YUCHEN HU

 $(+65)-8039-2078 \diamond yuchen005@e.ntu.edu.sg \diamond Homepage \diamond Google Scholar \diamond GitHub$

RESEARCH FOCUS

Large Language Model (LLM), Speech Processing, Multimodal

EDUCATION

Nanyang Technological University

Ph.D. in Computer Science. Supervisor: Eng Siong Chng.

University of Science and Technology of China

B.Eng. in Automation. GPA: 3.76/4.3 (Rank: Top 5%). [Transcript]

08/2021 - 08/2025

Singapore

09/2016 - 06/2020

Hefei, China

RESEARCH & INTERNSHIPS

Nanyang Technological University

08/2021 - Present

Research Assistant, Supervisor: Eng Siong Chng

- Generative Speech Recognition/Translation with LLM (In NeurIPS, ICLR)
 - We propose an ASR generative error correction (GER) benchmark with a HyPoradise dataset that leverages LLM to generate the ground-truth transcription from ASR N-best hypotheses, which significantly outperforms the typical LM rescoring methods. Experiments on LLaMA shows that GER achieves remarkable improvements over Whisper baseline on various ASR domains, with up to 79.5% relative WER reduction. [2]
 - We extend GER to noisy ASR and propose a language-space denoising approach to improve its noise robustness. Experiments show that our method achieves a new breakthrough with up to 53.9% WER reduction. [1]
- Robust Speech Recognition (In ACL, AAAI, IJCAI, TASLP, ICASSP, InterSpeech)
 - We propose several audio-visual speech recognition (AVSR) approaches to improve ASR noise-robustness with visual modality, including cross-modal interaction, multimodal discrete mapping, adversarial learning, and reinforcement learning, which achieve the state-of-the-art on the large-scale LRS3 and LRS2 datasets. [3] [4] [5] [14]
 - We propose several noise-robust ASR approaches to alleviate the speech distortion issue in popular joint SE-ASR system, including enhanced-noisy feature fusion, gradient remedy, and quantization methods, which achieve over 10% relative WER improvements on CHiME-4, LibriSpeech-FreeSound and RATS datasets. [6] [9] [10] [11]
- Speech Enhancement and Separation (In ICASSP)
 - We propose a noise-aware speech enhancement (SE) approach with classifier-guided diffusion model, which achieves promising improvements over various diffusion SE baselines on VoiceBank-DEMAND dataset. [7]
 - We propose a joint speech enhancement and separation framework for noise-robust speech separation, which achieves the state-of-the-art on Libri2Mix and Libri3Mix (noisy version) datasets. [8]

iFLYTEK AI Research & USTC NEL-SLIP

05/2020 - 07/2021

Research Intern, Supervisor: Lirong Dai

- Develop a Cross-Attention Augmented Transducer (CAAT) system with USTC-NELSLIP team for simultaneous speech translation, which achieves the 1-st Place at IWSLT 2021 Evaluation Campaign. [16]
- Improve streaming ASR decoding efficiency of Google's Hybrid Autoregressive Transducer by pruning.

PROJECT EXPERIENCES

ANPASSEN: Unseen Noise and Multilingual Speech Recognition

09/2023 - Present

- Scale: 2 years, over S\$ 600K.
- Role: Project engineer, responsible for noise-robust ASR. [1] [12] [2]

ISSAC: Language Identification, Speaker Diarization, and Speech Separation

08/2021 - Present

- Scale: 3 years, over S\$ 960K.
- Role: Project engineer, responsible for speech separation. [8]

MAISON2: Speech Recognition in Adverse Conditions

08/2021 - 12/2021

- Scale: 2.5 years, over S\$ 600K.
- Role: Project engineer, responsible for noise-robust ASR. [10] [11]

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

- [1] Y. Hu, C. Chen, C. H. H. Yang, R. Li, C. Zhang, P. Y. Chen, E. S. Chng, "Large Language Models are Efficient Learners of Noise-Robust Speech Recognition", ICLR 2024 (Spotlight, Top 5%). [Paper] [Code] [Data]
- [2] C. Chen*, Y. Hu*, C. H. H. Yang, S. M. Siniscalchi, P. Y. Chen, E. S. Chng, "HyPoradise: An Open Baseline for Generative Speech Recognition with Large Language Models", NeurIPS 2023. [Paper] [Code] [Data]
- [3] Y. Hu, R. Li, C. Chen, C. Qin, Q. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Hearing Lips in Noise: Universal Viseme-Phoneme Mapping and Transfer for Robust Audio-Visual Speech Recognition", ACL 2023 (Oral). [Paper] [Code]
- [4] Y. Hu, C. Chen, R. Li, H. Zou, E. S. Chng, "MIR-GAN: Refining Frame-Level Modality-Invariant Representations with Adversarial Network for Audio-Visual Speech Recognition", ACL 2023 (Oral). [Paper] [Code]
- [5] Y. Hu, R. Li, C. Chen, H. Zou, Q. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Cross-Modal Global Interaction and Local Alignment for Audio-Visual Speech Recognition", IJCAI 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- [6] Y. Hu, C. Chen, Q. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Wav2code: Restore Clean Speech Representations via Codebook Lookup for Noise-Robust ASR", IEEE/ACM TASLP, 2023. [Paper]
- [7] Y. Hu, C. Chen, R. Li, Q. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Noise-aware Speech Enhancement using Diffusion Probabilistic Model", Under Review. [Paper] [Code]
- [8] Y. Hu, C. Chen, H. Zou, X. Zhong, E. S. Chng, "Unifying Speech Enhancement and Separation with Gradient Modulation for End-to-End Noise-Robust Speech Separation", ICASSP 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- [9] Y. Hu, C. Chen, R. Li, Q. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Gradient Remedy for Multi-Task Learning in End-to-End Noise-Robust Speech Recognition", ICASSP 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- [10] Y. Hu, N. Hou, C. Chen, E. S. Chng, "Dual-Path Style Learning for End-to-End Noise-Robust Speech Recognition", InterSpeech 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- [11] Y. Hu, N. Hou, C. Chen, E. S. Chng, "Interactive Feature Fusion for End-to-End Noise-Robust Speech Recognition", ICASSP 2022. [Paper] [Code]
- [12] C. Chen, R. Li, Y. Hu, S. M. Siniscalchi, P. Y. Chen, E. S. Chng, C. H. H. Yang, "It's Never Too Late: Fusing Acoustic Information into Large Language Models for Automatic Speech Recognition", ICLR 2024. [Paper]
- [13] Q. Zhu, J. Zhang, Y. Gu, Y. Hu, L. Dai, "Multichannel AV-wav2vec2: A Framework for Learning Multichannel Multi-modal Speech Representation", AAAI 2024. [Paper] [Code]
- [14] C. Chen, Y. Hu, Q. Zhang, H. Zou, B. Zhu, E. S. Chng, "Leveraging Modality-specific Representations for Audio-visual Speech Recognition via Reinforcement Learning", AAAI 2023 (Oral). [Paper]
- [15] H. Zou, M. Shen, C. Chen, Y. Hu, D. Rajan, E. S. Chng, "UniS-MMC: Multimodal Classification via Unimodality-supervised Multimodal Contrastive Learning", ACL 2023. [Paper] [Code]
- [16] D. Liu, M. Du, X. Li, <u>Y. Hu</u>, L. Dai, "The USTC-NELSLIP Systems for Simultaneous Speech Translation Task at IWSLT 2021", IWSLT 2021. [Paper]

SERVICES

Reviewer ACL (23-24), ARR (23-24), EMNLP (23), AAAI (24), ICASSP (22,24), InterSpeech (22-24) Volunteer EMNLP (23), ICASSP (22)

SKILLS

Programming Languages

Deep Learning

LLM Finetuning Toolkits

English Levels

Python, C, Matlab

PyTorch, HuggingFace, Fairseq, ESPnet, SpeechBrain

lit-gpt, lit-llama

TOEFL (104, R30/L28/S22/W24), GRE (329+4.0), CET-6 (619), CET-4 (620)

HONORS & AWARDS

• Winner of IWSLT 2021 Evaluation Campaign 08/2021

• USTC Excellent Graduate (Top 10%) 06/2020

• Scholarship of SIMIT, Chinese Academy of Sciences (Top 5%) 10/2018

• USTC Outstanding Student Scholarship (Top 5%) 10/2017 & 10/2019