HONGLI ZHAN

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Education

The University of Texas at Austin

Austin, TX

Ph.D. in Computational Linguistics (Minor in Computer Science)

2021 – Present

Advisor: Professor Junyi Jessy Li

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Shanghai, China

B.A. in English Linguistics (Second Major in Law)

2017 - 2021

Refereed Publications

* denotes equal contributions

- [1] Tiberiu Sosea*, **Hongli Zhan***, Junyi Jessy Li, and Cornelia Caragea. Unsupervised extractive summarization of emotion triggers. In Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers) (ACL 2023), pages 9550–9569, Toronto, Canada, July 2023. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- [2] **Hongli Zhan***, Tiberiu Sosea*, Cornelia Caragea, and Junyi Jessy Li. Why do you feel this way? Summarizing triggers of emotions in social media posts. In Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2022), pages 9436-9453, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, December 2022. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Teaching Experience

Guest Lecturer Spring, 2023

LIN 306 Intro to the Study of Language

The University of Texas at Austin

Instructor: Seyeon Park

Lecture: Introduced the field of Computational Linguistics and recent de-

velopments in NLP, as well as an overview of my research.

Guest Lecturer Fall, 2022

LIN 373N Machine Learning Toolbox for Text Analysis

The University of Texas at Austin

The University of Texas at Austin

Instructor: Junyi Jessy Li

Lecture (Demo): Using the Hugging Face Transformers library to conduct sentiment analysis with BERT as well as machine translation with BART.

Graduate Teaching Assistant Fall, 2022

LIN 373N Machine Learning Toolbox for Text Analysis

Supervisor: Professor Junyi Jessy Li

Graduate Teaching Assistant Fall, 2021

LIN 350 Computational Semantics The University of Texas at Austin

Supervisor: Professor Katrin Erk

Employment

Graduate Research Assistant

Supervisor: Professor Junyi Jessy Li

Fall, 2021 – Present

The University of Texas at Austin

Professional Service

Organizer

Natural Language Learning Reading Group

Spring, 2023 – Present The University of Texas at Austin

Volunteer

ACL 2023

July 9th – July 14th, 2023 Toronto, Canada

Honors & Awards

Professional Development Award for Attending EMNLP 2022

Fall, 2022

The University of Texas at Austin, 1,200 USD

COLA Supplemental Graduate School Fellowship

Spring, 2022

The University of Texas at Austin, 5,000 USD

Outstanding Graduate

2021

Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award

2021

School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Presentations

Unsupervised Extractive Summarization of Emotion Triggers

ACL 2023: Toronto, Canada (presented on July 11th, 2023)

Why Do You Feel This Way? Summarizing Triggers of Emotions in Social Media Posts

EMNLP 2022: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (presented on Dec 9th, 2022)

Invited Talks

Westlake High School

Austin, TX

What is Computational Linguistics?

Feb 22, 2023

Open Source Contributions

CovidET

https://github.com/honglizhan/CovidET

CovidET (Emotions and their Triggers during Covid-19) is a dataset of \sim 1,900 English Reddit posts related to COVID-19, which contains manual annotations of perceived emotions and abstractive summaries of their triggers described in the post.

CovidET-EXT

https://github.com/tsosea2/CovidET-EXT

CovidET-EXT is a dataset that augments Zhan et al. (2022)'s abstractive dataset CovidET (in the context of the COVID-19 crisis) with extractive triggers. The result is a dataset of 1,883 Reddit posts about the COVID-19 pandemic, manually annotated with 7 fine-grained emotions (from CovidET) and their corresponding extractive triggers.

Programming Skills

- ♦ **Systems**: Windows, Linux/Unix
- ♦ **Programming Languages**: Python, R; MATLAB
- Machine Learning Tools: PyTorch, NumPy, Pandas, Huggingface Transformers, Scikit-learn, NLTK, SciPy, Git
- Research Methodologies: Crowdsourcing, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning,
 Computational Linguistics

Language Skills

English: Near-Native

- TOEFL: 112 (Reading 30, Listening 30, Writing 27, Speaking 25)
- GRE: 329 + 5.0 (Verbal 162, Quantitative 167, Analytical Writing 5.0)
- Test for English Majors Band 8 (TEM-8): Good
- Test for English Majors Band 4 (TEM-4): Excellent (90/100)

Chinese Mandarin: Native **Japanese**: Upper-Intermediate

Italian: Intermediate

Last updated: August 1, 2023