

JINJIE NI

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Research Interests

I am particularly interested in: 1. pushing the frontier of (multi-modal) language models' capabilities, which involves reasoning, in context learning, and long-range understanding. 2. compute-optimal learning, which involves sample efficient tuning, model compression, and knowledge distillation. 3. language models as agents, which involves building (multi-modal) language models to learn from the interaction with complicated environments.

Areas: Large Language Models, Artificial General Intelligence, Machine Learning

Experiences

Academia

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|---|----------------|
| National University of Singapore
Research Fellow at HPC-AI
- Research foundation models and their alignment. Work with Prof. You Yang. | 2023 – present |
| Nanyang Technological University
Ph.D. in Computer Science
- Thesis: Attention Mechanism Optimization for Sub-Symbolic-Based and Neural-Symbolic-Based Natural Language Processing | 2020 - 2023 |
| Northwestern Polytechnical University
B.Eng. in Electrical Engineering
- Thesis: Multi-channel Estimator for Video-based Affective Computing | 2016 - 2020 |

Industry

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| Research Intern at Alibaba Group, Singapore
DAMO Academy
- Researched modality alignment for explainable knowledge distillation. Worked with Dr. Yukun Ma and Dr. Bin Ma. | April 2022 – Oct 2022 |
| Research Intern at Continental
Continental-NTU Corp Lab
- Researched fusing task-oriented and open-domain dialogue systems. Worked with Dr. Rui Mao. | Sept 2020 – March 2022 |
| Research Intern at Chinese Academy of Sciences
Institute of Automation
- Researched anchor-free position estimation based on ExtremeNet and GCN. Worked with Dr. Sen Xin. | Feb 2020 – June 2020 |
| Research Assistant at Harvard University
Institute for Applied Computational Science
- Developed VAE-GAN variants. Worked with Dr. Pavlos Protopapas. | Jan 2019 – March 2019 |
| Research Intern at Chinese Academy of Sciences
Institute of Computing Technology
- Researched abstractive summarization. Worked with Dr. Shuai Jiao. | Oct 2018 – Nov 2018 |

Selected Papers

2023

- **Jinjie Ni**, Rui Mao, Zonglin Yang, Han Lei, Erik Cambria. “Finding the Pillars of Strength for Multi-head Attention” In Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**ACL 2023**).
- **Jinjie Ni**, Yukun Ma, Wen Wang, Qian Chen, Dianwen Ng, Han Lei, Trung Hieu Nguyen, Chong Zhang, Bin Ma, Erik Cambria. “Adaptive Knowledge Distillation between Text and Speech Pre-trained Models” In Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (**ICASSP 2023**). Oral.

- Yukun Ma, Trung Hieu Nguyen, **Jinjie Ni**, Wen Wang, Qian Chen, Chong Zhang, Bin Ma. “Auxiliary Pooling Layer For Spoken Language Understanding” In Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (**ICASSP 2023**). Oral.
- Dianwen Ng, Ruixi Zhang, Jia Qi Yip, Zhao Yang, **Jinjie Ni**, Chong Zhang, Yukun Ma, Chongjia Ni, Eng Siong Chng, Bin Ma. “de’HuBERT: Disentangling noise in a self-supervised model” In Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (**ICASSP 2023**). Oral.
- Zonglin Yang, Xinya Du, Rui Mao, **Jinjie Ni**, Erik Cambria. “Logical Reasoning over Natural Language as Knowledge Representation”, (**arXiv**).
- **Jinjie Ni***, Rui Mao*, Kai He*, Xulang Zhang*, Guanyi Chen*, Zonglin Yang*, Erik Cambria. “A Survey on Semantic Processing Techniques.” Information Fusion (**IF**), DOI:10.1016/j.inffus.2023.101988. (equal contribution)

2022

- **Jinjie Ni**, Vlad Pandeale, Tom Young, Haicang Zhou, Erik Cambria. “HiTKG: Towards Goal-guided Conversations” In Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI 2022**). Oral.
- Tom Young, Frank Xing, Vlad Pandeale, **Jinjie Ni**, Erik Cambria. “FusedChat: towards fusing task-oriented dialogues and chitchat in multi-turn conversational agents” In Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI 2022**). Oral.
- Fuzhao Xue, Aixun Sun, Hao Zhang, **Jinjie Ni**, Eng Siong Chng. “An embarrassingly simple model for dialogue relation extraction” In Proceedings of the International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (**ICASSP 2022**). Oral.
- Jiaxing Xu, **Jinjie Ni**, Sophi Shilpa Gururajapathy, Yiping Ke. “A Class-Aware Representation Refinement Framework for Graph Classification”, (**arXiv**).

2021

- **Jinjie Ni**, Tom Young, Vlad Pandeale, Fuzhao Xue, Erik Cambria. “Recent Advances in Deep Learning Based Dialogue Systems” Artificial Intelligence Review (**AIRE**), DOI: 10.1007 /s10462-022-10248-8.

Teaching

SC1003: Introduction to Computational Thinking and Programming Teaching assistant for NTU undergraduate course	Aug 2021 – Dec 2021
CE2100: Probability and Statistics for Computing Lecturer for NTU undergraduate tutorial	Jan 2021 – May 2021
CE1113: Physics for Computing Teaching assistant for NTU undergraduate course	Aug 2020 – Dec 2020
CZ2007: Introduction to Databases Teaching assistant for NTU undergraduate course	Aug 2020 – Dec 2020
CZ2004: Human Computer Interaction Teaching assistant for NTU undergraduate course	Aug 2020 – Dec 2020

Services

PC Member: ACL, EMNLP, AAAI, ICASSP
Journal Reviewer: Knowledge-Based Systems, Information Fusion, Artificial Intelligence Review, Cognitive Computation
Co-organizer: MLNLP community
Lecturer: GC & CAO Seminar
Co-editor: Lena’s NLP Course (Chinese Edition)
Host: 3rd MLNLP Seminar - Towards Generating Deep Questions from Text