

# Ziming Zhao

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, USA 01/2021-01/2023  
MS in Information Science, School of Information | GPA: 3.93/4.0  
**Shanghai Jiao Tong University**, Shanghai, China 09/2017-08/2021  
BS in Electronic and Computer Engineering | GPA: 3.55/4.0

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Graph Learning, Hypergraph based Multimodal Learning, Root Cause Analysis, AIOps

## PUBLICATION

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**Zhao, Z.** (co-first author), Liu, Y., et al. Exploiting Spatial-temporal Data for Sleep Stage Classification via Hypergraph Learning, IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP), 2024.  
Yi, Z., **Zhao, Z.**, et al. Multimodal Fusion via Hypergraph Autoencoder and Contrastive Learning for Emotion Recognition in Conversation, ACM Multimedia (ACM MM), 2024.

## WORKING EXPERIENCE

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**Machine Learning Engineer, Alipay, Alibaba**, Hangzhou, China 02/2023-04/2024  
**AIOps System Development**

- Built up the AIOps system focusing on root cause analysis for microservices in payment scenarios;
- Developed the anomaly detection model for runtime log data of the microservices with meta-learning and text auto-encoder technique;
- Developed multi-modal root cause analysis model based on Causal Discovery and customized Random Walk algorithm, which achieved a 95% Top-3 accuracy;
- Developed a microservice monitor platform to support customizing log patterns & trace topologies for real-time vulnerability scanning;
- Enhanced the online DevOps ticket service system with the Large Language Model and the Retrieval Augmented Generation technique, which reduced the average ticket solution time cost from 55min to 32min.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Multimodal Fusion via Hypergraph Autoencoder and Contrastive Learning for Emotion Recognition in Conversation** 2024.7

- Proposed the HAUCL framework based on variational hypergraph autoencoder, which adaptively captures the long-distance high-order dependencies between conversational information for the multimodal emotion recognition task (MERC);
- Utilized contrastive learning to mitigate the impact of instability brought by the reparametrized sampling process, enhancing both robustness and performance;
- Validated the effectiveness of the framework on two mainstream MERC datasets, IEMOCAP and MELD. HAUCL achieves a better all-round performance compared with baselines, resulting in a performance gain of 1.29% in accuracy and 1.15 in weighted F-1 score;
- Completed the paper as second author, which has been accepted by ACM MM'2024.

**Exploiting Spatial-Temporal Data for Sleep Stage Classification via Hypergraph Learning** 2023.12

- Proposed an adaptive hypergraph-learning framework (STHL), including dynamic hyperedge construction, hyperedge embedding update, and multi-head attentive node embedding update;
- Designed a learning process to simultaneously generate spatial and temporal hyperedges in order to learn from spatiotemporal data;
- Conducted a general comparison with latest STGCN models on sleep-stage classification tasks via ISRUC-S3 dataset, resulting in a performance gain of 3.7% in accuracy compared with state-of-the-art models;
- Completed the paper as first author, which has been accepted by ICASSP'2024.

## **CHASE: A Causal Heterogeneous Graph based Framework for Root Cause Analysis in Multimodal Microservice Systems** 2024.5

- Proposed CHASE to handle data of log, metric and trace under the task of root cause analysis for AIOps systems, in which a multimodal invocation graph is constructed for multimodal feature fusion and instance-level anomaly detection based on heterogeneous message passing;
- Modeled the causality flow of anomalies with the construction of hyperedges on the basis of trace typology. The multivariate causality correlation between a set of instances is further modelled with hypergraph convolution;
- Evaluated CHASE on the System Integration Test environment of Alipay and open-source datasets, which achieves a performance gain of 20% in top-1 accuracy;
- Completed the paper as first author, which has been submitted to IEEE TSC and is currently under review. Preprint version is available on arXiv.

## **COMPETITION EXPERIENCE**

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### **Metaprogramming Framework for Machine Learning Tasks,** 2021.12

#### **Winner of Microsoft Student Hackathon**

- Developed a Graphics UI-based machine learning framework, which can be used to complete tasks from data preprocessing to model training by just dragging and dropping modules on frontend;
- Added a CRF-LSTM segmentation model that can be applied to both Chinese and English corpora;
- Added CBOW, Skip-Gram, negative-sampling, and GloVe modules that can train word2vec based on the segmentation results of this model;
- Applied the Multiple word vector training results to the analogy task for performance comparison and visualization.

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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Machine Learning Framework: Pytorch

Programming Languages: Java, Python, C, C++, Matlab