PAIHENG XU

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RESEARCH INTEREST

Natural Language Processing (Explanation, Causality, and Fairness), Computational Social Science

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, USA *2021 - present*
Ph.D. Student in Computer Science

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA *2018 - 2020*
M.S.E in Computer Science

Southwest University, Chongqing, China *2014 - 2018*
B.E in Computer Science

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK College Park, MD
Research Assistant – Advisor: Wei Ai *Sep. 2021 - present*

· Identify equity-centered teaching practices & measure teaching qualities from classroom transcripts with various NLP classification and explanation techniques.
· Study effective messaging strategies for public health influencers on social media.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY Baltimore, MD
Full-time Research Developer – Advisor: Mark Dredze *Jun. 2020 - Aug. 2021*

· Track and analyze mobility change in response to social distancing using Twitter data. [link]
· Discovery, semantic shift of e-cigarette brands from social media.

Research Assistant – Mentor: Zach Wood-Doughty *Nov. 2018 - May 2020*

· Demographics inference (Python package Demographer), linguistics difference for racial groups on Twitter.
· Developed a reproducible method to collect large-scale dataset using noisy self-report lexical co-occurrence.

UNIVERSITY OF ELECTRONIC SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY Chengdu, China
Research Intern on Human Mobility – Advisor: Tao Zhou *Jul. 2017 - Jun. 2018*

· Verified and fixed the overestimation of the predictability of human mobility trajectory.
· Showed the intrinsic deviation of using Lempel-Ziv entropy to estimate predictability of highly random time series.

INTERNSHIP

ADOBE RESEARCH Remote
Research Scientist Intern – Mentor: Tong Yu and Haoliang Wang *May 2022 - Aug. 2022*

· Learning knowledge from Critical Service Outage reports for auto-remediation.
· Adaptive Question Generation for Extractive Question Answering using In-context Learning.

PUBLICATIONS

* denotes equal contribution

Paiheng Xu, Jing Liu, Nathan Jones, Julie Cohen, Wei Ai, The Promises and Pitfalls of Using Language Models to Measure Instruction Quality in Education. *NAACL 2024.*

Xiaoyu Liu*, **Paiheng Xu***, Junda Wu, Jiaxin Yuan, Yifan Yang, Yuhang Zhou, Fuxiao Liu, Tianrui Guan, Haoliang Wang, Tong Yu, Julian McAuley, Wei Ai, Furong Huang, Large Language Models and Causal Inference in Collaboration: A Comprehensive Survey. *arXiv:2403.09606*, 2024

Paiheng Xu, David A. Broniatowski, Mark Dredze, Twitter Social Mobility Data Reveal Demographic Variations in Social Distancing Practices During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Scientific Reports*, 2024.

Yuhang Zhou, **Paiheng Xu**, Xiyao Wang, Xuan Lu, Ge Gao, Wei Ai, Emojis Decoded: Leveraging ChatGPT for Enhanced Understanding in Social Media Communications. *arXiv:2402.01681*, 2024.

Yuhang Zhou, **Paiheng Xu**, Xiaoyu Liu, Bang An, Wei Ai, Furong Huang, Explore Spurious Correlations at the Concept Level in Language Models for Text Classification. *arXiv:2311.08648*, 2023.

Paiheng Xu*, Yuhang Zhou*, Bang An, Wei Ai, Furong Huang, GFairHint: Improving Individual Fairness for Graph Neural Networks via Fairness Hint. *arXiv:2305.15622* [Presented at *NeurIPS Workshop on Trustworthy and Socially Responsible Machine Learning* 2022]

Adam Poliak, **Paiheng Xu**, Eric Leas, Mario Navarro, Stephanie Pitts, Andie Malterud, John W Ayers, Mark Dredze, A Machine Learning Approach For Discovering Tobacco Brands, Products, and Manufacturers in the United States. *Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco*, 2022.

Zach Wood-Doughty*, **Paiheng Xu***, Xiao Liu, Mark Dredze, Using Noisy Self-Reports to Predict Twitter User Demographics. *NAACL Workshop on Natural Language Processing for Social Media (SocialNLP)*, 2021. DOI: 10.18653/v1/2021.socialnlp-1.11

Paiheng Xu, Mark Dredze, David A. Broniatowski, The Twitter Social Mobility Index: Measuring Social Distancing Practices from Geolocated Tweets. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 2020. doi:10.2196/21499

Paiheng Xu, Likang Yin, Zhongtao Yue, Tao Zhou, On Predictability of Time Series. *Physica A: Statistical Mechanics, its Applications* 523, 345-351 (2019). doi:10.1016/j.physa.2019.02.006

Paiheng Xu, Rong Zhang, Yong Deng, A Novel Visibility Graph Transformation of Time Series into Weighted Networks. *Chaos, Solitons & Fractals* 117, 201-208 (2018). doi:10.1016/j.chaos.2018.07.039

Paiheng Xu, Rong Zhang, Yong Deng. A Novel Weight Determination Method for Time Series Data Aggregation. *Physica A: Statistical Mechanics, its Application* 482, 42-55 (2018). doi:10.1016/j.physa.2017.04.028

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages	Python, MATLAB, R, C/C++, C#, LaTeX, Markdown, Bash
Tools	Git, PyTorch, Tensorflow, Scikit-learn, NLTK, Spacy, Jupyter Notebook, MySQL

HONOR & AWARDS

Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland
National Scholarship, Ministry of Education, China
Outstanding Graduates, Southwest University
Meritorious Winner, Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling (ICM)

TEACHING & SERVICE

Teaching Assistant: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence, Fall 2022
Program Committee: ICWSM 2022
Reviewer: ACL 2021, KDD 2022, SIGIR 2022-2024