Kevin Xiang Li

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Skills

Machine Learning: PyTorch, HuggingFace, LLaMA-Factory, Python, GGML, C++
Mobile Development: Flutter, SQLite, Rust **Web**: JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Emscripten, WebAssembly

Education

- **Stanford University** — Stanford, CA, U.S.A
  M.S. in Computer Science — *2024. 9 – 2026. 6*
- **University of Michigan** — Ann Arbor, MI, U.S.A
  B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Linguistics; GPA: 3.87/4.0 — *2020. 9 – 2024. 5*
  - **Honors**: James B. Angell Scholar (5 consecutive terms of all A's), Class of 1935 Engineering Scholarship ($2000)
  - **Course Highlights**: Intro to ML, Intro to NLP, Computer Vision, XR & Society, Programming Languages, Compiler Construction, Intro to Operating Systems, Computer Security

Work

- **GienTech Technology** — Shanghai, China
  ML Engineer — *2024. 6 - 2024. 8*
  - **Devised Evaluations for LLMs**: Comprehensively evaluated LLMs on metrics like BLEU, ROUGE, Levenshtein Distance, and LLM-as-a-Judge methods. Incorporated evaluation module into existing PoC product.
  - **Implemented Instruction Selection and Generation**: Leveraged latest techniques like CaR (Clustering and Ranking) and Self-Instruct to select and generate instructions for more efficient and performant fine-tuning.
  - **Fine-tuned LLMs on Multiple GPUs**: Utilized popular frameworks like LLaMA-Factory and Deepspeed to fine-tune open LLMs on multiple GPUs.

Projects

- **Cantonese Dictionary Mobile App** — Hong Kong Lexicography Limited
  Mobile Developer — *2021. 10 - present*
  - **Implemented cross-platform UI using Flutter**: Supports both iOS & Android, rated 4.7 stars on Play Store.
  - **Built custom search backend in Rust**: Supports Chinese character, English, Cantonese romanization input, with efficient indexing for over 50K entries.
  - **Optimized user experience with local & cloud databases**: On-device SQLite database for bookmarks & settings, AWS DynamoDB for analytics to improve service, Alibaba CDN & OSS for fast pronunciation download.
  - **Gained over 5K monthly active users**: Gained 10K+ installs on App Store & 6K+ installs on Play Store.
- **On-Device NLP Library** — Shanghai, China
  ML Engineer — *2024. 7 - 2024. 9*
  - **Developed an efficient NLP library in C++**: Implemented efficient transformer inference with GGML for on-device use, supporting word segmentation and named entity recognition for Cantonese and Chinese.
  - **Optimized for edge devices**: Achieved 17x smaller model size and 3x faster inference compared to HuggingFace's implementation of ELECTRA Small, while maintaining comparable accuracy. Utilized a combination of model compression techniques including layer drop, knowledge distillation, and quantization for better balance between performance and size.
  - **Deployed cross-platform libraries for Web, Node.js, and Python**: Published PyPI and NPM libraries for development and production use cases. Customized CMake configs and C++ interface to build for Mac/Linux with Clang/GCC and WebAssembly through Emscripten.
- **Statically Contextualizing LLMs with Typed Holes** — University of Michigan, U.S.A.
  Researcher — *2023. 9 - 2024. 8*
  - **Enhanced code LLMs with static retrieval**: Leveraged semantic context and static error correction capabilities of language servers to enhance LLM code generation accuracy and stem hallucination.
  - **Boosted LLM coding performance significantly**: Our static retrieval method resulted in 3.5x more unit tests passed on 5 realistic TypeScript benchmarks, compared to vector retrieval with GPT-4.
  - **Published at OOPSLA**: Research published at OOPSLA 2024 in Pasadena, California.