
EDUCATION

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

PhD in Computer Science

Sep. 2023 – Jun. 2027 (Expected)

Second year PhD in [Natural Language and Information Processing Group](#), supervised by [Prof. Andreas Vlachos](#).

Research Area: Large Language Model (LLM). Dialogue Agents. Controllable Text Generation. Diffusion for Language Modeling. Multi-party Dialogue. Computational Social Science (Deliberation for collective decision).

University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

MPhil in Advanced Computer Science

Sep. 2022 – Jun. 2023

Distinction

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

BSc in Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science

Sep. 2018 – May. 2022

First Class with Honours

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

[Dialogue Agents for Facilitating Online Deliberation in Chess Gameplay](#)

Guide: [Prof. Andreas Vlachos](#), [University of Cambridge](#)

Dec. 2024 – .

- o Built dialogue agents to moderate and enhance collaborative discussions, improving collective decisions for chess moves by stimulating innovative thinking. Collecting group discussions of chess moves via Prolific.

[Modeling Human Disagreement in NLI \(MPhil Thesis\)](#)

Guide: [Prof. Andreas Vlachos](#), [University of Cambridge](#)

Nov. 2022 – May. 2023

- o Investigated human disagreement patterns in NLI tasks using dataset. Applied techniques such as contrastive learning and soft-prompt tuning with LLMs. Designed and executed human evaluations to assess generated text quality. Demonstrated LLM capabilities to justify controversial NLI labels convincingly.

[Dialogue System Evaluation and Infrastructure Development](#)

Guide: [Prof. Milica Gašić](#), [Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf](#)

Jun. 2021 – Oct. 2021

- o Evaluated and improved dialogue system frameworks, resolving issues in generation components and randomness in evaluations. Designed a web interface for cross-evaluations and deployed large-scale human evaluation environments via Amazon Mechanical Turk.
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PUBLICATIONS

- [Collaborative Evaluation of Deepfake Text with Deliberation-Enhancing Dialogue Systems](#)

Jooyoung Lee, **Xiaochen Zhu**, Georgi Karadzhov, Tom Stafford, Andreas Vlachos, Dongwon Lee.
2025 (Under ICWSM Review)

- [Segment-Level Diffusion: A Framework for Controllable Long-Form Generation with Diffusion Language Models](#)

Xiaochen Zhu, Georgi Karadzhov, Chenxi Whitehouse, and Andreas Vlachos
arXiv, 2024 (Under ARR Review).

- [Conformity in Large Language Models](#)

Xiaochen Zhu, Caiqi Zhang, Tom Stafford, Nigel Collier, and Andreas Vlachos
arXiv, 2024 (Under ARR Review, Score 4/5).

- [ConvLab-3: A Flexible Dialogue System Toolkit](#)

Qi Zhu, Christian Geishhauser, Hsien-chin Lin, Carel van Niekerk, Baolin Peng, Zheng Zhang, Shutong Feng, Michael Heck, Nurul Lubis, Dazhen Wan, **Xiaochen Zhu**, Jianfeng Gao, Milica Gasic, and Minlie Huang.
Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing: System Demonstration.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

[Precedent AI, Winner of Law x LLM Hackathon, Cambridge, UK](#)

King's College Entrepreneurship Lab

Jun. 2024

- o Developed AI paralegal using RAG-based LLMs with accurate predictions and compliance auditing feature.
- o Won the **Amazon AWS Challenge** and **first prize**, securing a £10,000 award and potential venture investments.

[IRIS, Winner of Entrepreneurship Competition, Shenzhen, China](#)

Asia-Pacific Innovation Academy

Jul. 2018 – Aug. 2018

- o Led a start-up developing AI-driven pre-screening tools for primary healthcare, securing Top Team Award.
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SKILLS & OTHERS

Programming Languages: Python (Experienced with PyTorch), Java, JavaScript, Haskell, Isabelle, C, MIPS

Natural Languages: English (Fluent), Chinese (Native), German (Intermediate)

Personal Page: <https://spacehunterinf.github.io/>
