

# Andy (Dandi) Zhao

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## Education

- Cornell University**, Ithaca/New York, NY, USA  
*Computing and Information Science*  
Ph.D. student in Information Science, minor in Government  
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; Computer Vision
- Social & Tech:**  
Social Computing; Natural Experiment (Causal Inference); Empirical Methods in Research; Large-scale Social Phenomenon; Technology & Law

## Academic Works

- **Zhao, A., & Chen, Z. (2023). *Let's report our rivals: how Chinese fandoms game content moderation to restrain opposing voices*. *Journal of Quantitative Description*, Forthcoming**
  - Poster in IC2S2 2022
- ***Chinese astroturf and the limits of computational propaganda on foreign social media*** (suspended project, first-authored joint work with Simon DeDeo)
- ***Variety, Velocity, Veracity, and Validity: Evaluating the Contributions of Crowdsourced and Professional Fact-checking*** (first-authored joint working paper with Mor Naaman)
- ***Platform, jurors, and reporters: understanding how different actors facilitated community-driven content moderation on Weibo*** (first-authored joint working paper with Lily Hu)
  - Forthcoming in ICA 2023 and APSA 2023
- ***Moderating Social Media: Misinformation Exposure and the Weibo Jury Community*** (work in progress with Alexandra Cirone)
  - Poster in APSA 2022
- ***Labor Market of Decentralized Censorship*** (work in progress with David Yang, Eddie Yang, and Leo Yang)
- ***Filtering Technologies and the Fairness of Natural Language Systems*** (under review in FAccT 2023, co-author with Eddie Yang, Chad Atalla, Solon Barocas, Su Lin Blodgett, Kate Cook, Kristen Laird, Emily Lawton, Samir Passi, Forough Poursabzi-Sangdeh, Vyoma Raman, Bella Rideau, Emily Sheng, Dan Vann, Hanna Wallach)

**Zhao**

**Work Experience**

**Data & Applied Scientist Intern**

6/2022 – 8/2022  
Bellevue, WA

Microsoft

- Responsible AI: Evaluating Measurement and Mitigation for Representational Fairness Harms in Suggested Reply and Beyond
- Presented my intern paper at Microsoft internal conference MLADS 2022

**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 official university 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:**

Mandarin and southwestern Mandarin Chinese (native); English (proficient)

**Project Experience**

**Coursework: Artificial Intelligence for Bubble Breaker**

1/2019 - 4/2019

This is a group project for *Artificial Intelligence*, a grad-level course offered by Prof. Daqing He at the University of Pittsburgh.

- Designed an intelligent agent in Python to play a special game called "Bubble." It is 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 project for *Data Mining*, a grad-level course offered by Prof. Yu-Ru Lin at the University of Pittsburgh.

- Applied data mining skills and algorithms in R to analyze the visa data and predicted whether an application could get certified in the future.

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

2/2018 - /2018

This is a personal course project for *Machine Learning*, a grad-level course offered by Prof. Milos Hauskrecht at the 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 and Fall 2022

**INFO 1260 / CS 1340: Choices and Consequences in Computing** – *Prof. Jon Kleinberg and Prof. Karen Levy at Cornell University*  
Teaching assistant in Spring 2022

**INFO 5304 /CS 5304: Data Science in the Wild** – *Prof. Raja Rajalakshmi Nandakumar at Cornell Tech*  
Teaching assistant in Spring 2023