

# Tao CHEN

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**Research Interest** My research spans in the fields of natural language processing, information retrieval, health informatics, social computing, multimedia, and applied machine learning.

**Education** **National University of Singapore (NUS)**, Singapore Aug 2010 - Apr 2016

- Ph.D in Computer Science, GPA 4.69/5.0
- Thesis: Analyzing Image Tweets in Microblogs
- Advisor: Associate Professor Min-Yen Kan

**East China Normal University**, Shanghai, China Sep 2006 - Jun 2010

- Bachelor in Software Engineering, GPA 3.73/4.0, Rank 2/161
- Awarded School Excellent Thesis and Shanghai Excellent Graduate

**Experience** **Senior Software Engineer**, Google Research, USA Apr 2018 - Present  
Working in a research team for user modeling, content understanding, and information retrieval. Some of most recent works:

- User modeling: Explore large language models for social media creator modeling from their multimodal posts and interactions, and build creator-aware retrieval and ranking system (eg, [1]).
- Document understanding: propose dynamic language models for evolving content (like social media posts) [7], and exploit document layout and multimodal content for document representation learning [8].
- Information retrieval: for first stage retrieval, propose a zero-shot hybrid system to combine lexical and deep retrieval model [6], and an end-to-end query term reweighting model to improve lexical retrieval [2]; for second stage re-ranking, propose a decoder-only architecture to speed up re-ranker inference ([4]) and augment re-ranker using external retrieval [3].

**Postdoctoral Fellow**, Johns Hopkins University, USA Nov 2016 - Mar 2018

- Advisor: Prof. Mark Dredze
- Worked on social media analysis for public health and natural language processing for clinical text using deep neural network.

**Research Fellow**, NUS, Singapore Jun 2016 - Oct 2016

- Advisor: Prof. Min-Yen Kan and Prof. Teck Khim Ng
- Worked on second language learning from reading the news.

**Research Assistant**, NUS, Singapore Sep 2014 - Mar 2016

- Advisor: Prof. Min-Yen Kan
- Worked on second language learning from reading the news.

**Software Engineering Intern**, Google, New York Jun 2013 - Sep 2013

- Worked in review summarization team and focused on sentiment analysis internationalization.

**Software Engineering Intern**, IBM, Shanghai, China Jun 2009 - Sep 2009

- Developed an IE extension that could bookmark, comment and share web pages within IBM internal social network.

## Publications

- [1] Spurthi Amba Hombaiah, **Tao Chen**, Mingyang Zhang, Michael Bendersky, Sergey Levi, Matt Colen, Vladimir Ofitserov, Marc Najork. Creator Context for Tweet Recommendation (under review).
- [2] Karan Samel, Cheng Li, Weize Kong, **Tao Chen**, Mingyang Zhang, Shaleen Gupta, Swaraj Khadanga, Wensong Xu, Xingyu Wang, Kashyap Kolipaka, Michael Bendersky, Marc Najork. End-to-End Query Term Weighting (under review).
- [3] Kai Hui, **Tao Chen**, Zhen Qin, Honglei Zhuang, Fernando Diaz, Mike Bendersky, Don Metzler. Retrieval Augmentation for T5 Re-ranker using External Sources. *arXiv:2210.05145 (arXiv'22)*.
- [4] Kai Hui, Honglei Zhuang, **Tao Chen**, Zhen Qin, Jing Lu, Dara Bahri, Ji Ma, Jai Gupta, Cicero Nogueira dos Santos, Yi Tay, Donald Metzler. ED2LM: Encoder-Decoder to Language Model for Faster Document Re-ranking Inference. *In Proceedings of the Findings of 60th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL'22)*.
- [5] Shuang Liu, Fan Zhang, Baiyang Zhao, Renjie Guo, **Tao Chen**, Meishan Zhang. APPCorp: A Corpus for Android Privacy Policy Document Structure Analysis. Frontiers of Computer Science. *Frontiers of Computer Science* (upcoming).
- [6] **Tao Chen**, Mingyang Zhang, Jing Lu, Michael Bendersky, Marc Najork. Out-of-Domain Semantics to the Rescue! Zero-Shot Hybrid Retrieval Models. *In Proceedings of the 44th European Conference on Information Retrieval (ECIR'22)*.
- [7] Spurthi Amba Hombaiah, **Tao Chen**, Mingyang Zhang, Michael Bendersky, Marc Najork. Dynamic Language Models for Continuously Evolving Content. *In Proceedings of the 27th ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD'21)*.
- [8] Te-Lin Wu, Cheng Li, Mingyang Zhang, **Tao Chen**, Spurthi Amba Hombaiah, Michael Bendersky. LAMPRET: Layout-Aware Multimodal PreTraining for Document Understanding. *Visually Grounded Interaction and Language Workshop (NAACL'21)*.
- [9] Ansel MacLaughlin, **Tao Chen\***, Burcu Karagol Ayan, Dan Roth. *In Proceedings of the 15 International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM'21)*. (\*corresponding author).
- [10] **Tao Chen**, Mark Dredze, Jonathan P Weiner, Hadi Kharraz. Incorporating Contextual Information to Identify Geriatric Syndromes in Clinical Notes. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA)*, 2019; 26 (8-9): 787795. (Impact factor: 4.292).
- [11] **Tao Chen**, Mark Dredze, Jonathan P Weiner, Leilani Hernandez, Joe Kimura, Hadi Kharraz. Extraction of Geriatric Syndromes From Electronic Health Record Clinical Notes: Assessment of Statistical Natural Language Processing Methods. *JMIR Medical Informatics (JMI)* , 2019;7(1): e13039.
- [12] Yuki Lama, **Tao Chen\***, Mark Dredze, Amelia Jamison, Sandra Crouse Quinn, David A Broniatowski (2018). Discordance between HPV Twitter Images and Disparities in HPV Risk and Disease: Mixed Methods Analysis. *Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)*, 2018; 20(9): e10244. (Impact factor: 4.945; \*corresponding author)
- [13] David A. Broniatowski, Amelia M. Jamison, SiHua Qi, Lulwah AlKulaib, **Tao**

**Chen**, Adrian Benton, Sandra C. Quinn, and Mark Dredze. Weaponized Health Communication: Twitter Bots and Russian Trolls Amplify the Vaccine Debate. *American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)*, 2018, e1-e7. (Impact factor: 5.381; Covered by over 250 news articles; Ranked #37 of 12.2 million research outputs by Altmetric and in the top-20 for 2018)

[14] **Tao Chen** and Mark Dredze (2018). Vaccine Images on Twitter: Analysis of What Images are Shared. *Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)*, 2018; 20(4): e130. (Impact factor: 4.945)

[15] Francesco Gelli, Xiangnan He, **Tao Chen** and Tat-Seng Chua (2017). How Personality Affects our Likes: Towards a Better Understanding of Actionable Image. In *Proceedings of the 25th ACM International Conference on Multimedia (MM'17)*.

[16] Kang Hong Jin, **Tao Chen**, Muthu Kumar Chandrasekaran and Min-Yen Kan (2016). A Comparison of Word Embeddings for English and Cross-Lingual Chinese Word Sense Disambiguation. In *Proceedings of COLING Workshop on Natural Language Processing Techniques for Educational Applications (NLP-TEA'16)*.

[17] **Tao Chen**, Xiangnan He and Min-Yen Kan (2016). Context-aware Image Tweet Modelling and Recommendation. In *Proceedings of the 24th ACM International Conference on Multimedia (MM'16)*.

[18] Xiangnan He, **Tao Chen**, Min-Yen Kan and Xiao Chen (2015). Review-aware Explainable Recommendation by Modeling Aspects. In *Proceedings of the 24th ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM'15)*.

[19] Bang Hui Lim, Dongyuan Lu, **Tao Chen** and Min-Yen Kan (2015). #mytweet via Instagram: Exploring User Behaviour across Multiple Social Networks. In *Proceedings of IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM'15)*.

[20] **Tao Chen**, Naijia Zheng, Yue Zhao, Muthu Chandrasekaran and Min-Yen Kan (2015). Interactive Second Language Learning from News Websites. In *Proceedings of ACL Workshop on Natural Language Processing Techniques for Educational Applications (NLP-TEA'15)*.

[21] **Tao Chen**, Hany Salaheldeen, Xiangnan He, Min-Yen Kan and Dongyuan Lu (2015). VELDA: Relating an Image Tweet's Text and Images. In *Proceedings of the 29th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI'15)*.

[22] Jing Wu, Wei Guo, Chenxi Luo and **Tao Chen** (2015). Local Governments' Preference on Housing Market Interventions: Measurement and Analysis on Determinant Factors (in Chinese). *Finance & Trade Economics*, No.12, 2015.

[23] **Tao Chen**, Dongyuan Lu, Min-Yen Kan and Peng Cui (2013). Understanding and Classifying Image Tweets. In *Proceedings of the 21st ACM International Conference on Multimedia (MM'13)*.

[24] **Tao Chen** and Min-Yen Kan (2013). Creating a Live, Public Short Message Service Corpus: The NUS SMS Corpus. *Language Resources and Evaluation*, 47(2)(2013). (Impact Factor: 1.029)

[25] Aobo Wang, **Tao Chen** and Min-Yen Kan (2012). Re-tweeting from a Linguistic Perspective. In *Proceedings of the NAACL-HLT 2012 Workshop on Language in Social Media (LSM'12)*.

## Services

### Journal Reviewer:

- Information Retrieval Journal (IRJ)
- Language Resources and Evaluation (LRE)
- Social Network Analysis and Mining (SNAM)
- IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (TMM)
- Journal of Medical Internet Research (JMIR)
- JMIR Public Health and Surveillance (JPH)
- Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA)
- Digital Communications and Networks

### Conference Program Committee Member:

- ACL (2017-2023), EMNLP (2016-2022), SIGIR (2018-2022), The Web Conference (2021-2023), AAAI (2020-2022), CIKM (2021-2022), IJCAI (2021), NAACL (2021), ICME (2016-2018), ASONAM (2016-2020), ECIR (2022-2023), IJCNLP (2017)

**Session Chair:** 2015 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining

**Volunteer:** The Twenty-Ninth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI 2015), 2012 Machine Learning Summer Schools (MLSS)

## Awards & Scholarships

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| <b>Ann E. Nolte Writing Award for paper [13]</b>  | Feb 2019    |
| Validating Startup Concept (VaSCo) Award from NUS (S\$10K)                                  | Sep 2015    |
| AAAI 2015 Student Travel Scholarship  | Jan 2015    |
| <b>Google Anita Borg Memorial Scholarship: Asia Pacific</b> (28 recipients in Asia Pacific) | Sep 2014    |
| 1st Place in Elsevier CodeForScience Singapore Competition                                  | Sep 2012    |
| Machine Learning Summer School (MLSS) Singapore Scholarship                                 | Jul 2011    |
| National University of Singapore Research Scholarship                                       | 2010 - 2014 |
| IBM Chinese Excellent Student Scholarship   | Sep 2009    |
| National Inspirational Scholarship  | Oct 2007    |
| First-class Scholarship in East China Normal University                                     | 2007 - 2010 |

## Skills

Programming: Python, C++, Java, Ruby, SQL, JSP, HTML, Javascript  
Language: English (fluent), Chinese (native)