Zihao (David) Xu

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EDUCATION

Harvard University   **Cambridge, MA**
Master of Science in Data Science   *Expected – Dec 2020*

- Related coursework: Intro. to Data Science, Systems Development for Computational Science, Stochastic Methods for Data Analysis, Inference and Optimization

Pomona College   **Claremont, CA**
Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science & Mathematics   *May 2019*

- GPA: 3.96/4.0, Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa Member, Sigma Xi Member, Pomona Scholar
- Related coursework: Artificial Intelligence, Algorithms, Computational Statistics, Big Data, Stochastic Operations Research, Probability, Statistical Theory, Bayesian Statistics, Econometrics

WORK EXPERIENCE

Summer Analyst   **Los Angeles, CA**
Cornerstone Research   *May 2018– Aug 2018*

- Cleaned, managed, and visualized datasets with >10 million observations using R, SQL and SAS to advise two major auto manufacturers on recall strategies
- Interpreted and critically analyzed the validity of statistical sampling methods employed by opposing expert
- Led R workshops on data wrangling and visualization for full-time analysts and enforced data organization and optimal workflow within case teams
- Received full-time return offer in recognition of work quality and work ethics

Business and Credit Risk Analyst Intern   **Pasadena, CA**
Scratch Financial, LLC   *Sep 2017– Dec 2018*

- Performed A/B testing on two types of signage sent to 400 vet clinics and identified the signage that yielded statistically significant improvement of 11% in average number of daily applications
- Devised and selected 6 out of 35 new variables that filter out high risk loan applicants and reduced company overall default rate by 2 percentage points
- Built an internal dashboard that visualizes temporal and geographical trends in important metrics, used by the management team on a daily basis

Summer Researcher at Mathematics Department   **Claremont, CA**
Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Program   *May 2017 – Dec 2017*

- Devised and implemented a new machine learning algorithm - Bag of Little Random Forests (BLRF) as an R package, utilizing a paralleled structure for faster computation
- Evaluated and visualized the statistical and computational performance of BLRF using simulated data sets
- Fine-tuned hyper-parameters of BLRF and analyzed their impact on accuracy and time consumption
- Authored paper, *Bag of Little Random Forests,* and won the first prize at 2017 Fall USRESP Competition

President, *2016-2017*   **Claremont, CA**
Claremont Chinese Student Association (CSA)   *Sept 2016 – May 2017*

- Planned and coordinated there major on-campus events to promote awareness of Chinese culture
- Acquired $4500 as external funding through successful negotiations with outside partners
- Provided 450 members across the college consortium with career assistance through alumni connections, cooperation with career-counseling agencies, and alumni on-campus lectures

SKILLS & MEMBERSHIP

Github Portfolio: https://github.com/zihaoxu/My_Portfolio

Tech Skills: Python, R, SQL, Java, C, Deep Learning, Data Science

Other Skills: Mandarin, English, Japanese (intermediate), Filming, Guitar, Cooking, Golf

Memberships: Quantitative Researcher @ Bahnaha Capital, Technical Lead in Data Science @ Tech for Good