

Yanan Da

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Education

Emory University

PhD in Computer Science, **Advisor:** Emily Wall, **GPA:** 3.98/4

Atlanta, GA

Aug. 2019 - Present

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Master of Science in Computer Science, **GPA:** 3.90/4

Edwardsville, IL

Dec. 2017

Zhejiang Gongshang University

Bachelor of Engineering in Network Engineering, **GPA:** 3.31/4

Hangzhou, China

June 2015

Research Projects

Visual Salience to Mitigate Gender Bias in Letters of Recommendation

Emory University

Oct. 2022 - April 2023

- Constructed a customized dictionary with words that are more often used in recommendation letters for female applicants and words that are more often used in letters for male applicants based on previous research.
- Conducted a crowdsourced experiment that confirmed biased language can have a negative impact on readers' evaluations of candidates and visual highlighting of specific types of language in letters of recommendation has the potential to influence the evaluation of candidates.

VA-supported Bias-aware Graduate Admissions

Emory University

May 2021 - Jan. 2022

- Designed and implemented an interactive visualization system to support graduate admissions review process in collaboration with two admission committee chairs.
- The system provides both individual level and group level visualizations of reviewers' interactions with the system to promote reflection and increase awareness of potential biased behavior.
- The system has been used for our department's PhD admission since 2022.

Real-time Contact Tracing and Risk Monitoring via Privacy-Enhanced Mobile Tracking

Emory University

May 2019 - Aug. 2021

- Optimized the utility of contact tracing with GPS locations protected using Geo-Indistinguishability mechanism.
- Expanded a contact tracing Mobile App for COVID19 with privacy enhancement on user locations using Geo-Indistinguishability mechanism and provides risk monitoring. **Source code:** <https://github.com/Emory-AIMS/react/>

Work Experience

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)

Golden, CO

Research Internship

May 2023 - Aug. 2023

- Designed and developed a visualization system for data exploring and decision-making for renewable energy investments.
- The system allows users to identify the intersections of renewable energy potential and disadvantaged communities to prioritize equitable and inclusive clean energy planning and investment.

Nuance

Beijing, China

Software Engineer

Mar 2019 - July 2019

- Designed and developed dialogue use cases for in-car voice assistants.
- Implemented smart windshield feature for a demo car that utilizes the windshield as a projection surface so the driver can interact with the assistant without taking eyes off the road.

Skills

Programming Language (proficient) Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, HTML, CSS (familiar) C++, Java

Web Development Angular, Flask, Dash

Data Visualization D3, Vega-Lite, Plotly

Databases MySQL, MS SQL Server

Machine Learning Tools PyTorch, Scikit-learn

Awards

Outstanding Graduate Student (SIUE Computer Science Department)

Jan. 2017

Competitive Graduate Award (SIUE Computer Science Department)

Aug. 2015

Publications

Y. Da, M. Chen, B. Altschuler, Y. Bu, and E. Wall, “Visual Saliency to Mitigate Gender Bias in LORs,” in 2023 IEEE VIS Workshop on Visualization for Social Good.

Y. Da, R. Ahuja, L. Xiong, and C. Shahabi, “React: Real-time contact tracing and risk monitoring via privacy-enhanced mobile tracking,” in 2021 IEEE 37th International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE). IEEE, 2021, pp. 2729–2732.

Services

Student Volunteer | IEEE VIS

2021-2022