain Procedures. In Findings of ACL 2024.

[25] B. Majumder, B. Dalvi, P. Jansen, O. Tafjord, N. Tandon, **L. Zhang** and C. Callison-Burch, Peter Clark. CLIN: A Continually Learning Language Agent for Rapid Task Adaptation and Generalization. In COLM 2024.

[24] Z. Hou<sup>^</sup>, **L. Zhang** and C. Callison-Burch. *Choice-75: A Dataset on Decision Branching in Script Learning*. In LREC-COLING 2024.

[23] **L. Zhang**, H. Xu<sup>^</sup>, A. Kommula, N. Tandon and C. Callison-Burch. *OpenPI2.0: An Improved Dataset for Entity Tracking in Texts*. In EACL 2024.

[22] **L. Zhang**<sup>\*</sup>, L. Dugan<sup>\*</sup>, H. Xu<sup>^</sup> and C. Callison-Burch. *Exploring the Curious Case of Code Prompts*. In preprint. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Natural Language Reasoning and Structured Explanations Workshop at ACL 2023.

[21] T. Zhang<sup>^</sup>, I. Tham, Z. Hou<sup>^</sup>, Jia. Ren, L. Zhou, H. Xu<sup>^</sup>, **L. Zhang**, L. Martin, R. Dror, S. Li, H. Ji, M. Palmer, S. Brown, R. Suchocki, C. Callison-Burch. *Human-in-the-Loop Schema Induction*. In preprint; in ACL 2023 Demos.

[20] Q. Lyu\*, S. Havaladar\*, A. Stein\*, **L. Zhang**, D. Rao, E. Wong, M. Apidianaki and C. Callison-Burch. *Faithful Chain of Thought Reasoning*. In IJCNLP-AAACL 2023.

[19] **L. Zhang**\*, H. Xu<sup>^</sup>, Y. Yang, S. Zhou, W. You, M. Arora and C. Callison-Burch. *Causal Reasoning of Entities and Events in Procedural Texts*. In Findings of EACL 2023.

[18] **L. Zhang** and C. Callison-Burch. *Language Models are Drummers: Drum Composition with Natural Language Pre-Training*. In 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Creative AI across Modalities at AAAI 2023.

[17] Y. M. Cho<sup>^</sup>, **L. Zhang** and C. Callison-Burch. *Unsupervised Entity Linking with Guided Summarization and Multiple Choice Selection*. In EMNLP 2022.

[16] S. Gehrmann, ..., **L. Zhang**, ..., H. Zhu, S. Brahma, Y. Li, ... *GEMv2: Multilingual NLG Benchmarking in a Single Line of Code*. In EMNLP 2022.

[15] A. Srivastava, ..., **L. Zhang**, Q. Lyu and C. Callison-Burch, ... *Beyond the Imitation Game: Quantifying and extrapolating the capabilities of language models*. In TMLR.

[12] Q. Lyu, H. Zheng, D. Li, **L. Zhang**, M. Apidianaki, and C. Callison-Burch. *Is "my favorite new movie" my favorite movie? Probing the Understanding of Recursive Noun Phrases*. In NAACL 2022.

[11] **L. Zhang**, I. Jindal and Y. Li. *Label Definitions Improve Semantic Role Labeling*. In NAACL 2022.

[10] **L. Zhang**\*, S. Zhou\*, Q. Lyu, Y. Yang, G. Neubig and C. Callison-Burch. *Show Me More Details: Discovering Event Hierarchies from WikiHow*. In ACL 2022.

[9] Y. Yang, A. Panagopoulou, Q. Lyu, **L. Zhang**, M. Yatskar and C. Callison-Burch. *Visual Goal-Step Inference using wikiHow*. In EMNLP 2021; presented at the 2nd Workshop on Advances in Language and Vision Research at NAACL 2021.

[8] **L. Zhang**\*, Q. Lyu\* and C. Callison-Burch. *Goal-Oriented Script Construction*. In INLG 2021.

[7] **L. Zhang**, Q. Lyu and C. Callison-Burch. *Intent Detection with WikiHow*. In AACL-IJCNLP 2020.

[6] **L. Zhang**\*, Q. Lyu\* and C. Callison-Burch. *Reasoning about Goals, Steps, and Temporal Ordering with WikiHow*. In EMNLP 2020; presented at Workshop on Enormous Language Models at ICLR 2021.

[5] **L. Zhang**, H. Zhu, S. Brahma and Y. Li. *Small but Mighty: New Benchmarks for Split and Rephrase*. In EMNLP 2020.

[4] **L. Zhang**, S. R. Wilson and R. Mihalcea. *Multi-Label Transfer Learning for Semantic Similarity*. In \*SEM 2019 and presented at NAACL 2019.

[1] C. Finegan-Dollak, J. K. Kummerfeld, **L. Zhang**, K. R. D. Ramanathan, S. Sadasivam, R. Zhang and D. Radev. *Improving Text-to-SQL Evaluation Methodology*. In ACL 2018.

<b>External Funding</b>	<b>Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge (\$250,000)</b>	2021 - 2022
	Amazon	Seattle, WA
	• Primarily authored, applied, and received a stipend award of \$250,000 to lead University of Pennsylvania's effort in the Alexa Prize TaskBot Challenge 2021.	
<b>INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Research Intern</b>	Apr 2023 – Current
	Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)	Seattle, WA

**Research Intern***IBM Research*

Apr 2019 – Jun 2019; May 2021 – Aug 2021

San Jose, CA

**Software Engineer Intern***Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.*

May 2017 – Aug 2017

Jersey City, NJ

**ACADEMIC  
SERVICE****Chair**

## • Area Chair:

ACL Rolling Review (incl. ACL 2025, ACL 2024, EMNLP 2024)

2024

COLING 2024

## • Program Chair:

Mid-Atlantic Student Colloquium on Speech, Language and Learning (MASC-SLL) 2023

## • Program Chair:

1<sup>st</sup> Workshop on Data Science with Human in the Loop at EMNLP 2022

2022

## • Session Chair:

Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association of Computational Linguistics (AACL)

2020

**Reviewer**

• Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)

2025

• Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)

2023

• Association of Computational Linguistics (ACL)

2023

• International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING)

2022

• International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC)

2022

• Association of Computational Linguistics Rolling Review (ARR)

2021 - Present

• International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING)

2020

• Computer Speech and Language (CSL) journal.

2018

**TEACHING****Instructor — Applied Natural Language Processing**

Apr 2025 – Jun 2025

CS T780: The graduate level NLP course

Drexel University

**Teaching Assistant — Computational Linguistics**

Jan 2020 – Dec 2020

CIS 530: The graduate level NLP course

University of Pennsylvania

**Teaching Assistant — Natural Language Processing**

Sept 2018 – Dec 2018

EECS 595: The graduate level NLP course

University of Michigan

**Teaching Assistant — Programming and Data Structures**

Sept 2016 – Apr 2017

EECS 280: An introductory programming course

University of Michigan

**Tutor — Elementary Chemistry**

Sept 2016 – Dec 2016

Science Learning Center

University of Michigan

**COURSES****Graduate**

Operating Systems(A+), Independent Research (A+), Machine Learning (A-), Common-sense Reasoning (A), Software Foundations (A-), Big Data (A), Neurolinguistics (A-), Composition of Electronic Music (A)

**Undergraduate**

Natural Language Processing(A+), Directed Research (A+), Information Retrieval(A), Machine Learning(A), Artificial Intelligence (A), Computer Security(A), Multivariate Calculus(A+), Probability and Statistics (A-), Matrix Algebra (A-)

**HONORS**

Merit-Based Scholarship of \$2,000, UM Engineering Class of 1935	2017 – 2018
James B. Angell Scholar, University of Michigan	2017
University Honors of all semesters, University of Michigan	2015 – 2018
Dean’s Honor List of all semesters, UM College of Engineering	2015 – 2018