Zhichao Xu

Email: zhichao.xu@utah.edu   **Homepage**   **Google Scholar**   **Github**

Research Interests	Search and Recommendation, Explainability IR, Conversation

Education

University of Utah — Salt Lake City, UT
PhD in Computer Science — 09/2020 – Present
Advisor: Dr. Vivek Srikumar and Dr. Bei Wang

Rutgers University — New Brunswick, NJ
MS in Computer Science — 09/2018 – 05/2020
Advisor: Dr. Yongfeng Zhang

Shanghai University of Finance & Economics — Shanghai, CN
BS in Applied Statistics, BE in Computer Science — 09/2014 – 06/2018
Advisor: Dr. Sirong Luo

Industry Experience

Dataminr — NYC, US
Research Scientist Intern — 09/2022 – 12/2022
mentored by Dr. Daniel Cohen, Dr. Hemank Lamba
Research Project on Cross-lingual Retrieval

Dataminr — NYC, US
Research Scientist Intern — 05/2022 – 08/2022
mentored by Dr. Sebastian Bruch, Dr. Hemank Lamba
Research Project on Counterfactual Explanations for Web Search/Ad Hoc Retrieval (in submission)

SAP Lab — Shanghai, CN
Data Scientist Intern (part-time) — 12/2017 – 06/2018
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)

Ipsos Market Research — Shanghai, CN
Frontend Development Engineer Intern (fulltime) — 05/2017 – 09/2017
Colloborate with analysis team to build webpages for visualization and market research report (HTML, CSS, PhP, Web Crawler)

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 Explaination 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, LaTeX