

TIAN CHENG (RICCARDO) XIA

Name

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EDUCATION

M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence · University of Bologna, Italy 2023 – mar 2026

Temporary thesis title: Self-Supervised Framework for Explaining Multimodal Classification Models

GPA: 29.6/30

B.Sc. in Computer Science · University of Bologna, Italy 2020 – 2023

Thesis title: Subtopic-Oriented Biomedical Summarization using Pretrained Language Models

GPA: 29.52/30 · Graduation grade: 110/110 cum laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Intern · National Institute of Informatics, Tokyo, Japan July 2025 – Jan 2026

Worked on research projects carried out by the laboratory of Prof. Akiko Aizawa:

- Devised an explainability framework for multimodal claim verification, which is part of my master's thesis.
- Contributed to design and annotate a dataset to benchmark multimodal models on the task of claim verification, which will be used in the `SciClaimEval` shared task organized by the laboratory.
- Designed a pipeline to automatically generate scientific papers, which led to two AI generated papers accepted at the `Agents4Science` conference held by Stanford University.
- Set up a study to assess the effects of hedges and boosters in scientific writing.

Research Intern · SmartData Research Group, Bologna, Italy May 2023 – Sept 2023

Worked on designing a benchmark pipeline for biomedical extractive text summarization and creating a benchmark dataset for topic clustering. The work, done under the supervision of Prof. Danilo Montesi, was partly integrated in my bachelor's thesis and its extension led to the publication of a journal paper.

PUBLICATIONS

Xia, Tian Cheng; Bertini, Flavio; Montesi, Danilo. (2025). "Large Language Models Evaluation for PubMed Extractive Summarisation". *ACM Transactions on Computing for Healthcare*. DOI: 10.1145/3766905.

Ciancarini, Paolo; Giancarlo, Raffaele; Grimaudo, Gennaro; Missiroli, Marcello; Xia, Tian Cheng. (2025). "The Design and Realization of a Self-Hosted and Open-Source Agile Internal Development Platform". *IEEE Access*. DOI: 10.1109/ACCESS.2025.3564141.

WORK EXPERIENCE

IT/IS Office Intern · Toyota Material Handling Manufacturing, Bologna, Italy Dec 2019, July 2019, Feb 2019

- Provided technical support to internal users.
- Configured network devices and mapped the connections between network racks across the production plant.
- Created scripts to generate reports from SQL queries and to automate some tasks on the assembly line.

ACHIEVEMENTS

LauzHack 2024, BMS Challenge 1st Place · EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland

Project repository

Winner of the challenge proposed by Bristol Myers Squibb on time-series forecasting for medicine demand by proposing an explainable framework using Gaussian processes and Shapley values.

LANGUAGES

Italian native speaker

English CEFR C1 (IELTS 7.5; TRF: 23IT002480XIAT010A)

Chinese conversational