Liyan Tang

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX   *Expected March 2026*
Ph.D. in Computer Science
Advisor: Greg Durrett

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX   December 2023
M.S. in Computer Science

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX   May 2021
B.S. in Mathematics
GPA: 3.93 / 4.0

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on the automatic evaluations of LLMs, with an emphasis on hallucination detection. I developed MiniCheck, a state-of-the-art model for detecting hallucinations in LLM outputs. More recently, my interests have expanded to post-training techniques for strengthening the reasoning capabilities of LLMs and LVLMs, particularly through agent-style approaches where models interact with their environment and incorporate feedback to reduce hallucinations and improve the reasoning capability.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Google DeepMind   June 2025 – August 2025
Research Intern

BespokeLabs.AI   June 2024 – May 2025
Research Intern

Amazon AWS AI   May 2023 – October 2023
Applied Scientist Intern

BLOGS

Liyan Tang, Shreyas Pimpalgaonkar, Kartik Sharma, Alexandros G. Dimakis, Mahesh Sathiamoorthy, Greg Durrett, "Bespoke-MiniChart-7B: Pushing The Frontiers Of Open VLMs For Chart Understanding", 2025.

RESEARCH WORKS

2025

Liyan Tang, Grace Kim, Xinyu Zhao, Thom Lake, Wenxuan Ding, Fangcong Yin, Prasann Singhal, Manya Wadhwa, Zeyu Leo Liu, Zayne Sprague, Ramya Namuduri, Bodun Hu, Juan Diego Rodriguez, Puyuan Peng, Greg Durrett, "ChartMuseum: Testing Visual Reasoning

Capabilities of Large Vision-Language Models", in Proceedings of the Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2025.

Melanie Subbiah, Akankshya Mishra, Grace Kim, **Liyan Tang**, Greg Durrett, Kathleen McKeown, "Is the Top Still Spinning? Evaluating Subjectivity in Narrative Understanding", in Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2025.

2024
Liyan Tang, Philippe Laban, Greg Durrett, "MiniCheck: Efficient Fact-Checking of LLMs on Grounding Documents", in Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2024.

Liyan Tang, Igor Shalyminov, Amy Wing-mei Wong, Jon Burnsky, Jake W. Vincent, Yu'an Yang, Siffi Singh, Song Feng, Hwanjun Song, Hang Su, Lijia Sun, Yi Zhang, Saab Mansour, Kathleen McKeown, "TofuEval: Evaluating Hallucinations of LLMs on Topic-Focused Dialogue Summarization", in Proceedings of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistic (NAACL), 2024.

2023
Liyan Tang, Zhaoyi Sun, Betina Idnay, Jordan G Nestor, Ali Soroush, Pierre A. Elias, Ziyang Xu, Ying Ding, Greg Durrett, Justin Rousseau, Chunhua Weng, Yifan Peng, "Evaluating Large Language Models on Medical Evidence Summarization", in npj Digital Medicine, 2023.

Liyan Tang, Yifan Peng, Yanshan Wang, Ying Ding, Greg Durrett and Justin F. Rousseau, "Less Likely Brainstorming: Using Language Models to Generate Alternative Hypotheses", in Findings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2023.

Liyan Tang, Tanya Goyal, Alexander R. Fabbri, Philippe Laban, Jiacheng Xu, Semih Yavuz, Wojciech Kryściński, Justin F. Rousseau, Greg Durrett, "Understanding Factual Errors in Summarization: Errors, Summarizers, Datasets, Error Detectors", in Proceedings of the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2023.

Zhaoyi Sun, Hanley Ong, Patrick Kennedy, **Liyan Tang**, Shirley Chen, Jonathan Elias, Eugene Lucas, George Shih, Yifan Peng, "Evaluating GPT4 on Impressions Generation in Radiology Reports", in Radiology, 2023.

2022
Liyan Tang, Shravan Kooragayalu, Yanshan Wang, Ying Ding, Greg Durrett, Justin F. Rousseau, Yifan Peng. "EchoGen: Generating Conclusions from Echocardiogram Notes", in Proceedings of the 21st Workshop on Biomedical Language Processing (BioNLP) at ACL, 2022.

Song Wang, **Liyan Tang**, Akash Majety, Justin F. Rousseau, George Shih, Ying Ding, Yifan Peng. "Trustworthy Assertion Classification through Prompting", in Journal of Biomedical Informatics, 2022.

Song Wang, **Liyan Tang**, Mingquan Lin, George Shih, Ying Ding, Yifan Peng, "Prior Knowledge Enhances Radiology Report Generation", in Proceedings of American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA) Informatics Summit, 2022.

2021
Liyan Tang, Dhruv Rajan, Abhijeet Pradhan, R. Nick Bryan, Greg Durrett, "Making Document-Level Information Extraction Right for the Right Reasons, ArXiv:2110.07686, 2021.

Ajay Jaiswal, **Liyan Tang**, Meheli Ghosh, Justin Rousseau, Yifan Peng, and Ying Ding. "RadBERT-CL: Factually-Aware Contrastive Learning For Radiology Report Classification", in Proceedings of Machine Learning for Health, 2021.

Yan Han, Chongyan Chen, **Liyan Tang**, Ajay Jaiswal, Mingquan Lin, Yifan Peng, Ying Ding. "Using Radiomics as Prior Knowledge for Thorax Disease Classification and Localization in Chest X-rays", in Proceedings of American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium (AMIA) Annual Symposium, 2021.

RESEARCH & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas at Austin   August 2021 – Present
Graduate Research Assistant

The University of Texas at Austin   September 2023 – December 2023
Teaching Assistant
CS388 - Natural Language Processing (online MS)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Conference Program Committee member (reviewer):
EMNLP, ACL, NAACL, COLM, NeurIPS, AAAI