Qiusi Zhan

Email: qiusiz2@illinois.edu | Website: zqs1943.github.io

EDUCATION

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign 08/2021-Present
M.Eng. in Electrical & Computer Engineering. Advisor: Prof. Heng Ji. GPA:3.95/4.00
Peking University 09/2017-07/2021
B.S. in Computer Science. Advisor: Prof. Sujian Li

PUBLICATIONS AND MANUSCRIPTS

[1] Qi Zeng*, **Qiusi Zhan***, Heng Ji, *EA²E: Improving Consistency with Event Awareness for Document-Level Argument Extraction*, NAACL 2022 Findings. Link
[2] Dawei Zhu, **Qiusi Zhan**, Zhejian Zhou, Yifan Song, Jiebin Zhang, Sujian Li, *ConFiguRe: Exploring Discourse-level Chinese Figures of Speech*, COLING 2022. Link
[3] **Qiusi Zhan**, Xiaojie Guo, Heng Ji, Lingfei Wu, *User Simulator Assisted Conversational Recommendation System*, In submission to ACL 2023.
(indicates equal contribution)*

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign 09/2021-Present
Research Assistant. Advisor: Prof. Heng Ji
- Universal Event Detection (Ongoing)
  - Constructed a novel benchmark for event detection that covers nearly 4k event types
  - Implemented an efficient framework for handling thousands of event types
  - Proposed the use of label propagation to provide distant supervision and address the ambiguity problem
- Document-level Event Argument Extraction [1]
  - Formed the problem of argument consistency between events in document-level event extraction
  - Improved the consistency by making the model aware of the event relations during training and inference
  - Implemented two techniques, alignment-enhanced training and iterative inference, to enable the model to consider event relations during event argument extraction

Peking University 10/2020-05/2021
Research Assistant. Advisor: Prof. Sujian Li
- Chinese figures of speech [2]
  - Created a novel benchmark for the extraction and classification of Chinese figures of speech
  - Defined the *rhetoric unit* as the smallest continuous clause sequence containing a figure expression

University of California Santa Barbara 07/2020-09/2020
Research Assistant. Advisor: Prof. Xifeng Yan
- Improved the robustness of text-to-SQL systems by augmenting the training data using conditional paraphrasing

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

JD.com Silicon Valley Labs 01/2022-05/2022
Natural Language Processing Research Intern. Mentor: Dr. Lingfei Wu
- Conversational Recommendation System (CRS) [3]
  - Applied reinforcement learning to improve the training of the open-ended CRS, a novel approach in the field
  - Built a user simulator that can interact with CRS using natural language based on certain user preferences
  - Demonstrated the effectiveness of our framework through a significant improvement in CRS recommendation performance

ByteDance 04/2021-07/2021
Natural Language Processing Engineering Intern. Mentor: Bo Zhao
- Developed AI systems with sequence labeling and information extraction to solve K12 math problems

TA EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Database Systems, Peking University Fall 2020

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, Java, JavaScript, SQL, HTML, MATLAB
Frameworks & Toolkits: PyTorch, PyTorch Lighting, Scikit-learn, Pandas, Numpy, Transformers, spaCy