Zongxia Li

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College Park, MD

Education

University of Maryland, College Park May 2022-Present
Ph.D. of Science in Computer Science *GPA: 3.50/4.0*
University of Maryland, College Park 2018-2022
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science *GPA: 3.84/4.0*
University of Maryland, College Park 2018-2022
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics *GPA: 3.84/4.0*

Research Interests

Large Language Models, Multimodal Models, RL finetuning, supervised finetuning, Human AI Interaction, Evaluation, Diffusion

Skills

Languages: Python, C, R, Java, JavaScript
Frameworks/Tools: Pytorch, sqlite, HTML/CSS, LaTeX

Related Publication

1. (Multimodal Generation) Jingxi Chen*, Zongxia Li*, Zhichao Liu, Guangyao Shi, Xiyang Wu, Fuxiao Liu, Cornelia Fermuller, Brandon Y Feng, Yiannis Aloimonos. (* Core Contribution) **First Frame is the Place to Go for Video Content Customization**. Preprint, 2025

2. (Multimodal Understanding) Zongxia Li*, Wenhao Yu*, Chengsong Huang, Zhenwen Lian1, Rui Liu, Fuxiao Liu, Jingxi Chen, et al. (* Core Contribution) **Self-Rewarding Vision-Language Model via Reasoning Decomposition**. Preprint, 2025

3. (Multimodal Understanding) Yicheng He*, Chengsong Huang*, Zongxia Li*, Jiaxin Huang, Yonghui Yang. (* Core Contribution) **VisPlay: Self-Evolving Vision-Language Models from Images**. Preprint, 2025

4. (Multimodal Unverstanding) Xiyang Wu, Zongxia Li, Jihui Jin, Guangyao Shi, Gouthaman KV, Vishnu Raj, Nilotpal Sinha, Jingxi Chen, Fan Du, Dinesh Manocha. **MASS: Motion-Aware Spatial-Temporal Grounding for Physics Reasoning and Comprehension in Vision-Language Models**. Preprint, 2025

5. (Post-Training) Chengsong Huang, Wenhao Yu, Xiaoyang Wang, Hongming Zhang, Zongxia Li, Ruosen Li, Jiaxin Huang, et al. **R-Zero: Self-Evolving Reasoning LLM from Zero Data**. Preprint, 2025

6. (Post-Training) Zongxia Li, Xiyang Wu, et al. **VideoHallu: Evaluating and Mitigating Multi-modal Hallucinations on Synthetic Video Understanding**. Neurips, 2025

7. (*Survey*) Zongxia Li, Xiyang Wu, et al. **A Survey of State of the Art Large Vision Language Models: Benchmark Evaluations and Challenges**. In CVPR workshop, 2025

8. (*Human AI Interaction*) Zongxia Li, Lorena Calvo-Bartolomé, et al. **Large Language Models Struggle to Describe the Haystack without Human Help: Human-in-the-loop Evaluation of LLMs** Advised by *Prof. Jordan Boyd-Graber*. In ACL, 2025

9. (*Evaluation*) Zongxia Li, Ishani Mondal, et al. **PEDANTS: Cheap but Effective and Interpretable Answer Equivalence** Advised by *Prof. Jordan Boyd-Graber*. In Findings of EMNLP, 2024

10. (*Evaluation, Human-Centric NLP*) Zongxia Li, Andrew Mao, et al. **Improving the TENOR of Labeling: Re-evaluating Topic Models for Content Analysis** Advised by *Prof. Jordan Boyd-Graber*. In EACL, 2024

11. (*Multimodality*) Ishani Mondal, Zongxia Li, et al. **SciDoc2Diagrammer-MAF: Towards Generation of Scientific Diagrams from Documents guided by Multi-Aspect Feedback Refinement**. In Findings of EMNLP, 2024

12. (*Multimodality, evaluation*) Tianrui Guan, Fuxiao Liu, Xiyang Wu, Zongxia Li, et al. **HallusionBench: an advanced diagnostic suite for entangled language hallucination and visual illusion in large vision-language models**. In CVPR, 2024

Experience

National Institute of Technology, College Park, USA
• *Graduate Research Assistant, Manager: Juan Fung*, May 2023 - May 2024

- Developed ML models for content analysis and data exploration.
- Ablation study to evaluate how users learn from large sets of documents

Adobe, Document Intelligence Lab, College Park, USA
• *Research Assistant Intern, Manager: Ani Nenkova*, May 2024 - Aug 2024

- Use panel of Judges to improve the expert human correlation for long-form text generation.
- Conclude that LLMs are more reliable evaluators than low-quality crowdsource evaluations.

Tencent AI Lab, Belluvue, USA
• *Research Assistant Intern, Manager: Wenhao Yu*, May 2025 - Aug 2025

- Self-Evolving Large Language Models and Vision-Language Models through reinforcement learning
- Grounding large Multimodal models on visual understanding using reinforcement learning and self reward

Awards

NIST Fellowship Awards
Lambda Research Grant Sponsorship