

Zhichao Xu

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Email: zhichao.xu@utah.edu

[Homepage](#)

[Google Scholar](#)

[Github](#)

Research Interests

Search and Recommendation, Explainability IR, Conversation

Education

University of Utah

PhD in Computer Science

Advisor: [Dr. Qingyao Ai](#)

Salt Lake City, UT

09/2020 – Present

Rutgers University

MS in Computer Science

Advisor: [Dr. Yongfeng Zhang](#)

New Brunswick, NJ

09/2018 – 05/2020

Shanghai University of Finance & Economics

BS in Applied Statistics, BE in Computer Science

Advisor: [Dr. Sirong Luo](#)

Shanghai, CN

09/2014 – 06/2018

Industry Experience

Dataminr

Research Scientist Intern

mentored by [Dr. Daniel Cohen](#), [Dr. Hemank Lamba](#)

Research Project on Cross-lingual Retrieval

NYC, US

09/2022 – 12/2022

Dataminr

Research Scientist Intern

mentored by [Dr. Sebastian Bruch](#), [Dr. Hemank Lamba](#)

Research Project on Counterfactual Explanations for Web Search/Ad Hoc Retrieval (in submission)

NYC, US

05/2022 – 08/2022

SAP Lab

Data Scientist Intern (part-time)

Developed a business intelligence automation tool to assist sales agents with generating report and data visualization

Wrote interface functions from S4 Hana to acquire data to assist sales agents (Java, Python, MySQL, MongoDB)

Shanghai, CN

12/2017 – 06/2018

Ipsos Market Research

Frontend Development Engineer Intern (fulltime)

Collaborate with analysis team to build webpages for visualization and market research report (HTML, CSS, PHP, Web Crawler)

Shanghai, CN

05/2017 – 09/2017

Selected Publications

Understanding the Effectiveness of Reviews in E-commerce Top-N recommendation

Zhichao Xu, Hansi Zeng, Qingyao Ai.

in proceedings of 7th International Conference on the Theory of Information Retrieval (ICTIR), 2021

A Zero Attentive Relevance Matching Network for Review Modeling in Recommendation System

Hansi Zeng, **Zhichao Xu**, Qingyao Ai.

43rd European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR), 2021.

Speech-Based Activity Recognition for Trauma Resuscitation

Jalal Abdulbaqi, Yue Gu, **Zhichao Xu**, Chenyang Gao, Ivan Marsic, Randall S Burd.

8th IEEE International Conference on Healthcare Informatics (ICHI), 2020

E-commerce Recommendation with Weighted Expected Utility Theory

Zhichao Xu, Yi Han, Yongfeng Zhang, Qingyao Ai.

29th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM), 2020.

Preprints

Reinforcement Learning to Rank with Coarse-grained Labels

(* indicates equal contribution)

Zhichao Xu*, Anh Tran*, Tao Yang, Qingyao Ai.

manuscript on arXiv, 2022

Learning to Rank Rationales for Explainable Recommendation

Zhichao Xu, Yi Han, Tao Yang, Anh Tran, Qingyao Ai.

manuscript on arXiv, 2022

Effective Exposure Amortizing for Fair Top-k Recommendation

Tao Yang, **Zhichao Xu**, Qingyao Ai.

manuscript on arXiv, 2022

Research Projects

Fairness in Learning to Rank

Advisor: Dr. Qingyao Ai

05/2021 – Present

Model-agnostic Explanation for Blackbox Recommender System

Advisor: Dr. Qingyao Ai

05/2021 – Present

Conversational Product Search Agent

Advisor: Dr. Qingyao Ai

08/2021 – Present

The Usage of Textual Reviews in E-commerce Recommendation

Advisor: Dr. Qingyao Ai

09/2020 – 02/2021

The Usage of Behavioral Economics Principles in E-commerce Recommendation

Advisor: Dr. Yongfeng Zhang & Dr. Qingyao Ai

05/2019 – 05/2020

Service

Conference Reviewer: **CCL 2021, DLP-KDD 2021**

Conference Subreviewer: **KDD 2022, TheWebConf 2022**

Journal Reviewer: **TOIS**

Skills

Programming

Proficient in: Python, PhP

Familiar with: Java, C++, Matlab

Tools

PyTorch, Tensorflow, Spark, MapReduce, MongoDB, MySQL, L^AT_EX