

XIA CUI

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John Dalton Building, Manchester Metropolitan University

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EDUCATION

University of Liverpool, UK

Apr 2016 - Jun 2020

PhD Computer Science

- Dissertation: Learning Transferable Features for Unsupervised Domain Adaptation in Natural Language Processing

- Supervisors: Prof. Danushka Bollegala & Prof. Frans Coenen

University College London, UK

Sep 2013 - Nov 2015

MSc Web Science and Big Data Analytics

- Dissertation: Evaluation of Speech/Music Discrimination Softwares for Broadcast Content

- Supervisors: Prof. Jun Wang (UCL) & Matt Haynes (BBC R&D)

University of Liverpool, UK

Sep 2010 - Jul 2013

BSc(Hons.) Internet Computing

Upper Second-Class

- Project: Tag Cloud Generator

- Supervisors: Dr. Russell Martin & Prof. Prudence Wong

QUALIFICATION

Manchester Metropolitan University

Nov 2024

PGCert in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

MERIT

Advance HE

Jul 2024

Fellow of Advance HE Ref No: PR292903

FULL-TIME WORK EXPERIENCE

Manchester Metropolitan University

Manchester, UK / Wuhan, China

Senior Lecturer in Software Engineering

Aug 2024 - Present

- Member of Human-Centred Computing (HCC) Lab and Natural Language Processing (NLP) Lab at the Department of Computing and Mathematics.
- Teaching Delivery at Manchester Metropolitan Joint Institute (MMJI), Hubei University, China.

Manchester Metropolitan University

Manchester, UK / Wuhan, China

Lecturer in Software Engineering

Jan 2023 - Jul 2024

- First lecturer to deliver face-to-face teaching for BSc(Hons.) Software Engineering in MMJI.

The University of Manchester & VoiceIQ Ltd

Manchester, UK

Machine Learning & Natural Language Processing Scientist (KTP Associate)

Jul 2020 - Jan 2023

- Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) research project funded by Innovate UK on detecting vulnerable people in telephone conversations.
- Conducted research on speech processing and natural language processing related to identifying indicators of vulnerability for the speakers such as age, accent, emotion and health status.

- Identified relevant data resources and used the identified data to develop the detection system.
- Interacted with the development team to integrate the developed system into commercial products.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Richmond American University London

External Examiner

London, UK

Feb 2024 - Aug 2025

- Provide guidance on BSc (Hons.) Computer Science with Combined Studies at RAUL.
- Moderate teaching courses in the Computer Science domain.

University of Liverpool

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Liverpool, UK

Jan 2017 - Feb 2020

- Supported teaching in lectures and lab exercises at the Department of Computer Science.
- Assessed undergraduate and postgraduate student coursework and invigilated exams.

University of Liverpool

Guest Lecturer

Liverpool, UK

Jan 2017 - Feb 2020

- Delivered guest lectures to the postgraduate students at the Department of History by invitation.
- Designed lecture materials on the basics of Computing including various topics: General Computer Architecture, Number Representation in Computers, File Systems, Networking, Semantic Web, Algorithms and Programming Paradigms.

Liverpool International College (Kaplan, Inc.)

Seasonal Tutor

Liverpool, UK

Apr 2016 - Jul 2017

- Assisted exam invigilation of entrance exams for pre-uni students.

BBC Research & Development

Research Intern

London, UK

Jun 2014 - Sep 2014

- Researched speech and music discrimination, analysed media contents (radio) and transcripts, and designed and developed an evaluation framework using Ruby.
- Media: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/rd/blog/2014-11-evaluating-speech-music-discriminators>

TEACHING/ADMISSION

Manchester Metropolitan University (2023 - Present)

1. Teaching: Databases (L4), Web Development (L4, Unit Lead), Team project (L4, Unit Lead), Graduate Skills (L4, Unit Lead), Thematic Projects (L5), Industry & Community Engagement (L5), Full-Stack Web Development (L5, Unit Lead), Software Testing & Quality Assurance (L6, Unit Lead)
2. Supervision: Projects (MSc), Synoptic Projects (BSc)
3. Assessment: Project Showcases (BSc), End-Point Assessment on Digital Technology Solutions (DTS) Degree Apprenticeship, Projects (MSc)
4. Quality Assurance: BSc(Hons.) Software Engineering at MMJI

University of Liverpool (2017 - 2020)

1. Lab Support: App Development (L5), Mobile Computing (L6), Data Mining and Visualisation (L7), Advanced Object Oriented C Languages (L5), Software Engineering (L5), Applied Database Management (L5), Professional Skills & Research Methods in Computer Science (L4&7).

GRANT/FUNDING

1. **Translation Is Not Enough (TINE): Plain Language Adaptation Of Multilingual Science**, UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), Co-I, (GBP 118K), 2026.5-.
2. **Spark Media Partners KTP**, Knowledge Transfer Partnership, Innovate UK, Co-I, (GBP 310K), 2025.10-.
3. **Multi-Lingual Academic Paper Summariser Tool**, His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom, Co-I, (GBP 37K), 2025.08-2026.01.
4. **Applying AI To Drive Employee Advocacy on LinkedIn**, Vulse Ltd, PI, (GBP 15K), 2024.11-2025.03.
5. **Interspeech Travel Grant**, ISCA - International Speech Communication Association, (EUR 245), 2021.

ACADEMIC SERVICES

1. Member of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), the Association for Information Systems (AIS), IEEE and the UK Acoustics Network.
2. Reviewer for Neurocomputing Journal, The Computer Journal, Computer Speech and Language Journal, IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks, Artificial Intelligence and Learning Systems, Cognitive Computation (Springer Nature) and IEEE Access.
3. Reviewer for Annual Conference of ACL, Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), the Web Conference (WWW), IEEE WCCI and ACL Rolling Review.
4. Program Committee for Workshops on Domain Adaptation for NLP (Adapt-NLP) and Representation Learning for NLP (Repl4NLP).
5. Program Committee for Interdisciplinary Workshop on Observations of Misunderstood, Misguided and Malicious Use of Language Models (OMMM 2025).
6. Publicity Co-Chair and Local Organisation Committee for the IEEE 13th International Conference on Serious Games and Applications for Health (SeGAH 2025).
7. Publicity Co-Chair for the 28th UK Conference on Medical Image Understanding and Analysis (MIUA 2024).
8. External Verification Panellist for BSc(Hons.) Software Design and Development at Jiangxi University of Technology (JXUT)/Richmond American University London (RAUL), August 2023.
9. Volunteer for 2018 Society for the Study of Artificial Intelligence and Simulation of Behaviour (AISB) Convention, University of Liverpool and 2018-2019 TEDxLiverpool.
10. Demonstrator for 2018 LEGO Rovers Robot Summer Workshops (Outreach Activity).

INVITED TALKS/PRESENTATIONS/PANELS

1. Guest Talk on *Robust NLP in the Wild: Learning from Disagreement, Imbalance and Human Complexity*, Department of Computer Science, University of Liverpool, Apr 2026 (Liverpool, UK).
2. Poster Presentation on *Learning a model in mixed-annotator datasets using annotator ranking scores as training weights* in 2nd Cardiff NLP Summer Workshop, Cardiff NLP Group, Cardiff University, Jun 2023 (Cardiff, UK).
3. Panel Discussant on *Artificial Intelligence and Psychotherapy Research*, Society of Psychotherapy Research 54th International Annual Meeting, Jun 2023 (Dublin, Ireland).
4. Work in Progress Presentation on *Developing an AI-powered system for detecting indicators of mental health difficulties and negative life events using social media posts*, Cyberpsychology Annual Conference, The British Psychological Society, Sep 2022 (Brighton, UK).
5. Guest Talk on *Detecting Text Related to Mental Health using AI*, Department of Psychology, The University of Manchester, Dec 2021 (Manchester, UK).

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Current Students:

1. Sakib Ahammed, working on Multimodal clinical and imaging learning algorithms for skin lesion analysis [PhD 2024-, Principal Supervisor]

Past Students:

1. Zohaib Khan, Prompt Engineering for Large Language Models in Detecting Mental Health Difficulties and Negative Life Events in Financial Resilience [MSc 2025]
2. Margaret Njenga, Prompt Engineering for Large Language Models in Detecting Mental Health Difficulties and Negative Life Events in Financial Resilience [MSc 2025]
3. Akila Munasinghe, Forecasting Transfer Market Value Through Performance Analytics and Machine Learning [MSc 2025]
4. Olumayowa Ogunleye, Forecasting Football Physical Performance Demand by Machine Learning [MSc 2025]
5. Kalpana Kaushik, Football Physical Performance Demand Forecasting Using Machine Learning [MSc 2025]
6. Noor Pathan, Document Analysis of Keyword Summarisation and Matching [MSc 2024]
7. Daniel Lanre Adeeko, Document Analysis of Keyword Summarisation and Matching [MSc 2024]
8. Toyosi Blessing Ogunbiyi, Regulatory Requirement Summarisation From Documents [MSc 2024]
9. Oluwamayowa Ibrahim Lawal, Identification of undervalued football players in transfer markets through NLP-Based News Analysis [MSc 2024]
10. Chidiogo Maureen Maduka, Identifying Undervalued Football Players in Transfer Markets Through NLP-Based News Analysis [MSc 2024]
11. Tomishola Hezekiah Olakanmi, Analyzing Football News Through NLP To Identify Low-cost Players In The Transfer Market [MSc 2024]
12. Swathi Pallapu, An Automated, Data Driven Approach to Crime Pattern Detection Prediction [MSc 2024]
13. Chinenye Ekene Omejike, Identification of Undervalued Football Players in Transfer Markets using NLP-Based News Analysis [MSc 2024]
14. Hilda Joy, Summarization And Keyword Extraction For Information Retrieval In Sports Based Documents [MSc 2024]
15. Emmanuel Isola, Identification of undervalued Football Players in the transfer Markets through NLP-Based News Analysis [MSc 2024]
16. Zihao Li, Controllable Text Simplification [MRes 2024, First Supervisor]
17. Gopikanta Mohanty, Fake Job Detection [MSc 2023]
18. Jake Spires, Predicting the Results of Football Matches [MSc 2023]
19. Romil Umeshkumar Mesaniya, A Full-Stack Web-Based Application for an Online Bookstore [MSc 2023]
20. Opeyemi Enock Adeniyi, Predicting the Results of Football Matches [MSc 2023]
21. Revati Jaidatta Chavare, Categorizing Mental Health Issues Using Natural Language Processing [MSc 2023]
22. Saem Erfan Kazi, Predicting the Results of Football Matches [MSc 2023]
23. Chathura Chinthaka Morakanda Gamage, Predicting the Results of Football Matches [MSc 2023]
24. Navaneeth Vijayan, Predicting Football Match Outcome using Machine Learning [MSc 2023]

PUBLICATIONS

1. Chinenye Omejieke, Shuyao Chen, and **Xia Cui**. Objective mispricing detection for shortlisting undervalued football players via market dynamics and news signals. 2026. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2603.17687>.
2. Sakib Ahammed, **Xia Cui**, Xinqi Fan, Wenqi Lu, and Moi Hoon Yap. Semcovnet: Towards fair and semantic coverage-aware learning for underrepresented visual concepts, 2026. URL <https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.16917>.
3. **Xia Cui**, Ziyi Huang, and Nishanthi Rupika Abeynayake. Learning from Annotator Disagreement Via Weighted Ensemble Optimisation for Subjective Text Classification. *Datenbank-Spektrum*, February 2026. ISSN 1610-1995. doi: 10.1007/s13222-026-00529-9.
4. Nishanthi Rupika Abeynayake, Chiranjewa Atapattu, and **Xia Cui**. Deep learning-based forecasting of hotel kpis: A cross-city analysis of global urban markets. In *2025 EuroCHRIE Conference Proceedings*, page (In Press), The Hague, The Netherlands, November 2025.
5. Ziyi Huang, Nishanthi Rupika Abeynayake, and **Xia Cui**. PromotionGo at LeWiDi-2025: Multilingual irony detection using l1 loss, data augmentation and ensemble learning. In *Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Perspectivist Approaches to NLP (NLPerspectives)*, pages 242–248. Association for Computational Linguistics, November 2025b.
6. Ziyi Huang, Nishanthi Rupika Abeynayake, and **Xia Cui**. Weak ensemble learning from multiple annotators for subjective text classification. In *Proceedings of the 4th Workshop on Perspectivist Approaches to NLP (NLPerspectives)*, pages 87–99, Suzhou, China, November 2025a. Association for Computational Linguistics.
7. **Xia Cui**, Ziyi Huang, and Naeemeh Adel. Bias in, bias out: Annotation bias in multilingual large language models. In *Proceedings of the First Interdisciplinary Workshop on Observations of Misunderstood, Misguided and Malicious Use of Language Models (OMMM 2025)*, pages 1–16, Varna, Bulgaria, September 2025. INCOMA Ltd., Shoumen, Bulgaria.
8. **Xia Cui**. xiacui at SemEval-2025 task 11: Addressing data imbalance in transformer-based multi-label emotion detection with weighted loss. In Sara Rosenthal, Aiala Rosá, Debanjan Ghosh, and Marcos Zampieri, editors, *Proceedings of the 19th International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval-2025)*, pages 247–256, Vienna, Austria, July 2025. Association for Computational Linguistics. ISBN 979-8-89176-273-2.
9. Ziyi Huang and **Xia Cui**. PromotionGo at SemEval-2025 task 11: A feature-centric framework for cross-lingual multi-emotion detection in short texts. In Sara Rosenthal, Aiala Rosá, Debanjan Ghosh, and Marcos Zampieri, editors, *Proceedings of the 19th International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval-2025)*, pages 2140–2148, Vienna, Austria, July 2025. Association for Computational Linguistics. ISBN 979-8-89176-273-2.
10. Sakib Ahammed, **Xia Cui**, Wenqi Lu, and Moi Hoon Yap. Skin lesion classification using dermoscopic images and clinical metadata: Insights from multimodal models. In *Proceedings of the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Conference*, pages 222–230, June 2025.
11. John Henry, Connah Kendrick, **Xia Cui**, and Sylvester Arnab. Assessing the validity of wearable technology as game input. In *2024 IEEE 12th International Conference on Serious Games and Applications for Health (SeGAH)*, 2024.
12. **Xia Cui**, Terry Hanley, Muj Choudhury, and Tingting Mu. Data-driven or dataless? detecting indicators of mental health difficulties and negative life events in financial resilience using prompt-based learning. In *2024 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)*, pages 1–8, 2024. doi: 10.1109/IJCNN60899.2024.10651245

13. **Xia Cui**. xiacui at SemEval-2023 task 11: Learning a model in mixed-annotator datasets using annotator ranking scores as training weights. In *Proceedings of the The 17th International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval-2023)*, pages 1076–1084, Toronto, Canada, July 2023. Association for Computational Linguistics.
14. **Xia Cui**, Amila Gamage, Terry Hanley, and Tingting Mu. Identifying Indicators of Vulnerability from Short Speech Segments Using Acoustic and Textual Features. In *Proc. Interspeech 2021*, pages 1569–1573, 2021. doi: 10.21437/Interspeech.2021-1525.
15. **Xia Cui** and Danushka Bollegala. Multi-source attention for unsupervised domain adaptation. In *Proceedings of the 1st Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 10th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing (ACL-IJCNLP)*, pages 873–883, 2020.
16. **Xia Cui** and Danushka Bollegala. Self-adaptation for unsupervised domain adaptation. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing (RANLP)*, pages 213–222, Varna, Bulgaria, 2019.
17. **Xia Cui**, Noor Al-Bazzaz, Danushka Bollegala, and Frans Coenen. A comparative study of pivot selection strategies for unsupervised cross-domain sentiment classification. *The Knowledge Engineering Review*, 33(5):1–12, 2018a.
18. **Xia Cui**, Sadamori Kojaku, Naoki Masuda, and Danushka Bollegala. Solving feature sparseness in text classification using core-periphery decomposition. In *Proceedings of the Seventh Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (*SEM)*, pages 255–264. Association for Computational Linguistics, 2018b.
19. **Xia Cui**, Frans Coenen, and Danushka Bollegala. Effect of data imbalance on unsupervised domain adaptation of part-of-speech tagging and pivot selection strategies. In Lus Torgo, Bartosz Krawczyk, Paula Branco, and Nuno Moniz, editors, *Proceedings of the First International Workshop on Learning with Imbalanced Domains: Theory and Applications*, volume 74 of *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research*, pages 103–115, ECML-PKDD, Skopje, Macedonia, 22 Sep 2017b. PMLR.
20. **Xia Cui**, Frans Coenen, and Danushka Bollegala. Tsp: Learning task-specific pivots for unsupervised domain adaptation. In *Proceedings of the European Conference on Machine Learning and Principles and Practice of Knowledge Discovery in Databases (ECML-PKDD)*, pages 754–771, 2017a.
21. Frans A. Oliehoek, Rahul Savani, Elliot Adderton, **Xia Cui**, David Jackson, Phil Jimmieson, John Christopher Jones, Keith Kennedy, Ben Mason, Adam Plumbley, and Luke Dawson. Liftupp: Support to develop learner performance. In Elisabeth André, Ryan Baker, Xiangen Hu, Ma. Mercedes T. Rodrigo, and Benedict du Boulay, editors, *Proceedings of the International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Education (AIED)*, pages 553–556, Cham, 2017. Springer International Publishing. ISBN 978-3-319-61425-0.