Yuting Yang (杨玉婷)

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Beijing, China

EDUCATION

Institute of Computing Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences Ph.D. in Computer Science

Beijing, China 2017.09 ~ 2023.07

• Supervisor: Professor Jintao Li

• Research interests: Trustworthy AI, Dialogue System

NExT++ Research Centre, National University of Singapore

Singapore

Visiting Research Scholar

2021.03 ~ *2022.03*

• Supervisor: Professor Tat-Seng Chua

Jilin University (985/211 University)

Jilin, China

B.S. in Computer ScienceGPA rank: top 2% (7/300)

2013.09 ~ 2017.06

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Trustworthy AI 2019.01~ Present

Funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China

- Rethought the robustness of deep neural networks (DNNs) from a quantification perspective in both NLP [5] and image [3] fields. Proposed "weak robustness" to evaluate DNN's capability of resisting perturbation and establish the concept of "sufficiently safe". It mines an interesting property of DNNs: adversarial examples occupy a very small ratio in the input space, which provides a new insight into figuring out the relationship between robustness and generalization.
- Based on the weak robustness, proposed a model-agnostic method for enhancing the word-level robustness of deep NLP models. Via input perturbation, the method can significantly decrease the rate of successfully attacking and maintain generalization to a great extent. [2]
- Further applied weak robustness combined with ensemble learning to achieve attack-agnostic robustness enhancement. Proposed attention-based diversity to promote model diversity, which can consistently improve the defense ability against various types of adversarial attacks and presents good interpretability. [7]
- Among first to propose that prompt can be maliciously constructed to arise safety issues of pre-trained language models, which later became a popular research topic (LLM alignment) with the popularity of large models and prompt learning.

 [4]

Dialogue System 2021.03~2022.03

Funded by Scholarship of University of Chinese Academy of Sciences

• Pioneered the idea that prompt learning could be used to understand dialogue states in few-shot or zero-shot settings. This idea was later proven to be one of the keys to realizing intelligent dialog systems by the success of ChatGPT. [1]

Text Generation 2017.09~2019.01

Funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China

- Realized a news quality assessment model. The model provides comprehensive analyses of social media news considering eight types of linguistic features. The assessment model is patented and applied in practical applications of official news media (*Xinhua Net* and *People's Daily*).
- Realized guideline-based news headline generation model. The model incorporated nondifferentiable writing guidelines into automatic generation via reinforcement learning. It can generate headlines containing key information and style in writing guidelines, and is applied in practical applications of official news media (*Xinhua Net* and *People's Daily*).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

• Teaching Assistant of *Multimodal Learning*, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (2018 spring)

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- President Scholarship, Institute of Computing Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 2020 (Top honor for students in Institute of Computing Technology.)
- Merit Student, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 2020
- Academic Scholarship, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, 2017~2022

National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of China, 2015 (Top 0.2% of Chinese undergraduate students.)

COMPETITION

• Fourteenth Place Award in Security AI Challenger Program, CVPR2021 Security AI Challenger Phase VI, White-box Adversarial Attacks. (14/1681, top 1%)

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] **Yuting Yang**, Wenqiang Lei, Pei Huang, Juan Cao, Jintao Li and Tat-Seng Chua. <u>A Dual Prompt Learning Framework for Few-Shot Dialogue State Tracking</u>, *WWW 2023*.
- [2] Pei Huang *, Yuting Yang*, Fuqi Jia, Minghao Liu, Feifei Ma and Jian Zhang. Word Level Robustness Enhancement: Fight Perturbation with Perturbation, AAAI 2022. (*Co-First Author, Acceptance Rate: 1349/9020=15.0%)
- [3] Pei Huang*, Yuting Yang*, Minghao Liu, Fuqi Jia, Feifei Ma, and Jian Zhang. <u>e-weakened Robustness of Deep Neural Networks</u>, ISSTA 2022. (*Co-First Author, Top conference on software analysis)
- [4] Yuting Yang, Pei Huang, Juan Cao, Jintao Li, Yun Lin and Feifei Ma. <u>A Prompt-based Approach to Adversarial Example Generation and Robustness Enhancement</u>, *Frontier of Computer Sciences* 2023. (SCI Journal)
- [5] **Yuting Yang.** Pei Huang, Feifei Ma, Juan Cao, Meishan Zhang, Jian Zhang and Jintao Li. <u>Quantifying Robustness to Adversarial Word Substitutions</u>, *ECML-PKDD* 2023.
- [6] Pei Huang, Haoze Wu, **Yuting Yang**, Ieva Daukantas, Min Wu, Yedi Zhang, Clark Barrett, <u>Towards Efficient Verification</u> of Quantized Neural Networks, *AAAI* 2024. (**Oral**)
- [7] **Yuting Yang**, Pei Huang, Juan Cao, Danding Wang and Jintao Li. PAD: A Robustness Enhancement Ensemble Method via Promoting Attention Diversity, *COLING* 2024.
- [8] Pei Huang, **Yuting Yang**, Haoze Wu, Ieva Daukantas, Min Wu, Fuqi Jia and Clark Barrett. Parallel Verification for δ-Equivalence of Neural Network Quantization, *SAIV* 2024.

PATENTS

- [1] An evaluation system for the vulnerability of social media. Jianfeng Shangguan, Juan Cao, <u>Yuting Yang</u>, Jintao Li. CN107 886441A.
- [2] A system for modeling news style and evaluating news quality. Juan Cao, **Yuting Yang**, Tian Xie and Junbo Guo. CN1115 53146A.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Joined in applying for funding and writing research proposals for the following projects:

- Privacy Protection, Special Foundation for State Major Basic Research Program of China, 2017-2018
- Research on Internet Rumor Detection and Public Opinion Guidance, National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2019-2020
- Research on Reliability Evaluation of User-Generated Content, National Natural Science Foundation of China, 2019-2022

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

- PC member/Reviewer: AAAI 2022-2024, ACL Rolling Review (2021-2023), WWW 2022, EAAI 2022, KDD 2023
- Conference Volunteer: ICDM 2019

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Python, C, C++, SQL, Java, MATLAB, Latex
- Tools & Libraries: Pytorch, Keras, TensorFlow, Hugging Face...