

# Zihao (David) Xu

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## EDUCATION

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### Harvard University

*Master of Science in Data Science*

**Cambridge, MA**

*Expected – Dec 2020*

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

### Pomona College

*Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science & Mathematics*

**Claremont, CA**

*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

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### Summer Analyst

*Cornerstone Research*

**Los Angeles, CA**

*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

*Scratch Financial, LLC*

**Pasadena, CA**

*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

*Pomona College Summer Undergraduate Research Program*

**Claremont, CA**

*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 Chinese Student Association (CSA)*

**Claremont, CA**

*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

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*Github Portfolio:* [https://github.com/zihaoxu/My\\_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