

Zechen LI

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Education

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| <p>Ph.D. University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Computer Science Supervisor: Prof. Flora Salim, Dr. Hao Xue</p> | <p>Sep. 2023 – Sep. 2027</p> |
| <p>M.S. Northeastern University, Boston, USA
Data Analytics Engineering</p> | <p>Sep. 2019 – Dec. 2020</p> |
| <p>B.Eng. Southern Medical University, Guangzhou, China
Biomedical Engineering Minor: Information Technology</p> | <p>Sep. 2015 – June. 2019</p> |

Work Experience

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| <p>University of New South Wales, Casual Academic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taught tutorials for multiple courses. • Conduct research on leveraging LLMs for wearable sensor time-series, focusing on human activity recognition and reasoning over motion sensor data. • Mentored honours students, co-supervising "Taste of Research" projects with Prof. Flora Salim. | <p>Sydney, Australia
Feb 2025 – Present</p> |
| <p>Singapore University of Technology and Design, Visiting Research Fellow
Supervisor: Prof. Wei LU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted research on integrating human mobility data and time-series signals with language models. | <p>Singapore
Mar 2023 – Jun 2023</p> |

Publications

(*: equal contribution)

- **Zechen Li**, Baiyu Chen, Hao Xue, Flora D. Salim. *ZARA: Zero-shot Motion Time-Series Analysis via Knowledge and Retrieval Driven LLM Agents*. Preprint, 2025.
- **Zechen Li**, Shohreh Deldari, Linyao Chen, Hao Xue, Flora D. Salim. *Sensorllm: Aligning large language models with motion sensors for human activity recognition*. Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Main), 2025.
- Baiyu Chen, Wilson Wongso, **Zechen Li**, Yonchanok Khaokaew, Hao Xue, Flora Salim. *Comodo: Cross-modal Video-to-IMU Distillation for Efficient Egocentric Human Activity Recognition*. Preprint, 2025.
- Du Yin, Jinliang Deng, Shuang Ao, **Zechen Li**, Hao Xue, Arian Prabowo, Renhe Jiang, Xuan Song, Flora Salim. *Enhancing Spatio-temporal Quantile Forecasting with Curriculum Learning: Lessons Learned*. ACM International Conference on Advances in Geographic Information Systems (SIGSPATIAL), 2024.
- **Zechen Li**, Anders Søgaard. *QLEVR: A Diagnostic Dataset for Quantificational Language and Elementary Visual Reasoning*. Findings of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL Findings), 2022.
- Meng Zhou*, **Zechen Li***, Pengtao Xie. *Self-supervised Regularization for Text Classification*. Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL), 2021. (Oral Presentation at NAACL 2021)
- Meng Zhou, **Zechen Li**, et al. *On the Generation of Medical Dialogs for COVID-19*. Proceedings of the 59th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL Short), 2021.

Honors & Awards

- UNSW Founders New Wave Cohort 15 Showcase — Faculty of Engineering Award 2025
- UNSW Higher Degree by Research (HDR) Scholarship 2023 – Present
- The Dean’s Seattle Leaders & Scholars Award, Northeastern University 2019 & 2020
- Scholarship of Academic Excellence (Top 13%), Southern Medical University 2016 & 2018
- Excellent Student Leader (Top 30%), Southern Medical University 2016 & 2018
- 3rd Prize, South China Division, WeChat Mini Program Development Competition 2018
- Outstanding Student (Top 10%), Southern Medical University 2016

Skills

- **Languages:** Chinese (native); English (proficient)
- **Programming:** Python, PyTorch, Java, R, C/C++, JavaScript, SQL