Changkun Ou, Ph.D.

Resume

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Online version: https://changkun.de/s/resume

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@changkun **?** changkun.de **#**

Human-AI Systems Leader | Ph.D. in Computer Science, LMU Munich

Leading LLM-based AI initiatives in business domains while delivering measurable outcomes—including a 2.5% margin uplift through human-in-the-loop revenue optimization. Research background in human-AI interaction, focusing on design trade-offs and algorithmic support for human decision-making. Combines theoretical insight with robust engineering practice to build efficient, scalable systems. See Research Protofolio.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Media Informatics (Dr. rer. nat.)

Feb. 2019 - Apr. 2023

LMU Munich

Munich, Germany

- Thesis: "The Intelligence in the Loop: Empirical Explorations and Reflections", Magna cum Laude
- Thesis Committee: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Andreas Butz (Erstberichterstatter), Prof. Dr. Eyke Hüllermeier (Zweitberichterstatter), Prof. Dr.-Ing. Marc Stamminger (Drittberichterstatter).

Master Student Human-Computer Interaction (M.Sc.)

Oct. 2016 - Jan. 2019

LMU Munich; overall grade: 1.63 (max. 1.0) between "Very Good" and "Good"

Munich, Germany

- Thesis: "Understanding and Predicting Web Browsing Behavior"
- Advisors: Dr. Daniel Buschek, Dr. Malin Eiband, Prof. Dr. Heinrich Hußmann

Bachelor Student Computer Science and Engineering (B.Eng.)

Sep. 2012 - Jul. 2016

Southwest University for Nationalities; overall grade: 3.74 (max. 4.0), "Top 1" of 154 students

Chengdu, China

- Thesis: "Designing Alternative Contact-free Control Modalities for Smart Watches"
- Advisor: Prof. Dr. Yaxi Chen

RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Software Engineer

Aug. 2023 - Present

Sixt SE

Munich Pullach, Germany

- As researcher: Led AI transformation initiatives by managing executive and C-level stakeholders, integrating LLM-based solutions into core business operations.
- **As engineer**: Designed and delivered human-in-the-loop revenue optimization systems, driving an estimated 2.5% margin uplift and enabling strategic organizational shifts.
- As mentor: Mentored engineers through technically challenging projects and actively contributed to building and scaling high-performing
 engineering teams.

Software Engineer Sep. 2022 – Jul. 2023

Sixt SE

Munich Pullach, Germany

- **As engineer**: Led the design and build of modern automated pricing revenue management, making yield systems approx. 300x faster; enabling to scale business 10x more
- Involved techniques: Go; C++; Python; Kubernetes; Jenkins; Prometheus; Postgres; Redis; AWS; etc.

Research Associate, Lecturer

Aprl. 2018 - Mar. 2023, Aprl. 2024 - Present

LMU Munich

Munich, Germany

- As lecturer: supervising 18 students in conducting scientific research
- As researcher: research on human-in-the-loop machine learning 3D graphics systems
- As teacher: teach 12 classes (as lecturer/instructor/assistant/tutor), and supervising 20+ student theses and seminars
- **As developer**: develop a 3D mesh processing backend system in collaboration with industry partner WAY digital solutions; develop, migrate, and maintain a 17 year-old university CMS system, and a 13 year-old collaborative system

Publications

See my research page or Google Scholar for more details.

EXPERTISE AND SKILLS

The following outlines years of experience and provides an estimated proficiency level:

- **Domain**: *LLM-based AI* (2 years of industry practice, *experienced*); *Computer graphics* (3D rendering and geometry processing, 3 years of Bachelors level teaching at university, 2 years of Masters level teaching, Blender/OpenGL/Metal/three.js, *experienced*); *Machine learning* (1 year of Masters level teaching at university, 2 years of industrial practices, sklearn/tensorflow/pytorch/etc, *experienced*); *Data analysis* (3 years of PhD research, numpy/seaborn/pandas/etc., 2 years of industrial data analysis, *experienced*); *Web development* (2 years of industrial backend engineering, Go/React/etc., *experienced*).
- Language: Go (9+ years+, expert); Python (7+ years, experienced); LTEX (10+ years, expert); C/C++ (5+ years, intermediate); JavaScript/TypeScript (5+ years, intermediate); I speak native Mandarin; fluent professional English; elementary German.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

ACM SIGCHI Gary Marsden Travel Awards Full Travel Support	Jan. 2023
ACM Symposium on Virtual Reality Software and Technology Best Paper Award	Nov. 2022
ACM SIGCHI Mensch und Computer Honorable Mention Award	Sep. 2022
ACM SIGCHI Special Recognitions (CHI '20) Outstanding Reviews	Nov. 2019
Siemens AILab Hackathon 2nd Winner	Nov. 2017 <i>Munich, Germany</i>
China National Scholarship University of Electronic Science and Technology of China	Sep. 2016 Chengdu, China
Excellent Bachelor Thesis Award Southwest University for Nationalities	Jun. 2016 Chengdu, China
Best University Graduates Award Sichuan Province	Jan. 2016 Chengdu, China
China National Scholarship Southwest University for Nationalities	Sep. 2014 Chengdu, China
Meritorious Winner in American Mathematical Contest in Modeling (MCM' 14) Southwest University for Nationalities	Apr. 2014 Chengdu, China

Volunteering

Assocaite Chair (Computational Interaction)

CHI '24, CHI '25

The ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems

Assocaite Chair (Human-Centred Intelligent Interactive Systems)

INTERACT '25

The IFIP TC13 International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction

Reviewing

CHI '20 - CHI'23, MobileHCI' 2023, ICMI' 2022, IMWUT' 2022, INTERACT' 2021