Peng Li

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EDUCATION

Fudan University

Shanghai, China

M.S., Computer Science

2021.09 - 2024.06 (expected)

FudanNLP Group, Adviser: Prof. Xipeng Qiu

Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago (TTIC)

East China Normal University

Shanghai, China

B.Enq. Data Science

2016.09 - 2020.06

NLP Group, Adviser: Prof. Yuanbin Wu

Chicago, U.S.

Visiting Student

2023.05 - Present

TTIC NLP & Robotics Lab, Advisers: Prof. Hongyuan Mei and Prof. Matthew R. Walter

Research Interests

My research interest lies mainly in foundation models for robot learning. My research goal is to build general-purpose robots to autonomously interact with the real world and achieve self-evolution. To achieve this goal, I am (1) enhancing the perception, reasoning, planning, acting and learning capabilities of robots with existing CV/NLP foundation models [P2,P3]; (2) designing and pretraining robotics-specific foundation models [PJ1]; (3) building new evaluation benchmarks [P1].

PREPRINTS AND PUBLICATIONS

P1 MANGO: A Benchmark for Evaluating Mapping and Navigation Abilities of Large Language Models Peng Ding*, Jiading Fang*, Peng Li*, Kangrui Wang*, Xiaochen Zhou*, Mo Yu, Jing Li, Matthew Walter, Hongyuan Mei Submitted to ICLR 2024. (OpenReview)

P2 Statler: State-Maintaining Language Models for Embodied Reasoning

Takuma Yoneda*, Jiading Fang*, Peng Li*, Huanyu Zhang*, Tianchong Jiang, Shengjie Lin, Ben Picker, David Yunis, Hongyuan Mei, Matthew R. Walter. Submitted to ICRA 2024. (ArXiv)

P3 CodeIE: Large Code Generation Models are Better Few-Shot Information Extractors

Peng Li*, Tianxiang Sun*, Qiong Tang, Hang Yan, Yuanbin Wu, Xuanjing Huang, Xipeng Qiu. Accepted by ACL 2023. (ArXiv)

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

PJ1 MOSS: Training Conversational Language Models from Synthetic Data

Tianxiang Sun, Xiaotian Zhang, Zhengfu He, Peng Li, Qinyuan Cheng, Hang Yan, Xiangyang Liu, Yunfan Shao, Qiong Tang, Xingjian Zhao, Ke Chen, Yining Zheng, Zhejian Zhou, Ruixiao Li, Jun Zhan, Yunhua Zhou, Linyang Li, Xiaogui Yang, Lingling Wu, Zhangyue Yin, Xuanjing Huang, Xipeng Qiu

\$\times\$ MOSS is the first ChatGPT-like LLM in China, the first plugin-augmented LLM in China, and fully open-sourced with 11.7k+ stars. (GitHub)

Research Experience

Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago (TTIC)

May 2023 - Present

TTIC NLP & Robotics Lab, Advisers: Prof. Hongyuan Mei and Prof. Matthew R. Walter

Chicago, U.S.

Statler: State-Maintaining Language Models for Embodied Reasoning

- Utilized a second LLM to simultaneously manage the status information of objects while employing a first codewriting LLM to write the robot's policy code for decision-making tasks.
- The simulation and real-robot experimental results of three robotics tasks, namely "pick and place", "block disinfection" and "weight reasoning", indicate that its performance exceeds that of the Code-as-Policies method.

^{*} indicates equal contribution.

MANGO: A Benchmark for Evaluating Mapping and Navigation Abilities of Large Language Models

- Constructed the first benchmark to assess the mapping and navigation abilities of LLMs. Extracted walkthroughs from 53 interactive text-games and designed two types of questions to test these two capabilities of LLMs
- Evaluated the effectiveness of several black-box and open-source LLMs including ChatGPT, Claude, LLaMA, RWKV, and analyzed the influencing factors.
- Experiments also indicated that good mapping and navigation capabilities can help LLMs play text-based games more effectively.

Building World Models That Learn From Real-World Interactions

• Proposed and currently implementing a general reinforcement learning framework to enable LLMs to continuously enhance their reasoning and planning abilities through interaction with the real environment.

Shanghai AI Laboratory

May 2023 - Present

OpenLMLab, Advisers: Dr. Hang Yan and Dr. Kai Chen

Shanghai, China

Augmenting External Tools for 100B LLMs at Shanghai AI Lab

• Implemented and optimized the functionality to call external tools, such as search engines, calculators, equation solvers, and drawing tools of the LLM at Shanghai AI Lab (InternLM). Prepared the SFT data for utilizing these tools and fine-tuned 100B LLMs using these data.

Exploring Improved Structures of Pre-training Corpora for Math-LLMs and Code-LLMs

• Currently engaged in extensive research to develop effective pre-training data strategies for training more powerful LLMs specifically designed for mathematical and coding tasks.

Fudan University May 2021 – Present

NLP Group, Adviser: Prof. Xipeng Qiu

Shanghai, China

MOSS: China's First ChatGPT-like Large Language Model

- Participated in the design and implementation of the open-source tool-augmented 16B conversational language model "MOSS" as a core member.
- Helped prepare the training data for the first version of MOSS. The goal was to make MOSS helpful, honest and harmless (HHH).
- Augmented MOSS with external tools like the search engine, calculator, text2image tools etc. These tools enable MOSS to access up-to-date information, have better mathematical skills, have the ability to produce images and so on.
- Responsible for processing sensitive data in conversations with MOSS.

CodeIE: Utilizing Code-LLMs for Better Few-Shot Information Extraction

- Proposed to utilize Code-LLMs like Codex with structured code-format prompts to perform structured few-shot information extraction tasks.
- Designed concrete code-format prompts for the few-shot NER and RE tasks. Then prompted OpenAI's code-davinci-002 model with in-context demonstrations to perform these IE tasks.
- Experimental results on seven benchmarks show that our method consistently outperforms fine-tuning moderate-size pre-trained models specially designed for IE tasks (e.g., UIE) and prompting NL-LLMs (e.g., GPT-3) under few-shot
- Further conducted a series of in-depth analyses to demonstrate the merits of leveraging Code-LLMs for IE tasks.

SERVICES

Reviewer

2021, 2022, 2023

EMNLP ICR.A

2024

Teaching Assistant

Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning under Prof. Xipeng Qiu Introduction to Artificial Intelligence under Prof. Xipeng Qiu Statistical Natural Language Processing under Prof. Yuanbin Wu

2022-2023 2022

2021

SKILLS

Programming: Python, C/C++, LaTex; Scikit-learn, PyTorch

Language: Mandarin, English