

Junting Wang

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Ph.D. in Computer Science Aug 2022 - Present
Advisor: [Hari Sundaram](#)
- MS in Computer Science Aug 2020 - May 2022
- BS in Computer Science and Applied Mathematics Aug 2016 - May 2020

PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS

- [1] **Junting Wang**, Xinrui He, Yunzhe Li, Hari Sundaram. *Aspect-Decomposed Causal Representation Learning for Sequential Recommendation*. [Under review].
- [2] **Junting Wang**, Yetian Chen, Chenghuan Guo, Hari Sundaram, Yan Gao. *Learning Content-Invariant Item Representations for Sequential Cold-Start Recommendation*. [Under review].
- [3] Xinrui He, Mengting Ai, **Junting Wang**, Curtiss Cook, Jingrui He. *Graph-Based EHR Imputation with Risk-Aware Conformal Selection*. In the 32nd ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (**KDD**), 2026.
- [4] **Junting Wang**, Chenghuan Guo, Jiao Yang, Hanhui Guo, Hari Sundaram, Yan Gao. *Multi-Modal Relational Item Representation Learning for Inferring Substitutable and Complementary Item*. In the 49th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (**SIGIR**), 2026. [[Paper](#)].
- [5] Yunzhe Li, **Junting Wang**, Hari Sundaram. *LLM-RecG: LLM-Driven Cross-Domain Sequential Recommendation: A Framework for Zero-Shot Generalization*. In the 19th ACM Recommender Systems Conference (**RecSys**), 2025. [[Paper](#)].
- [6] **Junting Wang***, Praneet Rathi*, Hari Sundaram. *A Pre-Trained Zero-Shot Sequential Recommendation Framework via Popularity Dynamics*. In the 18th ACM Recommender Systems Conference (**RecSys**), 2024. [[Paper](#)].
- [7] **Junting Wang***, Aravind Sankar*, Adit Krishnan, Hari Sundaram. *Self-Supervised Attributed Structural Role Learning in Graph Neural Networks*. In Knowledge and Information Systems (**KAIS**), 2022. [[Paper](#)].
- [8] **Junting Wang***, Aravind Sankar*, Adit Krishnan, Hari Sundaram. *ProtoCF: Prototypical Collaborative Filtering for Few-Shot Item Recommendation*. In the 15th ACM Recommender Systems Conference (**RecSys**), 2021. [[Paper](#)].
- [9] Kanika Narang, Adit Krishnan, **Junting Wang**, Chaoqi Yang, Hari Sundaram, Carolyn Sutter. *Ranking User-Generated Content via Multi-Relational Graph Convolution*. In the 44th International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (**SIGIR**), 2021. [[Paper](#)].
- [10] **Junting Wang***, Aravind Sankar*, Adit Krishnan, Hari Sundaram. *Beyond Localized Graph Neural Networks: An Attributed Motif Regularization Framework*. In the 20th IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (**ICDM**), 2020. [[Paper](#)].

(*indicates equal contribution)

EXPERIENCE

- **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** Urbana, IL
Research Assistant Aug 2020 - Present
 - Conducted research on trustworthy recommender systems and graph neural networks, focusing on long-tail representation learning, sparsity mitigation, and generalization under distribution shift.
 - Developing causal representation learning frameworks for sequential recommendation, including counterfactual intervention methods for aspect-level user preference modeling and post-training alignment of generative recommender systems.
- **Amazon - Retail - International Machine Learning** Seattle, WA
Applied Scientist Intern Summers 2024 & 2025
 - Designed a multi-modal item representation learning framework integrating item-item relationships and content modalities and achieved **39.2%** improvement over baselines across five datasets, particularly in cold-start settings.
 - Developed a content-invariant item representation learning framework for sequential cold-start recommendation, mitigating spurious multi-modal signals, having **10.5%** improvement over baselines across multiple datasets.
- **Amazon - Alexa AI - Entity Resolution** Cambridge, MA
Applied Scientist Intern Summer 2022
 - Built a cross-domain representation learning framework unifying user representations across catalog domains for entity-based personalization, achieving **5%** improvement over production system on internal and external datasets.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Reviewer for WSDM (2023-2025), ACL (2023, 2026), WWW (2024-2026), SIGIR (2025-2026), and KDD (2025-2026).