Sara Ng

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RESEARCH

How can we use acoustic cues to better interpret natural language?

- Using transformers and prosodic cues to detect speech disfluencies in text
- Member of SSLI/TIAL Lab
- Supported by US National Science Foundation, grant IIS-1617176

EDUCATION

University of Washington
3rd year Ph.D. Student
Computational Linguistics
Advised by: Richard Wright,
  Mari Ostendorf

University of Utah
Honors B.A. Linguistics, 2017
B.S. Applied Mathematics, 2017
TESOL Certificate, 2016
Advised by: Abby Kaplan
Thesis: *Musical Text-Setting as Evidence for Syllabification of Highly Moraic Structures in English*

SKILLS

Languages:
Python, R,
  HTML/CSS/JavaScript (fluent)
Java, Matlab (basic)

Linguistic Tools:
Praat, Kaldi, NLTK

Machine Learning:
pytorch
tensorflow
Scikit-learn

Natural Languages:
French (working)
Spanish (basic)
Hoisanva Chinese (heritage)

COURSES TAUGHT

CSE 472: Intro. to Computational Linguistics, **Spring 2019**

LING 570: Shallow Processing Techniques for NLP, **Fall 2018**

LING 269: Swearing and Taboo Language, **Spring 2018**

COURSEWORK

NLP | Statistical Learning | Conversational AI | NLP Ethics
Stochastics | Numerical Analysis | Statistical Inference
Phonetics | Phonology | Sociolinguistics | Semantics

WORK EXPERIENCE

Google June – September 2019
Computational Linguist Intern, Pygmalion   Mountain View, CA

- Supervised curation of large annotated datasets for code-switching language identification task
- Used convolutional model trained on purely prosodic information to classify sub-spans of code-switching

University of Washington Sept 2017 – present
Research Assistant   Seattle, WA

- Conducting research in disfluency detection and modeling of prosodic features
- Develop and maintain web sites for documentation and teaching of low-resource languages
- Analyze digital linguistic recordings for field researchers

CaptionCall 2014, Aug 2016 - Mar 2017
Transcriber   Salt Lake City, UT

PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Metrical Phonology: Eliciting Syllabic Judgments
  2019, UW Phonology Lab, *presentation*

Musical Evidence for Syllabification Patterns of Highly Moraic Structures in English
  2017, Linguistic Society of America, *poster*

Englishes in the African Diaspora
  2014, Univ. Utah Social Justice Scholars, *panelist*