# XIAOCHEN (NIGEL) LU

New York, NY | +1 (845) 248-2938 | xiaoclu@outlook.com | http://nigellu.com

# **EDUCATION**

#### New York University, Tandon School of Engineering

New York, NY

Master of Science in Computer Science (Cumulative GPA: 3.88/4.0)

Relevant Coursework: Big Data, Algorithms, Advanced Database, Deep Learning

New York University, NYU Shanghai

New York, NY and Shanghai, China

Bachelor of Science, Data Science, minor in Computer Science (Cumulative GPA: 3.91/4.0)

May 2023

May 2025

Magna Cum Laude; NYU Honors Scholar; Dean's List 2019-2023

Relevant Coursework: Applied Internet Technologies, Computer Architecture (Objective C), Data Structures (OOP), Databases, Machine Learning (TensorFlow), Natural Language Processing (PyTorch), Data Analytics, Decision Model and Analysis

#### **SKILLS**

Coding Languages: SQL, R, Python, JavaScript, TypeScript, Java, Objective C

Software Tools: PyTorch, TensorFlow, PostgreSQL, MySQL Pandas, NumPy, SciPy, R Studio, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Scikit-learn,

React.js, Vue.js, Django, Express.js, Spring Boot, Maven, JPA, Thymeleaf, Git, Docker, Kubernetes, Chart.js, OpenCV

Other Tools: Circle/Travis CI (CI/CD), AWS EC2/EB/RDS, Agile Dev, Linux/UNIX, Tableau, Office/Google Suite

# **RESEARCH & PROJECTS**

Few-shot Segmentation with Adaptive Data Augmentation and Cross Attention (link to paper on arXiv) Mar. 2022 - May 2023

- Proposed an instance-aware *data augmentation* strategy to improve support image diversity and reduce distribution inconsistency, boosting model performance by 3.7% in ablation studies
- Incorporated a 4-D consensus cross attention module in *PyTorch* to align query and support features, increasing accuracy by 5.4%
- Built a scalable *PyTorch* codebase for running few-shot segmentation research experiments *distributedly* on computing centers

# Multimodal Online Student Engagement Dataset (link to blog)

May 2021 – Mar. 2022

- Created a 17GB labeled engagement detection dataset of 300+ participants in online learning settings
- Established a CNN-RNN hybrid baseline model to process spatial and temporal signals simultaneously

# **Evaluating Parameter-efficient Tuning Methods in Low-data Regimes**

**Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2021** 

- Reproduced four SOTA parameter-efficient tuning methods based on HuggingFace libraries
- Evaluated the performance of these methods on various NLP tasks (e.g., sentiment analysis, Q&A) with various train/test partitions
- Concluded with a research paper how to balance performance and converging speed in parameter-efficient tuning

# Real-time Object Detection in Autonomous Driving

Sept. 2021 – Dec. 2021

- Pre-processed and prepared CityScape dataset for object detection under autonomous driving scenarios
- Finetuned YOLOv3 model on the prepared dataset by freezing the backbone DarkNet53 and tuning the feature pyramid network to detect what matters in driving situations
- Achieved detection speed of 42 fps on personal computer, with a mAP of 49.6% when transferring to out-of-domain testing images

# PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

eBay Inc., Software Engineering Intern - Cloud Infrastructure Team, (Shanghai, China)

Sept. 2022 – Aug. 2023

- Innovated an Average-Time-to-Business (ATB) dashboard using *Redux*, *React.js*, and *Spring Boot* to monitor cluster statuses and send checkout alerts, reducing crisis response time by 25% and boosting service availability from 99.14% to 99.8%
- Implemented a predictive analytics model using *Scikit-learn* and integrated it to ATB Dashboard to forecast system load and potential downtime, further reducing system downtime by 40%
- Developed a *SQL-based tool* for automating anomaly detection by *analyzing patterns and metrics* in eBay's cloud infrastructure performance data, benefiting 100+ infrastructure engineers by providing predictive insights into system reliability

#### Kaizntree Co., Co-founder and CTO, (New York, NY and Remote)

Sept. 2021 - Feb. 2024

- Built a one-stop management solution for small businesses using *Vue.js*, *Django REST framework*, and *PostgreSQL*, earning 100+ happy customers by reducing their time spent on management tasks from 15 to just 2 hours per week
- Designed and executed a data-driven market analysis strategy using *Pandas* and *Seaborn*, identifying key growth opportunities for customers, resulting in an estimated 35% increase in customer acquisition during the roll-out window of this feature
- Collected and analyzed 1000+ user feedback using *Pandas* and adopted *Scrum Development*, *Circle CI/CD* with *Heroku* to minimize friction throughout the software development lifecycle (SDLC), enabling Kaizntree to address BUGs under 24 hours
- Spearheaded the *2-way integration* between Kaizntree and 4 major sales channels using *OAuth2* (Shopify, Square, Etsy, and Xerox) and automated stock & order sync across platforms, putting an end to manual updates and stock inconsistency on different channels
- Won the 2023 NYU Summer Launchpad and 2023 NYUxYale Startup Competition, with a reward of \$15,000 non-dilutive funding
- Earned investment from 3 individual investors and received a total of \$250,000 investment with Kaizntree valued at 5 million