
SHORT BIO	MA Zhixin is currently a Research Scientist at Singapore Management University. He earned his Ph.D. from Singapore Management University in 2024 and his Bachelor's degree from Shandong University in 2019. His research interests span multimedia computing and human-in-the-loop interactive systems. His current work focuses on the grounding and reasoning of MLLMs.	
EXPERIENCE	Research Scientist <i>Singapore Management University</i> • Research area: Cross-Modality Reasoning of MLLMs	2025 - present Singapore
	Research Assistant <i>National University of Singapore</i> • Advisor: Prof. Wenqiang Lei & Prof. Tat-Seng Chua • Research area: Semantic Parsing	2019 - 2020 Singapore
EDUCATION	Singapore Management University <i>School of Computing and Information Systems</i> <i>Ph.D. in Computer Science</i> • Advisor: Prof. Chong-Wah Ngo • Dissertation topic: Interactive Video Search on Large-Scale Corpora	Singapore 2020 - 2024
	Shandong University <i>School of Computer Science and Technology</i> <i>B.E. in Computer Science and Technology (Elite Class)</i> • Advisor: Prof. Tian Gan & Prof. Liqiang Nie	Jinan, China 2015 - 2019
PUBLICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Chao Chen, Zhixin Ma, Yongqi Li, Yupeng Hu, Yinwei Wei, Wenjie Li, Liqiang Nie. Reasoning in the dark: Interleaved vision-text reasoning in latent space. <i>Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics</i>, 2026.2. Dongjie Cheng, Yongqi Li, Zhixin Ma, Hongru Cai, Yupeng Hu, Wenjie Wang, Liqiang Nie, Wenjie Li. Omni-R1: Towards the Unified Generative Paradigm for Multimodal Reasoning. <i>Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics</i>, 2026.3. Burak Satar*, Zhixin Ma*, Patrick A. Irawan, Wilfried A. Mulyawan, Jing Jiang, Ee-Peng Lim, Chong-Wah Ngo. Seeing Culture: A Benchmark for Visual Reasoning and Grounding. <i>The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing</i>, 2025.4. Zhixin Ma, Chong-Wah Ngo. Robust Relevance Feedback for Interactive Known-Item Video Search. <i>ACM International Conference on Multimedia Retrieval</i>, 2025.5. Zhixin Ma, Jiaxin Wu, Chong-Wah Ngo. Leveraging LLMs and Generative Models for Interactive Known-Item Video Search. <i>International Conference on Multimedia Modeling</i>, 2024.6. Zhixin Ma, Jiaxin Wu, Weixiong Loo, Chong-Wah Ngo. Reinforcement Learning Enhanced PicHunter for Interactive Search. <i>International Conference on Multimedia Modeling</i>, 2023.7. Zhixin Ma, Chong-Wah Ngo. Interactive Video Corpus Moment Retrieval using Reinforcement Learning. <i>ACM International Conference on Multimedia</i>, 2022. Oral & Top rated paper award: 13 out of 690 accepted papers (1.88%)	

- PUBLICATIONS
8. Yu-Tong Cheng, Jiaxin Wu, **Zhixin Ma**, Jiangshan He, Xiao-Yong Wei, Chong-Wah Ngo. Interactive Video Search with Multi-modal LLM Video Captioning. *International Conference on Multimedia Modeling*, 2025.
 9. Jakub Lokoc, ..., **Zhixin Ma**, Stefanos Vrochidis. Interactive Video Retrieval in the Age of Effective Joint Embedding Deep Models. *Multimedia System*, 2024.
 10. **Zhixin Ma**, Jiaxin Wu, Zhijian Hou, Chong-Wah Ngo. Reinforcement Learning-Based Interactive Video Search. *International Conference on Multimedia Modeling*, 2022.
 11. Jiaxin Wu, Phuong Anh Nguyen, **Zhixin Ma**, Chong-Wah Ngo. SQL-like interpretable interactive video search. *International Conference on Multimedia Modeling*, 2021.
 12. Wenqiang Lei, Weixin Wang, **Zhixin Ma**, Tian Gan, Wei Lu, Min-Yen Kan and Tat-Seng Chua. Re-examining the Role of Schema Linking Text-to-SQL. *EMNLP*, 2020.

- AWARDS
AND
HONORS
- **Presidential Doctoral Fellowship**, Singapore Management University 2023
 - **Dean’s List**, Singapore Management University 2023
 - **The Second Runner-up**, Video Browsing Showdown 2023
 - **Top Rated Paper Award**, ACM Multimedia 2022
 - **Student Travel Grant**, ACM Multimedia 2022
 - **The Second Runner-up**, Video Browsing Showdown 2021

- ACADEMIC
SERVICES
- **Invited Reviewer:** IEEE Transactions on Multimedia (TMM), ACM Transactions on Multimedia Computing, Communications, and Applications (TOMM), IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (TKDE), IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology (TCSVT), ACM Transactions on the Web (TWeb), ACM Transactions on Intelligent Systems and Technology (TIST), ACM International Conference on Multimedia (MM), Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), International Joint Conferences on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI)
 - **Volunteer:** ACM Multimedia 2022, WWW 2024, ICAIF 2025

- TEACHING
ASSISTANT
- SMT481: Smart-City Operations Research AY2024
 - IS446: Managing Customer Relations with Analytics: Asian Insights AY2023
 - CS702: Computational Interaction AY2022
 - CS601: Introduction to Artificial Intelligence AY2021