

Andy (Dandi) Zhao

(412)-330-8013 ◊ Gates Hall ◊ 107 Hoy Road, Ithaca, NY 14850 ◊ dz352@cornell.edu

Education

- Cornell University**, Ithaca, NY, USA
Computing and Information Science
Ph.D. student in Information Science
Advised by Prof. William Hobbs and Prof. Mor Naaman
2020 - 2025 (expected)
- University of Pittsburgh**, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
School of Computing and Information
Master of Science in Information Science
2017 - 2019 ("3+2" program)
- Wuhan University**, Wuhan, Hubei, China
School of Information Management
Bachelor of Management in Library Science
2014 - 2018 ("3+2" program)

Relevant Courses

- Computer Science:**
Machine Learning; Natural Language Processing; Artificial Intelligence; Data Mining; Advanced Database Management; Algorithm Design; Structure of Information Networks
- Social & Tech:**
Social Computing; Natural Experiment (Causal Inference); Empirical Methods in Research; Large-scale Social Phenomenon; Technology & Law

Academic Works

- *Chinese astroturf and the limits of computational propaganda on foreign social media* (working paper with Simon DeDeo)
- *Variety, Velocity, Veracity, and Validity: Evaluating the Contributions of Crowdsourced and Professional Fact-checking* (working paper with Mor Naaman)
- *Let's report our opponents: how Chinese fandom communities use anti-smear campaigns to silence the Others* (working paper with Zhaodi Chen)
- *Community and centralized content moderation on Weibo* (work with Lily Hu)
- *Citizen Juries for Fake News: The Case of Weibo in China* (work with Alexandra Cirone)
- *Decentralized censorship and delegated power* (work with David Yang)

Work Experience

- Research Assistant** 7/2019 - 6/2020
Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cambridge, MA
- Worked on a project about bureaucracy and innovation, which was led by MIT Prof. Daron Acemoglu and Harvard Prof. David Yang
 - Collected publication data from academic databases
 - Collected leader data and bureaucracy data from university official websites
 - Calculated the similarities between papers of different authors based on text and topics
 - Analyzed the impact of leadership on topic changes in a difference-in-difference approach
- Data Analyst Intern** 7/2017 - 8/2017
China Telecom Chongqing, China
- Assisted with user-based modeling for further service
 - Evaluated the performance of a crawler and helped with the design process
 - Joined department team in data analysis competition and won the champion

Specialized Skills

Programming:
 Proficient in Python, R
 Experienced in MATLAB, Java, SQL, Cypher

Languages:
 Native in Chinese (Mandarin); Proficient in English

Project Experience

Coursework: Artificial Intelligence for Bubble Breaker 1/2019 - 4/2019
 This is a group course project for *Artificial Intelligence*, which is grad-level course offered by Prof. Daqing He at University of Pittsburgh

- Designed an intelligent agent in Python to play a special game called "Bubble". It's a complicated search problem but our solution won a full score

Coursework: A Study on Merit-based Immigration: Prediction of Employer-Sponsored Immigration Certification

2/2018 - 4/2018

This is a group course project for *Data Mining*, which is a grad-level course offered by Prof. Yu-Ru Lin at University of Pittsburgh

- Applied data mining skills and algorithms in R to analyze the visa data and made the prediction on whether an application can get certified in the future

Coursework: Identifying the event topics and participants' identities in collective action events through social media text

2/2018 - 4/2018

This is a personal course project for *Machine Learning*, which is a grad-level course offered by Prof. Milos Hauskrecht at University of Pittsburgh

Applied deep learning and natural language processing in Python to classify different social posts from a highly skewed distribution and predicted the class label of the collective actions in posts

TAing Experience

INFO 2950: Introduction to Data Science – Prof. David Mimno at Cornell University

Teaching assistant in Fall 2020

INFO 5430: Urban Data – Prof. Emma Pierson at Cornell Tech

Teaching assistant in Fall 2021

INFO 1260 / CS 1340: Choices and Consequences in Computing – Prof. Jon Kleinberg and Prof. Karen Levy at Cornell University

Teaching assistant in Spring 2022