

# Xiaotang Du

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## EDUCATION

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- **University of Edinburgh** 2022.9 - Now
  - *Ph.D. in Natural Language Processing*  
Supervised by: Prof. Pasquale Minervini, Prof. Emily Allaway, Prof. Ivan Titov
- **ETH Zurich** 2017.9 - 2020.12
  - *M.Sc. in Computer Science*  
Supervised by: Prof. Shuhang Gu, Prof. Radu Timofte
- **Nankai University** 2013.9 - 2017.6
  - *B.Sc. in Automation; outstanding graduate*

## EXPERIENCE

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- **Huawei Research Center** Edinburgh, United Kingdom 2024.8 - 2024.12
  - *Research Intern - Long-document QA; Graph RAG*
    - Develop context-aware chunking and indexing strategies to enhance RAG systems for table-text hybrid retrieval in long document QA
- **Meta AI Research** London, United Kingdom 2021.9 - 2022.9
  - *AI Resident - Generative entity tagging; Extreme multi-label classification*
    - Fine-tune encoder-decoder architecture for extracting entities without entity mention supervision
- **Disney Research** Zurich, Switzerland 2018.10 - 2019.4
  - *Project Student - Neural semantic parsing*
    - Propose span-based semantic role labeling framework for semantic parsing in movie scripts

## PROJECTS

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- **Tool-augmented Agent for Tabular Fact Checking** 2025.3 - Now
  - Explore automatic tool discovery and creation for table processing and reasoning
- **Memorization of Factual Knowledge in Retrieval-Augmented Models** 2023.4 - 2023.10
  - Analyze the memorization pattern of retrieval-augmented models in the context of knowledge conflicts
  - Synthesize counterfactual QA examples with DBpedia entities

## PUBLICATIONS

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- **Analyzing LLM Instruction Optimization for Tabular Fact Verification**, Xiaotang Du, Giwon Hong, Wai-Chung Kwan, Rohit Saxena, Ivan Titov, Pasquale Minervini, Emily Allaway; EACL 2026; link
- **Enhancing Long Document Long Form Summarisation with Self-Planning**, Xiaotang Du, Rohit Saxena, Laura Perez-Beltrachini, Pasquale Minervini, Ivan Titov; AACL 2025; link
- **Steering Knowledge Selection Behaviours in LLMs via SAE-Based Representation Engineering**, Yu Zhao, Alessio Devoto, Giwon Hong, Xiaotang Du, Aryo Pradipta Gema, Hongru Wang, Xuanli He, Kam-Fai Wong, Pasquale Minervini; NAACL 2025; link
- **Are We Done with MMLU?** Aryo Pradipta Gema, Joshua Ong Jun Leang, Giwon Hong, Alessio Devoto, Alberto Carlo Maria Mancino, Rohit Saxena, Xuanli He, Yu Zhao, Xiaotang Du, Mohammad Reza Ghasemi Madani, Claire Barale, Robert McHardy, Joshua Harris, Jean Kaddour, Emile van Krieken, Pasquale Minervini; NAACL 2025; link
- **Analysing the Residual Stream of Language Models Under Knowledge Conflicts**, Yu Zhao, Xiaotang Du, Giwon Hong, Aryo Pradipta Gema, Alessio Devoto, Hongru Wang, Xuanli He, Kam-Fai Wong, Pasquale Minervini; MINT @ NeurIPS 2024; link
- **Open Vocabulary Extreme Classification Using Generative Models**, Daniel Simig, Fabio Petroni, Pouya Yanki, Kashyap Popat, Christina Du, Sebastian Riedel, Majid Yazdani; ACL 2022; link

## PREPRINTS

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- **The Hallucinations Leaderboard – An Open Effort to Measure Hallucinations in Large Language Models**, Giwon Hong\*, Aryo Pradipta Gema\*, Rohit Saxena\*, Xiaotang Du\*, Ping Nie\*, Yu Zhao\*, Laura PerezBeltrachini, Max Ryabinin, Xuanli He, Pasquale Minervini\*; *Arxiv*
- **Entity Tagging: Extracting Entities in Text Without Mention Supervision**, Christina Du, Kashyap Popat, Louis Martin, Fabio Petroni; *Arxiv*

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- UKRI Center for Doctoral Training PhD Scholarship, University of Edinburgh 2022
- Pudong Development Bank Scholarship 2016
- Samsung Scholarship 2015
- First Prize Scholarship 2014

## SKILLS

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- **Languages** Chinese, English
- **Programming** Python, C++, Bash, MATLAB
- **Framework** PyTorch, Transformers, Tensorflow, vLLM
- **Tools** Kubernetes, Slurm, Git

## SERVICES

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- **Peer Review** CoNLL 2023/2025; ICLR 2025/2026
- **Teaching Support** Natural Language Understanding, Generation, and Machine Translation 2024/2025; Accelerated Natural Language Processing 2023