

# Tiankai Xie

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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Ph.D. in Computer Science specializing in visual analytics and explainable AI. Research focuses on visualizing high-dimensional loss functions to enhance machine learning model transparency and reliability, particularly in scientific domains. Develops tools integrating visual analytics and AI principles to improve understanding of complex model behaviors. Skilled in full-stack data pipeline development, with emphasis on improving AI model interpretability and trustworthiness in high-stakes applications.

## EDUCATION

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### Arizona State University

*Ph.D. in Computer Science; Ross Maciejewski (Ph.D. advisor)*

Aug. 2018 – Aug. 2023

Tempe, AZ

### Stevens Institute of Technology

*M.S. in Computer Science*

Aug. 2015 – May 2017

Hoboken, NJ

### Beijing Forestry University

*B.S. in Computer Science*

Sep. 2011 – Jul. 2015

Beijing, China

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### AI Researcher

*Mad Labs, Mad Realities*

April 2025 – Present

New York City, NY

### Postdoctoral Research Scholar

*VADER Lab, School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence, Arizona State University*

July 2023 – April 2025

Tempe, AZ

### Visiting Researcher

*Machine Learning and Analytics Group, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*

May 2024 – Aug. 2024

Berkeley, CA

### Graduate Research Associate

*VADER Lab, School of Computing and Augmented Intelligence, Arizona State University*

Aug. 2018 – Aug. 2023

Tempe, AZ

### Data Scientist, Intern

*Decision Science Visualization Team, Epsilon Data Management, LLC*

May 2021 – Aug 2021

Chicago, IL

### Co-founder

*Robotgyms Inc.*

Aug. 2017 – Jul. 2018

San Mateo, CA

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

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- Xie, Tiankai, Caleb Geniesse, Jiaqing Chen, Yaoqing Yang, Dmitriy Morozov, Michael W. Mahoney, Ross Maciejewski, and Gunther H. Weber. “Evaluating Loss Landscapes from a Topology Perspective.” Poster at the NeurIPS 2024 Workshop on Scientific Methods for Understanding Deep Learning, 2024 (Under review)
- Xie, Tiankai, Jiaqing Chen, Yaoqing Yang, Caleb Geniesse, Shi Ge, Ajinkya Chaudhari, John Kevin Cava, Talita Perciano, Michael W. Mahoney, Gunther H. Weber and Ross Maciejewski. “LossLens: Diagnostics for Machine Learning through Loss Landscape Visual Analytics.” IEEE Computer Graphics and Applications, 2024 (Under review)
- Kang, Jian, Tiankai Xie, Xintao Wu, Ross Maciejewski, and Hanghang Tong. “Infofair: Information-theoretic Intersectional Fairness.” In 2022 IEEE International Conference on Big Data, 2022.
- Xie, Tiankai, Yuxin Ma, Jian Kang, Hanghang Tong, and Ross Maciejewski. “Fairrankvis: A Visual Analytics Framework for Exploring Algorithmic Fairness in Graph Mining Models.” IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2021.
- Xie, Tiankai, Yuxin Ma, Hanghang Tong, My T. Thai, and Ross Maciejewski. “Auditing the Sensitivity of Graph-based Ranking with Visual Analytics.” IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2020.
- Ma, Yuxin, Tiankai Xie, Jundong Li, and Ross Maciejewski. “Explaining Vulnerabilities to Adversarial Machine Learning through Visual Analytics.” IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2019.

## INVITED TALKS

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- **LossLens: Diagnostics for Machine Learning Models through Loss Landscape Visual Analytics** AI TIME, Jan. 2024.
- **FairRankVis: A Visual Analytics Framework for Exploring Algorithmic Fairness in Graph Mining Models.** IEEE Conference on Visualization and Visual Analytics, Oct. 2021.
- **Auditing the Sensitivity of Graph-based Ranking with Visual Analytics.** IEEE Conference on Visualization and Visual Analytics, Oct. 2020.
- **Explaining vulnerabilities to adversarial machine learning through visual analytics.** IEEE Conference on Visual Analytics Science and Technology (VAST). Oct. 2019, Vancouver, Canada.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- Mentor for undergrad students in the ten-week VADER Lab summer research camp

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- Reviewer of IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2024
- Reviewer of IEEE Computer Graphics & Applications, 2024
- Reviewer of IEEE Pacific Visualization Conference, 2024
- Reviewer of ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology, 2024
- Reviewer of IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2023
- Reviewer of IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics, 2022
- Reviewer of IEEE Computer Graphics & Applications, 2021
- Reviewer of NeurIPS Workshop on Scientific Methods for Understanding Deep Learning, 2024