Jialu Li

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RESEARCH INTEREST	Natural Language Processing (NLP), computational social science, fairness in NLP, model interpretability, language generation in interactive environment, and transfer learning on text with limited annotation

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
M.Eng., Computer Science, December 2019 — GPA: 4.0/4.0

Shanghai JiaoTong University, Shanghai, China
Major: B.S., Computer Science, June 2018 — GPA: 88.2%
Minor: B.E., Finance, June 2018 — GPA: 90.4%

PAPER UNDER REVIEW

Jialu Li, Esin Durmus and Claire Cardie. Exploring the Role of Argument Structure in Online Debate Persuasion. *Under submission at ACL, 2020.*

PAPER IN PREPARATION

Jialu Li, Shivank Goel, Heather Zheng and Claire Cardie. Should John Be More Likely A Physician Than Lisa: Bias-Performance Trade-Off for Gendered Pronoun Resolution

HONORS AND AWARDS

Academic Excellence Scholarship (Third-Class) for 2016-2017 academic year
Academic Excellence Scholarship (Third-Class) for 2015-2016 academic year
Academic Excellence Scholarship (Second-Class) for 2014-2015 academic year

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Research Assistant — **February 2019 - Present**
Advisor: Professor Claire T. Cardie

- Explored the relationship between argument structure and persuasion in online debates
- Applied BERT for sentence representation, generated argument structure on Debate.org and proposed three sets of argument features; employed LSTM for persuasion prediction with 77.38% accuracy and showed that personal experience and 'Claim-Reason-Rephrase' structure are powerful in making convincing arguments

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Research Project — **February 2019 - May 2019**
Advisor: Professor Claire T. Cardie

- Explored the methods to tackle two sources of gender bias among state-of-the-art coreference resolvers
- Implemented different approaches of debiasing word embedding and anonymizing data; applied them on CNN and bi-directional LSTM with scoring architecture using attention mechanism; observed a bias performance trade-off when using debiased resources and approaches

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Research Group Leader for 2 projects — **September 2019 - Present**
Advisor: Professor Claire T. Cardie

- Annotated argument type in online debates for future study; our proposed annotation scheme considers both debate strategies and extra-propositional meaning and has competitive Krippendorffs alpha with existing work

- Explored what linguistic features or user features are important to predict whether users will change their stance during the debates; Find that users' opinion on big issues and the talking points between two sides are most predictive of persuasion

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Research Project   **September 2019 - December 2019**
Advisor: Professor Christopher De Sa

- Built a daily long-short portfolio of various stocks with both twitter text data and general market data in 2014-2016 of 85 stocks
- Predicted exact return rate of various stocks based on bi-directional LSTM with attention over twitts from different users; Built long-short portfolio with stocks that have a daily return rate of 0.095%

Shanghai JiaoTong University, Shanghai, China
Undergraduate Thesis   **September 2017 - June 2018**
Advisor: Professor Weinan Zhang

- Collaborated with TouchPal Big Data Team for further researches in app usage prediction
- Applied LSTM with attention to predict the next application the user may use based on usage history, and the recall rate of the results reached 80%

Shanghai JiaoTong University, Shanghai, China
Research Assistant   **October 2016 - August 2017**
Advisor: Professor Haining Lu

- Participated in the development of Hcash – a decentralized and open-source cross platform cryptocurrency
- Built a bitcoin private testnet which can be used to analyze the correlation between difficulty and coin generation speed statistically

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Natural Language Processing (CS 4740 / CS 5740)
Graduate Teaching Assistant   **August 2019 - December 2019**
Instructor: Professor Claire T. Cardie

SERVICE

Fangyang's Lecture on Humanity
Volunteer   **September 2012 - Present**

- Prepare lecture slides on Chinese literature; dictate lecture recordings for future publishing; teach junior school students about the history of the city through field trips