

## CONTACT

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Data Mining  
Data Science  
Natural Language Processing  
Recommender System

## LANGUAGES

English

Bilingual

High proficiency in reading and  
writing

Chinese

Mandarin

Native Fluency

Chinese

Cantonese

Native Fluency

## XURONG (JASON) LIANG

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Ph.D. Student, Research Assistant & Teaching Assistant  
Computer Science

## EDUCATION

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Computer Science**

**University of Queensland, Australia**

2023 — 2026 (exp.)

Ph.D. project *Toward Memory-Efficient Recommender Systems*  
Advised by Prof. Hongzhi Yin and Dr. Rocky Tong Chen.

**Bachelor of Computer Science (Honors)**

**University of Queensland, Australia**

2022

Honors project *PEP++: Improved Pruning-Based Embedding Dimension Optimization for Recommender Systems*  
Advised by Dr. Rocky Tong Chen.  
Awarded an **Honors Class I Degree (cumulative GPA 7.000/7.000)**.

**Bachelor of Computer Science**

**University of Queensland, Australia**

2019 — 2021

Graduated with cumulative **GPA 6.792/7.000**. Major in **Data Science**.

**High School Diploma**

**Indooroopilly State High School, Australia**

2016 — 2018

Graduated with **OP4** (Highest: 1, Lowest: 25).

## PUBLICATIONS

**Lightweight Embeddings for Graph Collaborative Filtering**  
**Paper, Code**

SIGIR '24

**Xurong Liang**, Tong Chen, Lizhen Cui, Yang Wang, Meng Wang, and Hongzhi Yin

**Hate Speech Detection with Generalizable Topic-aware Fairness**  
**Paper, Code**

KDD '24

Tong Chen, Danny Wang, **Xurong Liang**, Marten Risius, Gianluca Demartini and Hongzhi Yin

**Learning Compact Compositional Embeddings via Regularized Pruning for Recommendation**  
**Paper, Code**

ICDM '23

**Xurong Liang**, Tong Chen, Quoc Viet Hung Nguyen, Jianxin Li, and Hongzhi Yin

## ACHIEVEMENTS

**Dean's Commendation for Academic Excellence —  
Bachelor of Computer Science (Hons)  
University of Queensland, Australia**

2022

Awarded to students who obtained a grade point average of 6.60 or higher in single semester.

**Dean's Commendation for Academic Excellence —  
Bachelor of Computer Science  
University of Queensland, Australia**

2019 — Jul 2021

Awarded to students who obtained a grade point average of 6.60 or higher in single semester.

**Cloud Computing INFS3208 Best Project Runner-up  
Award  
University of Queensland, Australia**

2021

Awarded for outstanding performance in INFS3208 Cloud Computing individual project competition 2021.

**Prentice Scholar 2020  
University of Queensland, Australia**

2020

Prentice Scholars are students whose academic performance sits within the top five percent of the undergraduate Computer Science and Information Technology cohort at The University of Queensland.

**Subject Prize Award – Information Processing and  
Technology  
Indooroopilly State High School, Australia**

2017

Ranked 1st in the Information Processing and Technology course cohort.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**Australian Government Research Training Program  
(RTP) Scholarship**

2023 — 2027

**Google Research Travel Scholarship**

2024

**UQ International Onshore Merit Scholarship**

2022

**Winter Research Scholarship**

2021

## ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

**Applied Scientist Internship  
Amazon, Australia**

Oct 2024 — present

Conducting research on the topic of *Uncertainty Estimation in Recommender Systems* under the supervision of Dr. Julien Monteil.

**Casual Teaching Assistant****Feb 2022 — present****University of Queensland, Australia**

Tutoring course **INFS7901 – Database Principles** in Semester 1 and **INFS3208/INFS7208 - Cloud Computing** in Semester 2 each year. Offering practical & tutorial sessions weekly and responsible for assignment and exam paper marking.

**Casual Research Assistant****Sep 2021 — present****University of Queensland, Australia**

Conducting research relevant experiments, data preprocessing, baseline testing and algorithm implementation in the field of **Explainable Recommender Systems**.

**Winter Research Scholar****Jun 2021 — Jul 2021****University of Queensland, Australia**

*Dynamic Topic Modelling on Social Media* — Utilizing **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** techniques to model and analyze the change of trending topics on social media in relation to COVID-19 throughout the first 100-day period since the virus emerged. Project conducted under the supervision of Prof. Zi (Helen) Huang and Dr. Rocky Tong Chen. Project result visualization available at <https://topicvis.nifu.me/>.

**Voluntary Teaching Assistant****Dec 2019 — Jan 2020****Dalu Primary School (大芦小学), Yulin, Guangxi 537000, China**

Teaching English and Information Technology courses to elementary school students. In charge of homework materials organization and marking.

## **SOCIAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Self-employed Courier Delivery Service****Dec 2020 — Feb 2021****Brisbane, QLD 4000, Australia**

Contracting last-mile delivery orders with courier providers such as 1stEx<sup>®</sup> and CouriersPlease<sup>®</sup> in particular regions around the Greater Brisbane Region.

**Expo Helper****Jul 2017****AAS Education & Student Services, Spring Hill, QLD 4000, Australia**

Assisting prospective students in answering any inquiries regarding further studies abroad. Assisting in student recruitment and encouraging prospective genuine students to apply to the institute on-site.

**Voluntary International Student Ambassador****Jan 2017****Indooroopilly State High School, Australia**

Assisting new students at International Student Orientation and providing school tours for visiting delegates.