Rui Zhu

Curriculum Vitae

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EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Scholar University of California, Santa Barbara	January 2021 - present
Graduate Student Researcher University of California, Santa Barbara	July 2015 - December 2020
Lecturer University of California, Santa Barbara	July 2019 - September 2019
Lecturer University of California, Santa Barbara	July 2018 - September 2018
Geospatial Data Science Research Intern Oak Ridge National Laboratory	July 2017 - September 2017
Graduate Teaching Assistant University of California, Santa Barbara	September 2014 - July 2015
Graduate Research Assistant University of Pittsburgh	August 2012 - December 2013
EDUCATION	
Ph.D., Geography University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), Santa Barbara, CA	2014 - 2020
Specialization: spatial statistics, geospatial semantics, GeoAICommittee: Krzysztof Janowicz, Phaedon Kyriakidis, Keith Clarke	
M.S., Information Sciences University of Pittsburgh (PITT), Pittsburgh, PA	2012 - 2013
Specialization: geoinformaticsCommittee: Hassan Karimi, Stephen Hirtle	
Bachelor's Degree in Management Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, Taiyuan, China	2008 - 2012
• Specialization: information management and information science	

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Hu, Y., Gao, S., Yan, B., **Zhu, R.**, Cai, L., and Lao, N. (2021). A review of location encoding for GeoAI: Methods and applications. *International Journal of Geographic Information Science (accepted)*.
- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Cai, L., **Zhu, R.**, Regalia, B., Yan, B., and Shi, M. (2020). SE-KGE: A locationaware knowledge graph embedding model for geographic question answering and spatial semantic lifting. *Transactions in GIS*, 24(3), 623-655.
- Cai, L., Janowicz, K., Mai, G., Yan, B., and **Zhu, R.** (2020). Traffic transformer: Capturing the continuity and periodicity of time series for traffic forecasting. *Transactions in GIS*, 24(3), 736-755.
- Li, Z., Zhang, X., Zhu, R., Zhang, Z., and Weng Z. (2020). Integrating data-to-data correlation into inverse distance weighting. *Computational Geosciences*, 24, 203-216.
- Zhu, R., Janowicz, K., and Mai, G. (2019). Making direction a first-class citizen of Tobler's first law of geography. *Transactions in GIS*, 23(3), 398-416.
- Yan, B., Janowicz, K., Mai, G., and Zhu, R. (2019). A spatially-explicit reinforcement learning model for geographic knowledge graph summarization. *Transactions in GIS*, 23(3), 620-640.
- Li, Z., Zhang, X., Clarke, K. C., Liu, G., and Zhu, R. (2018). An automatic variogram modeling method with high reliability fitness and estimates. *Computers & Geosciences*, 120, 48-59.
- Davis, A. W., McBride, E. C., Janowicz, K., Zhu, R., and Goulias, K. G. (2018). Tour-based path analysis of long-distance non-commute travel behavior in California. *Transportation research record*, 2672(49), 1-11.
- Zhu, R., Hu, Y., Janowicz, K., and McKenzie, G. (2016). Spatial signature for geographic feature types: Examining gazetteer ontologies using spatial statistics. *Transactions in GIS*, 20(3), 333-355.
- Zhu, R., and Karimi, H. A. (2014). Automatic selection of landmarks for navigation guidance. Transactions in GIS, 19(2), 247-261.
- Karimi, H. A., Jiang, M., and **Zhu, R.** (2013). Pedestrian navigation services: Challenges and current trends. *Geomatica*, 67(4), 259-271.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (in revision & under review - only first-authored are listed)

- Zhu, R., Janowicz K., Cai L., and Mai G., (2021). Reasoning over higher-order qualitative spatial relations via neural networks. *International Journal of Geographic Information Science*. (in revision)
- Zhu, R., Janowicz K., Mai G., Cai L., and Shi M., (2021). COVID-Forecast-Graph: An open knowledge graph for consolidating COVID-19 forecasts and economic indicators. *Scientific Data*. (under review)

Peer-Reviewed Conference/Workshop Articles

- Zhu, R., Shimizu, C., Stephen, S., Zhou, Lu., Cai, L., Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Schildhauer, M., and Hitzler, P. (2021). SOSA-SHACL: Shapes constraint for the Sensor, Observation, Sample, and Actuator ontology. *In: Proceedings of 10th International Joint Conference on Knowledge Graphs*, December 6-8th, 2021, online (in press)
- Shimizu, C., Zhu, R., Mai, G., Fisher, C., Cai, L., Schildhauer, M., Janowicz, K., Hitzler, P., Zhou, L., and Stephen, S. (2021). A pattern for features on a hierarchical spatial grid. *In: Proceedings of 10th International Joint Conference on Knowledge Graphs*, December 6-8th, 2021, online (in press)
- Zhu, R., Cai, L., Mai, G., Shimizu, C., Fisher, C., Janowicz, K., Loptz-Carr, A., Schroeder, A., Schildhauer, M., Tian, Y., Stephen, S., and Liu, Z., (2021). Providing humanitarian relief support through knowledge graphs. *In: Proceedings of 11th International Conference on Knowledge Capture*, December 2-3th, 2021, online.

- Cai, L., Janowicz, K., Yan, B., Zhu, R., and Mai, G. (2021). Time in a box: Advancing knowledge graph completion with temporal scopes. *In: Proceedings of 11th International Conference on Knowledge Capture*, December 2-3th, 2021, online. (Best Paper Award)
- Zhu, R., Ambrose, S., Zhou, L., Shimizu, C., Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Hitzler, P., and Schildhauer, M. (2021). Environmental observations in knowledge graphs. *In: Proceedings of 2nd Workshop on Data and Research Objects Management for Linked Open Science*, October 24th, 2021, online.
- Shimizu, C., Zhu, R., Mai, G., Schildhauer, M., Janowicz, K., and Hitzler, P. (2021). A pattern for modeling causal relations between events. *In: Proceedings of 12th Workshop on Ontology Design and Patterns*, October 24th, 2021, online.
- Lafia, S., Zhu, R., and Regalia, B. (2021). Reimagining GIS instruction through concept-based learning. In: Proceedings of AGILE 2021. June 8 - 11, 2021, Crete, Greece.
- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Zhu, R., Cai, L., and Lao, N. (2021). Geographic question answering: Challenges, uniqueness, classification, and future directions. *In: Proceedings of AGILE 2021*. June 8 11, 2021, Crete, Greece.
- Shi, M., Janowicz, K., Cai, L., Mai, G., and Zhu, R. (2021). A socially aware Huff model for destination choice in nature-based tourism. In: Proceedings of AGILE 2021. June 8 - 11, 2021, Crete, Greece.
- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Yan, B., Zhu, R., Cai, L., and Lao, N. (2020). Multi-scale representation learning for spatial feature distributions using grid cells. *In: Proceedings of International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2020).* April 26 - 30, 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Zhu, R., McKenzie, G., and Janowicz, K. (2019). Are streets indicative of place types? In: Proceedings of Geographical and Cultural Aspects of Geoinformation: Issues and Solutions. June 17 20, 2019, Limassol, Cyprus.
- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Yan, B., Zhu, R., Ling, C., and Lao, N. (2019). Contextual graph attention for answering logical queries over incomplete knowledge graphs. *In: Proceedings of 10th International Conference on Knowledge Capture*. November 19 - 21, 2019, Los Angeles, CA.
- Cai, L., Janowicz, K., Yan, B., Mai, G., and Zhu, R. (2019). TransGCN: coupling transformation assumptions with graph convolutional networks for link prediction. *In: Proceedings of 10th International Conference on Knowledge Capture*. November 19 - 21, 2019, Los Angeles, CA. (Best Paper Award)
- Mai, G., Yan, B., Janowicz, K., and **Zhu, R.** (2019). Relaxing unanswerable geographic questions using a spatially explicit knowledge graph embedding model. *In: Proceedings of AGILE 2019.* June 17 20, 2019, Limassol, Cyprus. (Best Paper Award)
- Yan, B., Janowicz, K., Mai, G., and Zhu, R. (2018). xNet+SC: Classifying places based on images by incorporating spatial contexts. In: Proceedings of GIScience 2018: 10th International Conference on Geographic Information Science. August 28 31, 2018, Melbourne, Australia.
- Mai, G., Janowicz, K., Hu Y., Gao S., Zhu, R., Yan, B., McKenzie, G., and Uppal, A., and Regalia, B. (2018). Collections of points of interest: How to name them and why it matters? In: Proceedings of Spatial big data and machine learning in GIScience Workshop at GIScience 2018. August 28 31, 2018, Melbourne, Australia.
- Janowicz, K. Yan, B, Regalia, B., Zhu, R., and Mai, G. (2018). Debiasing knowledge graphs: Why female presidents are not like female popes. In: Proceedings of International Semantic Web Conference 2018. October 8 12, 2018, Monterey, CA.
- Zhu, R., Kyriakidis, P. C., and Janowicz, K. (2017). Beyond pairs: Generalizing the geo-dipole for quantifying spatial patterns in geographic fields. In A. Bregt, T. Sarjakoski, R. van Lammeren, & F. Rip (Eds.), Societal Geo-innovation: Selected Papers of the 20th AGILE Conference on Geographic Information Science. Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography (pp.331-348). Cham, Switzerland: Springer. (Best Paper Award)

- Janowicz, K., Hu, Y., McKenzie, G., Gao, S., Regalia, B., Mai, G., Zhu, R., Adams, B., and Taylor, K. (2016). Moon landing or safari? A study of systematic errors and their causes in geographic Linked Data. In: Proceedings of the 9th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2016). September 27 - 30, Montreal, Canada.
- Zhu, R., Janowicz, K., Yan, B., and Hu, Y. (2016). Which Kobani? A case study on the role of spatial statistics and semantics for coreference resolution across gazetteers. *In: GIScience 2016 Short Paper Proceedings. 9th International Conference on Geographic Information Science.* September 27 30, Montreal, Canada.
- Gao, S., Zhu, R., and Mai, G. (2016). Identifying local spatiotemporal autocorrelation patterns of taxi pick-ups and drop-offs. In: GIScience 2016 Short Paper Proceedings. 9th International Conference on Geographic Information Science. September 27 - 30, Montreal, Canada.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- Zhu, R. (2021). Directional operations. In J. P. Wilson (Eds), *The Geographic Information Science & Technology Body of Knowledge*, University Consortium for Geographic Information Science.
- Janowicz, K., McKenzie, G., Hu, Y., **Zhu, R.**, and Gao, S. (2019). Using semantic signatures for social sensing in urban environments. In C. Antoniou, L. Dimitriou, and F. Pereira (Eds) *Mobility patterns, big data and transport analytics*, 31-54, Elsevier.

Workshop/Symposium Short Papers & Extended Abstracts

- Zhu, R. (2019). Spatial data science: Fundamentals, uncertainty, and interpretability. 2019 Spatial Data Science Symposium. December 9 11, 2019, Santa Barbara, CA.
- Zhu, R. (2019). A high-order statistical approach to understand urban structures. 2019 Location-based Big Data Symposium, in conjunction with the 29th International Cartographic Conference. July 15 20, 2019, Tokyo, Japan.
- Zhu, R., and Janowicz, K. (2018). Adopting semantic signatures to quantify the uncertainty of volunteered geographic information. 13th International Symposium of Spatial Accuracy. May 21 - 25, 2018, Beijing, China. (Best Student Paper Presentation Award)
- Zhu, R., and Janowicz, K. (2018). Quantifying semantic uncertainties of volunteered geographic information to understand human travel behaviors. 15th International Conference on Travel Behavior Research. July 15 - 20, 2018, Santa Barbara, CA.
- Zhu, R., Janowicz, K., and Gao, S. (2017). Quantifying the attractiveness of destinations for modeling long distance travel patterns. *NSF Mobility Science Workshop*. May 11 12, 2017, Columbus, OH.

GRANTS

- "Local aspect of the global research" (Co-PI, \$20,000) 2021 Esri Inc.
- "Data-driven drought effect estimation" (Co-PI, \$25,000) 2016-2017 NSF National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- Providing Humanitarian Relief Support through Knowledge Graphs. 11th International Conference on Knowledge Capture. December 3, 2021, online. (oral presentation)
- Environmental Observations for Knowledge Graphs. 2nd Workshop on Data and Research Objects Management for Linked Open Science, in conjunction with the 20th International Semantic Web Conference. October 24, 2021, online. (oral presentation)

- A High-order Statistical Approach to Understand Urban Structures. 2019 Location-based Big Data Symposium, in conjunction with the 29th International Cartographic Conference. July 15, 2019, Tokyo, Japan. (oral presentation)
- Making Direction a First-class Citizen of Tobler's First Law of Geography. 2019 Esri Users Conference: Frontiers in GIScience. July 9, 2019, San Diego, California, CA. (oral presentation)
- A Spatially-Explicit Reinforcement Learning Model for Geographic Knowledge Graph Summarization. 2019 Esri Users Conference: Advances in GIScience. July 9, 2019, San Diego, California, CA. (oral presentation)
- Relaxing Unanswerable Geographic Questions Using a Spatially Explicit Knowledge Graph Embedding Model. 22nd Conference on Geo-information Science. June 20, 2019, Limassol, Cyprus. (oral presentation)
- Are Streets Indicative of Place Types? *GeoCultGIS Workshop*. June 17, 2019, Limassol, Cyprus. (oral presentation)
- Understanding Semantic Uncertainty in Volunteered Geographic Information. 2019 Annual Meeting of AAG (GIScience in the Post-Truth Era). April 5, 2019, Washington DC. (oral presentation)
- The Three-body Problem in Geography. 2019 Annual Meeting of AAG (Reckless Ideas in Geography and GIScience). April 6, 2019, Washington DC. (oral presentation and panel discussant)
- Quantifying Semantic Uncertainties of Volunteered Geographic Information to Understand Human Travel Behaviors. 15th International Conference on Travel Behavior Research. July 15, 2018, Santa Barbara, CA. (oral presentation)
- Adopting Semantic Signatures to Quantify the Uncertainty of Volunteered Geographic Information. 13th International Symposium of Spatial Accuracy. May 22, 2018, Beijing, China. (oral presentation)
- Utilizing Multiple-point Geostatistics to Model Higher-order Geospatial interactions. 2018 Annual Meeting of AAG. April 12, 2018, New Orleans, LA. (oral presentation)
- Quantifying the Attractiveness of Destinations for Modeling Long Distance Travel Patterns. NSF Mobility Science Workshop. May 12, 2017, Columbus, OH. (oral presentation)
- From the Geo-dipole to the Geo-multipole: A Framework of Applying Multiple-Point (Geo)Statistics for Geographic Field Analysis. 2017 Annual Meeting of AAG. April 7, 2017, Boston, MA. (oral presentation)
- IChing and Geography. 2017 Spatial@UCSB Lightning Talks. February 28, 2017, Santa Barbara, CA. (lightning talk)
- Which Kobani? A Case Study on the Role of Spatial Statistics and Semantics for Coreference Resolution Across Gazetteers. 9th International Conference in Geographic Information Science. September 28, 2016, Montreal, Canada. (poster presentation)
- Understanding the Semantics of Places in Gazetteers via Spatial Analysis. 2016 Annual Meeting of AAG. March 30, 2016, San Francisco, CA. (oral presentation)
- Spatial Signatures for Geographic Feature Types: Examining Gazetteer Ontologies using Spatial Statistics. 2016 Esri User Conference: GIScience Frontier Research Session. June 28, 2016, San Diego, CA. (oral presentation)
- Spatial Signatures for Geographic Feature Types: Examining Gazetteer Ontologies using Spatial Statistics. 12th Semantic Web Summer School. July 19, 2016, Bertinoro, Italy. (poster presentation)

AWARDS

•	Best Paper Award	December, 2021
	11th International Conference on Knowledge Capture (K-CAP 2021), online	
•	Jack and Laura Dangermond Graduate Research Fellowship Award Department of Geography, UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA	May, 2020
•	Best Paper Award 10th International Conference on Knowledge Capture (K-CAP 2019), Los Angeles, CA	November, 2019
•	Best Paper Award 22th International Conference on Geo-Information Science (AGILE 2019), Limassol, Cy	June, 2019 prus
•	Best Student Presentation Award 13th International Symposium of Spatial Accuracy, Beijing, China	May, 2018
•	Graduate Research Fellow NSF National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), Annapolis, MD	August, 2017
•	Best Paper Award 20th International Conference on Geo-Information Science (AGILE 2017), Wageningen,	May, 2017 Netherlands

FELLOWSHIPS & TRAVEL GRANTS

- UCSB 2019-2020 doctoral student travel grant, Summer 2019
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for the 29th International Cartographic Conference, Summer 2019
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for 2019 Esri Users Conference, Summer 2019
- Esri AGILE 2019 student travel award, Summer 2019
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for the 22nd Conference on Geo-information Science, Summer 2019
- UCSB Graduate Student Association travel award, Spring 2019
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for AAG, Spring 2019
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for the International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC), Fall 2018
- UCSB Research Mentoring Program (RMP) fellowship, Summer 2018
- Student travel award of the 15th International Conference on Travel Behavior Research, Summer 2018
- Student travel award of the 13th International Symposium of Spatial Accuracy, Spring 2018
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for the 13th International Symposium of Spatial Accuracy, Spring 2018
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for AAG, Spring 2018
- NSF travel grant for the workshop on Analyzing Movement and Mobility Within Geographic Context, Summer 2017
- UCSB Graduate Student Association travel award, Spring 2017
- NSF travel grants for Graduate Pursuits at the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), August 2016, January 2017, April 2017
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for AAG, Winter 2017
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for GIScience 2016, Fall 2016
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for AAG, Winter 2016
- Jack Dangermond travel grant for the 12th Semantic Web Summer School, Summer 2016

TEACHING

• Guest Lecturer GEOG 176B: Technical Issues in GIS / Spatial Data, UCSB	Winter 2020
• Lecturer GEOG 176A: Introduction to GIS, UCSB	Summer 2019
• Lecturer GEOG 176A: Introduction to GIS, UCSB	Summer 2018
• Guest Lecturer Spring 20 GEOG 176C: GIS Applications, UCSB	19, Spring 2018, Spring 2017
• Guest Lecturer GEOG 178/258: Conceptual Modeling and Programming for the Geo-Science	Winter 2017 ees, UCSB
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 176C: GIS Applications, UCSB	Spring 2017
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 178/258: Conceptual Modeling and Programming for the Geo-Science	Winter 2016 wes, UCSB
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 176A: Introduction to GIS, UCSB	Fall 2015, Fall 2014
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 176A: Introduction to GIS, UCSB	Summer 2015
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 172: Intermediate Geographical Data Analysis, UCSB	Spring 2015
• Teaching Assistant GEOG 3A: Ocean and Atmosphere, UCSB	Winter 2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Peer Reviewer for Academic Journals

- International Journal of Geographic Information Science
- Applied Geography
- The Professional Geographer
- Transactions in GIS
- Journal of Spatial Information Science
- Annals of the American Association of Geographers
- ISPRS International Journal of Geo-Information
- International Journal of Geospatial Environmental Research
- IEEE Transactions on Engineering Management
- International Regional Science Review
- Annals of GIS

- Scientific Reports
- Semantic Web Journal
- Journal of Location Based Service

Guest Editorial Board

- Semantic Web Journal: Special Issue on Semantic Web for the Global Food System
- Transactions in GIS: Special Issue on Methods, Models and Resources for Geospatial Knowledge and GeoAI

Community Services

- **Program Committee**: 19th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC 2022), May 29-June 2, 2022, Hersonissos, Greece
- Program Chair: 2nd Spatial Data Science Symposium (SDSS 2021), December 13-14, 2021, online
- Virtual Conference Chair: 11th International Conference on Knowledge Capture (K-CAP 2021), December 2-3, 2021, online
- **Program Committee**: 11th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2021), September 27-30, 2021, online
- **Program Committee**: 1st International Workshop on Methods, Models, and Resources for Geospatial Knowledge Graphs and GeoAI (GeoKG'21), September 26, 2021, online
- **Program Committee**: 12th Workshop on Ontology Design and Patterns (WOP 2021), October 24, 2021, online
- **Organizer**: 14th spatial@ucsb.global Geography for the Upcoming Generation: Its Role in Contributing to a Sustainable Future, June 2, 2021, online
- Program Committee: 18th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC 2021), June 6-10, 2021, online
- Chair: Center for Spatial Studies at UCSB 2021 Annual Spatial Lightning Talks, March 16, online
- Judge Committee: 2020 Mapping Horizons Competition Tackling Crisis Through Geospatial Impact, online
- Steering Committee: International Geographical Union Task Force for Young & Early Career Geographers (IGU-YECG), 2020 2024
- **Program Committee**: 19th International Semantic Web Conference, November 2-4, 2020, Virtual Conference
- **Program Committee**: 17th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC 2020), May 31-June 4, 2020, Crete, Greece
- **Program Committee**: 3rd GeoAI and Deep Learning Symposium, AAG 2020, April 6-20, 2020, Denver, CO
- Lead Organizer: 3rd GeoAI and Deep Learning Symposium: Deep Learning of Geospatial Patterns & Applications, AAG 2020, April 6-20, 2020, Denver, CO
- **Program Committee**: 1st International Conference on Spatial Data Intelligence (SpatialDI 2020), March 27-18, 2020, Shenzhen, China
- Student Organizer: Spatial Data Science Symposium 2019, December 9-11, 2019, Santa Barbara, CA
- **Chair**: 2nd GeoAI and Deep Learning Symposium: Deep Learning of Geospatial Patterns & Applications, AAG 2019, April 6, 2019, Washington DC
- **Program Committee**: 16th Extended Semantic Web Conference (ESWC 2019), June 2-6, 2019, Portoroz, Slovenia
- Student Director: AAG Geographic Information Science and Systems (GISS) Specialty Group, 2018-2019

- Committee: GISS Specialty Group Student Paper Competition, AAG 2019, April 5, 2019, Washington, DC
- Local Committee: 8th International Conference on the Internet of Things (IoT 2018), October 15-18, 2018, Santa Barbara, CA
- Chair: Fundamentals of Machine Learning Workshop at the 15th International Conference on Travel Behavior Research, July 16, 2018, Santa Barbara, CA
- Lead Organizer: 1st GeoAI and Deep Learning Symposium: Deep Learning of Geospatial Patterns & Applications, AAG 2018, April 14, 2018, New Orleans, LA
- Lead Organizer: Session of Uncertainties in Spatial Patterns, AAG 2017, April 7, 2017, Boston, MA
- Local Committee: SPATIAL 2015, Center for Spatial Studies@UCSB, December 9-11, 2015, Santa Barbara, CA

Department Services

- Faculty Representative Committee: UCSB Geography Department, 2019-2020
- Event Committee: UCSB Geography Department, 2015-2017
- Outreach Committee: UCSB Geography Department, 2014-2015

Community Membership

- International Spatial Accuracy Research Association
- International Association of Mathematical Geosciences (IAMG)
- Association of American Geographers (AAG)
- International Association of Chinese Professionals in Geographic Information Sciences (CPGIS)