

Shengjie Li

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Dallas

Ph.D. in Computer Science

GPA: 3.87/4.0

Aug. 2020 – May. 2025 (Expected)

Rutgers University

M.S. in Computer Science

GPA: 3.85/4.0

Sep. 2018 – May 2020

South China Agricultural University

B.Eng. in Software Engineering

GPA: 86.3/100

Sep. 2013 – June 2017

INDUSTRY RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Amazon

Applied Scientist Intern

Seattle, Washington

May 2024 – Aug. 2024

- Researched and developed an LLM-based workflow to build a contextual knowledge graph to enhance customer search experience, enabling context-aware searching and product filtering for 10 types of products.

Amazon

Applied Scientist Intern

Seattle, Washington

May 2023 – Aug. 2023

- Researched and developed an LLM-based workflow to auto-extract customer-centric product metadata for 5 types of products on amazon.com, poised to significantly automate labor-intensive tasks.
- Retrieval-augmented Anthropic's Claude and other LLMs with external knowledge sources to ensure evidence-grounded results, thereby reducing the risk of inaccuracies in model outputs (hallucinations).

ACADEMIC RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Human Language Technology Research Institute at UT Dallas

Research Assistant, Advisor: Vincent Ng

Richardson, Texas

May 2021 – Present

- Designed a model that automatically extracts and filters syntactic and semantic features from student essays, achieving a 1.6% improvement in cross-prompt essay scoring over previous state-of-the-art models.
- Developed an end-to-end model for discourse deixis resolution that leveraged task-specific characteristics and outperformed previous state-of-the-art by 27%, resulting in a first-author publication in EMNLP 2022.
- Collected and analyzed data for identifying propaganda content in Spanish magazines during World War II. Identified key challenges for developing a deep learning model. Published findings in AAI 2023.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (6 OUT OF 9)

Li, S., & Ng, V.. Making Sense of the State of the Art in Cross-Prompt Automated Essay Scoring. (ACL 2024)

Li, S., & Ng, V.. Automated Essay Scoring: Recent Successes and Future Directions. (IJCAI 2024)

Li, S., & Ng, V.. ICLE++: A Corpus for Holistic and Fine-Grained Trait-Specific Scoring of Persuasive Student Essays. (NAACL 2024)

Ng, V., & **Li, S.** Multimodal Propaganda Processing. (AAAI 2023)

Li, S., & Ng, V.. End-to-End Neural Discourse Deixis Resolution in Dialogue. (EMNLP 2022)

Alikhani, M., Sharma, P., **Li, S.**, Soricut, R., & Stone, M. Cross-modal Coherence Modeling for Caption Generation. (ACL 2020)

HONORS & AWARDS

Louis Beecherl, Jr. Graduate Fellowship at UT Dallas

2022-2024

Silver Medal in the 2015 ACM-ICPC (International Collegiate Programming Contest) Asia Shenyang Regional Contest Oct. 2015