May 2026

Di Wang

Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute
University of Utah
Salt Lake City UT 84112
385-985-8376
di.wang@utah.edu

Research Interests

Social computing; natural language processing; crisis informatics; human-centered data science

Education

Ph.D. Computer Science — December 2024
Dissertation Title: Understanding Public Perception in Support of Official Crisis Communication
Advisor: Prof. Marina Kogan
University of Utah

M.S. Electrical and Computer Engineering — May 2015
B.S. Electrical Engineering — May 2014
Georgia Institute of Technology

Academic Employment

Post-Doctoral Fellow — July 2025-Present
Beyond the Emergency: AI Agent for Long-Term Recovery from Natural Hazard
Divya Chandrasekhar, One-U Responsible AI Initiative,
Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute, University of Utah

Post-Doctoral Fellow — January-June 2025
Sweetpea: Automating the Implementation and Documentation of Unbiased Experimental Designs
Matthew Flatt, Kahlert School of Computing, University of Utah

Research Assistant — August 2019-December 2024
Public Perception and Official Crisis Communication on Social Media
Marina Kogan, Kahlert School of Computing, University of Utah

Teaching Assistant — Spring 2020
Data Wrangling
Kahlert School of Computing, University of Utah

Research Assistant — May 2017- April 2019
Scalable Topological Data Visualization
Valerio Pascucci, Scientific Computing and Imaging Institute, University of Utah

Teaching Assistant — Fall 2018
Programming for Engineers
Kahlert School of Computing, University of Utah

Student Internship — Summer 2018
Scalable Topological Data Visualization and Data Science Summer Institute
Lawrence Livermore National Lab

Teaching Assistant Spring/Summer 2014
Electrical and Electronic Circuits
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
Teaching Assistant Spring 2013
Digital Design Lab
School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
Tutor January 2013-May 2014
Learning Assistant Program
Office of Undergraduate Education, Georgia Institute of Technology

Refereed Journal & Conference Publications

Wang, D. , Aswani, P., Kogan, M., Kirby, R. Don't Shoot the Messenger: How Source Context Shapes Human and Model Interpretation of Online Discourse. *Under Review*.

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. PIO Crisis Communication on Social Media Across Agencies: Social Listening, Public Perception, and Design Directions. Completed Research, *ISCRAM 2026 Conference Proceedings*, The Hague, the Netherlands.

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. What's Gov Got to Do with it?: Pandemic crisis communication in a polarized environment. *Proceedings of ACM CSCW 2025*.

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. Resonance+: Operationalizing Protective Action Decision Model for Finding Information Useful for Public Information Officers. *ACM Transactions on Social Computing, 2024*.

Wang, D.*, Zhuang, Y.*, Riloff, E., Kogan, M. Recognizing Social Cues in Crisis Situations. *The 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation*, Torino, Italia.

Wang, D., & Kogan, M. Resonance+: Augmenting Collective Attention to Find Information on Public Cognition and Perception of Risk, *Work in Progress, ISCRAM 2023 Conference Proceedings*, Omaha, NE.

Liu, S., Wang, D., Maljovec, D., Anirudh, R., Thiagarajan, J.J., Jacobs, S.A., Essen, B.C., Hysom, D.A., Yeom, J., Gaffney, J.A., Peterson, L., Robinson, P.B., Bhatia, H., Pascucci, V., Spears, B.K., & Bremer, P. (2020). Scalable Topological Data Analysis and Visualization for Evaluating Data-Driven Models in Scientific Applications. *IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics*, 26, 291-300.

Posters and Workshop Papers

Wang, D. "The Problem Goes Beyond Data Deluge: the Gap between Official Risk Communication Channels and the Social Media Data" Presented at the workshop on Who Has an Interest in "Public Interest Technology"?: *Critical Questions for Working with Local Governments & Impacted Communities* at CSCW'22

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. "Resonance+: Leveraging Collective Attention & PADM for Finding Useful Information for Emergency Responders." Poster presented at the *International Conference on Computational Social Science* (IC2S2), 2022.

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. "What Locals Think: Estimating Exposure and Attention during Natural Disaster." Presented at the workshop on Interrogating Human-centered Data Science: Taking Stock of Opportunities and Limitations at CHI 2022.

Wang, D. & Kogan, M. “Human-Centered Approach for Identifying Resonant Social Media Content.” Presented at the workshop on Mapping Out Human-Centered Data Science: Methods, Approaches, and Best Practices at *20th International Conference on Supporting Group Work* (GROUP’2020), Sanibel Island, FL.

Professional Presentations

Wang, D. (May 20, 2024) Recognizing Social Cues in Crisis Situations. Presentation at 2024 Joint International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Language Resources and Evaluation.

Wang, D. (May 28, 2023). Public Cognition and Perception on Social Media in Crisis. Presentation at ISCRAM ‘2023 Doctoral Consortium.

Wang, D. (May 31, 2023). Resonance+: Augmenting Collective Attention to Find Information on Public Cognition and Perception of Risk. Presentation at ISCRAM ‘2023.

Wang, D. (November 10, 2022). Resonance+: Leveraging Collective Attention & PADM for Finding Useful Information for Emergency Responders. Poster Presentation at Utah Disaster Resilience Symposium

External Service

Reviewer 2024
ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW)

Reviewer 2024
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)

Reviewer 2021
ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work And Social Computing (CSCW)

Professional Membership

Association for Computing Machinery