# Susu Zhang, Ph.D.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Departments of Psychology and Statistics 603 E Daniel St, Champaign IL 61820 E-mail: szhan105@illinois.edu

Website: sites.google.com/view/susuzhang/

### **EDUCATION**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

August 2018

Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

December 2017

M.S. in Quantitative Psychology

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL M.S. in Applied Mathematics: Optimization and Algorithms May 2017

Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, PA

May 2014

B.A.: Psychology and Mathematics

#### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

# University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Assistant Professor of Psychology and Statistics

August 2020 - Present

### Columbia University

Postdoctoral Research Scientist in the Department of Statistics

July 2018 - June 2020

#### ACT Inc.

Psychometric Intern

June 2016 - August 2016

# RESEARCH INTERESTS

Process Data Analysis: Log data, interevent times, neural language modelling;

Latent Variable Modeling: Item response theory, cognitive diagnosis, missing data, longitudinal models, response time, estimation, model comparison, nonlinear models;

Adaptive Design: Computerized adaptive testing, online calibration, adaptive learning, interactive assessment design and evaluation;

**Assessment Development**: Automated test assembly, item pool development, differential item functioning, linking/equating/scaling, test security.

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Instructor

#### Courses:

• PSYC 490: Measurement and Test Development Lab

Fall 2020

• STAT/CSE 428: Statistical Computing

Spring 2021

Lab Instructor and Teaching Assistant

#### Courses:

• PSYC 490: Measurement and Test Development Lab

Fall 2015

• PSYC 301: Statistical Methods for Psychology

Spring 2016, Spring 2017

# Bryn Mawr College

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant

#### Courses:

• PSYC 105: Introductory Psychology

Fall 2013

• PSYC 205: Experimental Methods and Statistics

Spring 2013, Spring 2014

#### MENTORING EXPERIENCE

# Columbia University, Department of Statistics

March 2019 - Present

Graduate student mentoring

# Supervised projects:

- Modelling missing data in timed-tests using response time censoring.
- Multidimensional IRT modelling of passage-based questions in reading comprehension tests.

Undergraduate summer exchange student mentoring

# Supervised projects:

• Neural language modelling of process data from PISA 2012 problem solving tasks.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Statistics January 2018 - May 2018 Undergraduate student mentoring

#### Supervised projects:

• Software development for the hmcdm R package.

#### CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

# Shanghai Municipal Educational Examinations Authority

August 2019 - September 2019

• College entrance exam English reading item difficulty prediction based on experts' ratings.

### TAL Education Group, Silicon Valley R&D Center

June 2018 - September 2019

- Development of classroom assessments, including assessment design, item pool construction, automated test assembly, and scoring.
- Providing expertise and knowledge of appropriate statistical and psychometric techniques.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

\*: Corresponding author; †: Student collaborator; ‡: Authors alphabetically ordered.

# Accepted:

- Zhang, S., Bergner, Y., DiTrapani, J., & Jeon, M. (2021). Modeling the Interaction between Resilience and Ability in Assessments with Allowances for Multiple Attempts. Computers in Human Behavior.
- Fu, Z., **Zhang, S.\***, Su, Y., Tao, J., & Shi, N. (2021). A Gibbs Sampler for the Four-Parameter Logistic Item Response Model via a Data Augmentation Scheme. *British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*.

- Fang, G., Guo, J.<sup>†</sup>, Xin, X.<sup>†</sup>, Ying, Z., & **Zhang, S.**\* (2020). Identifiability of Bifactor Models. Statistica Sinica.
- Chang, H.-H., Wang, C., & **Zhang**, S.<sup>‡</sup> (2020). Statistical Applications in Educational Measurement. Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application.
- Rescorla, L., Jordan, P., Zhang, S., Baelen-King, G., Althoff, R., Ivanova, M., & International ASEBA Consortium. (2020). Latent Class Analysis of the CBCL Dysregulation Profile for 6- to 16-Year-Olds in 29 Societies. Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology.
- Wang, S., **Zhang**, **S.**, & Shen, Y. (2019). A Joint Modeling Framework of Responses and Response Times to Track Skill Acquisition and Fluency. *Multivariate Behavioral Research*.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2019). A Multilevel Logistic Hidden Markov Model for Learning under Cognitive Diagnosis. Behavior Research Methods.
- Zhang, S., & Wang, S. (2018). Modelling Learner Heterogeneity: A Mixture Learning Model with Responses and Response Times. Frontiers in Psychology, section Quantitative Psychology and Measurement.
- Zhang, S., Douglas, J. A., Wang, S., & Culpepper, S. A. Reduced-Reparameterized Unified Model Applied to Learning Spatial Reasoning Skills. In von Davier, M., & Lee, Y.-S. (2018). Handbook of Diagnostic Classification Models.
- Wang, S., Zhang, S., Douglas, J. A., & Culpepper, S. A. (2018). Using Response Times to Assess Learning Progress: A Joint Model for Responses and Response Times. Measurement: Interdisciplinary Research and Perspectives.
- Zhang, S., Chang, H-H. (2017). From Smart Testing to Smart Learning: How Testing Technology Can Assist the New Generation of Education. *International Journal of Smart Technology and Learning*.
- Kang, H-A., **Zhang**, S., & Chang, H-H. (2017). Dual-Objective Item Selection Criteria in Cognitive Diagnostic Computerized Adaptive Testing. *Journal of Educational Measurement*.

# Under Review/Revision:

- Tang, X., **Zhang**, **S.**, Wang, Z., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. ProcData: An R Package for Process Data Analysis. *Under 2nd round review at Psychometrika*.
- Zhang, S., Wang, Z., Qi, J., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. Accurate Assessment via Process Data. Under 1st round review at Psychometrika.
- Guo, J.<sup>†</sup>, Xu, X.<sup>†</sup>, Ying, Z., & **Zhang, S.**\* Modelling Not-Reached Items in Timed Tests: A Response Time Censoring Approach. *Under 2nd round review at Psychometrika*.

# In Preperation:

- Zhang, S., Tang, X., He, Q., Liu, J., and Ying, Z. External Correlates of Adult Digital Problem-Solving Behavior: Log Data Analysis of a Large-Scale Assessment. *Preparing for resubmission*.
- Zhang, S., Culpepper, S. A. Bayesian Estimation of a General Identifiable Restricted Latent Class Model. *Preparing for resubmission*.
- Qi, J.<sup>†</sup>, **Zhang, S.**, Liu, J., & Ying, Z. Differential Item Functioning Detection and Correction with Process Features. *Under internal review*.
- Zhang, S., Tang, X., Liu, J., Ying, Z., & He, Q. Exploring the Information in Interevent Times from Log Data.
- Zhang, S., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. Uncovering Cross-Situational Consistency with Canonical Correlation Analysis of Process Data.
- Kern, J. L., **Zhang, S.**, Sun, T., Zhang, B., Amrhein, R., Deceanne, A., and Lee, A. An Ideal-Point Multidimensional Computerized Adaptive Test for the Big Five Personality Assessment.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Invited Talks:**

- Zhang, S., Wang, Z., Qi, J., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. (2020, December). Accurate Assessment via Process Data. Invited Seminar Talk at the School of Mathematics and Statistics, Northeast Normal University, Jilin Province, China.
- Zhang, S., Tang, X., Liu, J., Ying, Z., & He, Q. (2020, July). Uncovering Cross-Situational Behavioral Consistency with Canonical Correlation Analysis of Log Data. Spotlight Talk at the 85th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society.
- Zhang, S., Lin, H., Gao, X., Chang, H-H. (2017, June). Real-Time Assessment of Learning Progress
  Using Cognitive Diagnostic-Computerized Adaptive Testing. ACTNext Invited Symposium Series,
  Iowa City, IA.
- Chang, H-H., Zhang, S. (2016, December). Psychometrics in the Era of "Internet + Education".
   2nd Annual Conference of the Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment toward Basic Education Quality, Beijing, China.
- Chang, H-H., **Zhang, S.** (2016, September). Cognitive Diagnosis and "Internet + Measurement and Evaluations". Fourth Conference on the Statistical Methods in Psychometrics at Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Zhang, S., Chang, H-H. (2015, July). Using Computerized Adaptive Testing under the DINO Model for Psychological Testing: A Simulation Study. Psychometrics in the Big Data Era Workshop at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China.
- Zhang, S., Chang, H-H. (2015, July). From Smart Testing to Smart Learning: Theory, Research, and Potentials. Psychometrics in the Big Data Era Workshop at Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China.

#### **Training Sessions:**

- Liu, J, Tang, X., & **Zhang, S.** (2021, June). Statistical Learning of Process Data: Methods, Software, and Applications. Annual Meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education.
- Liu, J., Tang, X., & **Zhang**, **S.** (2020, July). Workshop on Statistical Learning for Process Data. http://www.scientifichpc.com/processdata/workshop.html
- Douglas, J., Culpepper, S., Chen, Y., Balamuta, J., Chang, H-H., Wang, S., Zhang, S., Fellouris, G., & Ye, S. (2018, April). Techniques and Software for Q-Matrix Estimation and Modeling Learning in Cognitive Diagnosis. 2018 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting. New York, NY.
- Zhang, S., Chang, H-H. (2017, December). Stationary and Real-Time Assessment of Learning Progress with Diagnostic Classification Models. 2017 Global Chinese Conference on Educational Information and Assessment, Taichung, Taiwan.

### Leading Conference Presentations:

- Zhang, S., Wang, Z., Qi, J., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. (2021, June). Improving Scoring Precision with Features Extracted from Log Data. Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the National Council of Measurement in Education.
- Zhang, S., Tang, X., Wang, Z., Liu, J., Ying, Z., & He, Q. (2019, July). Understanding Respondent Characteristics through Log Data and Interevent Times. Paper presented at the 83rd International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Santiago, Chile.
- Zhang, S., Tang, X., Wang, Z., Liu, J., Ying, Z., & He, Q. (2019, June). Understanding Interactive Items' Characteristics by Deep Learning-based Process Data Analysis. *Paper presented at the 2019 International Association of Computerized Adaptive Testing Conference*. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

- Zhang, S., & Wang, S. (2019, April). Understanding Learner Heterogeneity: A Mixture Learning Model with Responses and Response Times. *Electronic poster presented at the 2019 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting*. Toronto, Canada.
- Zhang, S., & Wang, S. (2018, July). Modeling Heterogeneity in Online Learners: A Mixture Learning Model with Responses and Response Times. Paper presented at the 83rd International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. New York, NY.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2018, April). A Multilevel Logistic Hidden Markov Model for Learning under Cognitive Diagnosis. Paper presented at the 2018 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting. New York, NY.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2017, July). A Multilevel Logistic Hidden Markov Model for Learning under Cognitive Diagnosis. Paper presented at the 82nd International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Zurich, Switzerland.
- Zhang, S., Lin, H., Gao, X., & Chang, H-H. (2017, April). Measuring Adaptive Learning Progress Using Cognitive Diagnostic-Computerized Adaptive Testing. Paper presented at the 2017 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting. Austin, TX.
- Zhang, S., & Culpepper, S. A. (2017, April). Bayesian Estimation of a General Class of Restricted Latent Class Models. *Paper presented at the 2017 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting*. Austin, TX.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2017, April). Testlet Selection Method for Cognitive Diagnostic-Computerized Adaptive Testing. *Poster presented at the 2017 American Educational Research Association meeting*. Austin, TX.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2016, April). The Relationship between Q-Matrix Specification and Item Exposure Rate in CD-CAT. Paper presented at the 2016 National Council on Measurement in Education meeting, Washington, D.C.
- Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2015, July). Using Computerized Adaptive Testing under the DINO Model for Psychological Testing: A Simulation Study. Paper presented at the 80th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Beijing, China.

#### **Contributed Conference Presentations:**

- Qi, J.<sup>†</sup>, **Zhang**, S., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. (2020, July). Differential Item Functioning Detection and Removal by Process Features and Transfer Learning. Paper presented at the 85th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society.
- Guo, J.<sup>†</sup>, **Zhang, S.**, Xu, X.<sup>†</sup>, & Ying, Z. (2020, July). Modelling Not-Reached Items with Response Time Censoring Approach. Paper presented at the 85th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society.
- Xu, X.<sup>†</sup>, **Zhang, S.**, Guo, J.<sup>†</sup>, Fang, G., & Ying, Z. (2020, July). Latent Variable Selection for Testlet-Based Tests Paper presented at the 85th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society.
- Tang, X., **Zhang, S.**, Wang, Z., Liu, J., & Ying, Z. (2019, July). Cross-Item Response Process Prediction by Transformer. Paper presented at the 84th International Meeting of the Psychometric Society. Santiago, Chile.
- Wang, S., & Zhang, S. (2019, April). Measuring Learning Outcome Using Responses and Response Times: Mastery and Fluency. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, Toronto, Canada.
- Wang, S., Zhang, S., Douglas, J., & Culpepper, S. (2018, July). A Joint Modeling Framework Using Responses and Response Times to Track Skill Acquisition: Model Estimation and Application. Paper presented at the 2018 Joint Statistical Meeting, Vancouver, Canada.

- Chang, H-H., Wang, S., & Zhang, S. (2017, July). Some Promising Advancements Concerning CAT Foundation and Implementations. Paper presented at the 81st International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, Zurich, Switzerland.
- Chang, H-H., Kang, H-A., & Zhang, S. (2017, April). Using Cognitive Diagnostic Computerized Adaptive Testing to Help Classroom Learning. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, San Antonio, TX.
- Kern, J. L., Zhang, S., Sun, T., Zhang, B., Amrhein, R., Deceanne, A., & Lee, A. (2016, October). Multidimensional Computerized Adaptive Test for the Big Five Personality Assessment. Paper presented at the annual Ideas in Testing Research Seminar, Chicago, IL.
- Kang, H.-A., Zhang, S., & Chang, H-H. (2015, April). Jensen-Shannon Information as a Dual Objective Item Selection Criterion in CD-CAT. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

### GRANT SUPPORT

# **Pending Grants:**

• IES 84.324P: Analysis of NAEP Mathematics Process, Outcome, and Survey Data to Understand Test-Taking Behavior and Mathematics Performance of Learners with Disabilities

#### SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

The **hmcdm** R package

Creator/maintainer

- A package for fitting hidden Markov cognitive diagnosis models on longitudinal data for learning.
- https://github.com/tmsalab/hmcdm

The **ProcData** R package

Co-author

- A package for exploratory process data analysis.
- https://github.com/xytangtang/ProcData

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

# Managing Editor:

• Applied Psychological Measurement (Jan 2017 - Jan 2019)

# Manuscript Reviewer:

- Applied Psychological Measurement
- Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice
- Handbook of Diagnostic Classification Models
- Behavioral Research Methods
- Journal of Classification
- International Journal of Testing

- Frontiers in Psychology
- Educational and Psychological Measurement
- Psychometrika
- Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology
  - AERA Open
  - Large-Scale Assessments in Education

# Conference Proposal Reviewer:

- American Educational Research Association Annual Conference
- American Educational Research Association SIG: Cognition and Assessment

# Grant Proposal Reviewer:

• National Science Foundation: Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics

### Committee Member:

• Graduate Student Committee: Psychometric Society (2019 - 2020)

### Volunteer:

• The 82nd International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, New York, NY

# HONORS AND AWARDS

# University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign:

- Jeffrey Tanaka Memorial Award, Department of Psychology, 2018.
- Student Travel Award, Department of Psychology, 2018.
- Converence Travel Award, Graduate College, 2017.
- List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Students, Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning, 2016.
- Hobson Fellowship, Department of Psychology, 2014 2015 & 2015 2016.

# **Competitions:**

Honorary mention (5th place), NAEP Data Mining Contest, 2020 (https://sites.google.com/view/dataminingcompetition2019/home)