Yifan Gao

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RESEARCH INTERESTS: My research interests are in natural language processing and machine learning. My research goal is to enable machines to assist information gathering and knowledge testing through natural language interactions. Recently I work on conversational question answering, open-domain dialogue generation and question generation.

EDUCATION

The Chinese University of Hong Kong   Aug 2017 - Present
Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science & Engineering
Advisors: Prof. Irwin King, Prof. Michael R. Lyu

Technische Universität Darmstadt   Sep 2016 - Feb 2017
Exchange Student in Computer Science

Beihang University   Aug 2013 - Jul 2017
B.Eng. in Electronic & Information Engineering

EXPERIENCES

Research Intern, Salesforce Research, Singapore   Oct 2019 - Jan 2020
Worked with Chien-Sheng Wu, Shafiq Joty and Steven Hoi on Conversational Machine Reading
Ranked 1st on the ShARC Conversational Machine Reading Challenge (Nov 2019)

Research Intern, Tencent AI Lab, Shenzhen, China   May 2018 - Aug 2019
Worked with Lidong Bing and Piji Li on Question Generation for Question Answering

PUBLICATIONS & PREPRINTS

ACL'20   **Explicit Memory Tracker with Coarse-to-Fine Reasoning for Conversational Machine Reading**.
Yifan Gao, Chien-Sheng Wu, Shafiq Joty, Caiming Xiong, Richard Socher, Irwin King, Michael R. Lyu, Steven C.H. Hoi. To appear in Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Seattle, Washington, USA, July 5-10, 2020.

EMNLP'19   **Improving Question Generation With to the Point Context**.
Jingjing Li*, Yifan Gao*, Lidong Bing, Irwin King, Michael R. Lyu. Proceedings of the 2019 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing and the 9th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing. Pages 3214–3224, Hong Kong, China, November 3-7, 2019. (* indicates equal contribution)

ACL'19   **Interconnected Question Generation with Coreference Alignment and Conversation Flow Modeling**.
Yifan Gao, Piji Li, Irwin King, Michael R. Lyu. Proceedings of the 57th Annual Meeting

of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Pages 4853–4862, Florence, Italy, July 28 - August 2, 2019.

IJCAI'19	**Difficulty Controllable Generation of Reading Comprehension Questions**. **Yifan Gao**, Lidong Bing, Wang Chen, Irwin King, Michael R. Lyu. Proceedings of the 28th International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence. Main track. Pages 4968-4974, Macao, China, August 10-16, 2019.
AAAI'19	**Generating Distractors for Reading Comprehension Questions from Real Examinations**. **Yifan Gao**, Lidong Bing, Piji Li, Irwin King and Michael R. Lyu. The 33rd Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence. Pages 6423-6430, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, January 27 - February 1, 2019.
AAAI'19	**Title-Guided Encoding for Keyphrase Generation**. Wang Chen, **Yifan Gao**, Jiani Zhang, Irwin King, Michael R. Lyu. The 33rd Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence. Pages 6268-6275, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, January 27 - February 1, 2019.
2017	**Learning Multi-level Features For Sensor-based Human Action Recognition**. Yan Xu, Zhengyang Shen, Xin Zhang, **Yifan Gao**, Shujian Deng, Yipei Wang, Yubo Fan, Eric I-Chao Chang. Pervasive and Mobile Computing Journal 40 (2017): 324-338.

AWARDS AND HONORS

2017-2021	Postgraduate Studentship, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
2014	National Scholarship, Ministry of Education of the P.R. China

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Program Committee Member, The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP-20)

Program Committee Member, The 28th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING-20)

Program Committee Member, The 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL-20)

Program Committee Member, The 37th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML-20)

Program Committee Member, The 34th Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-20)

Program Committee Member, The 2020 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN-2020)

Program Committee Member, The 33rd Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-19)

Program Committee Member, The 2018 IEEE/ACM International Conference on. Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining

Secondary Reviewer, The 2019 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing and 9th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing (EMNLP-IJCNLP-19)