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EDUCATION

• University of California, San Diego

La Jolla, CA

PhD in Computer Science; GPA: 3.77; Advisor: Prof. Arun Kumar

Sept. 2017 - June. 2023(expected)

Courses taken: Advanced Compilers, Principles of Programing Languages, Database Systems, Advanced Algorithm, Machine Learning, Data Mining & Analytics, Advanced Data Analytics, Computer Vision, Introduction to Robotics

• Nankai University

Tianjin, China

BS in Theoretical Physics

Sept. 2012 - June. 2016

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

• ADALab, University of California, San Diego

La Jolla, CA

PhD research, deep learning systems

Sept. 2017 - Present

• Panorama:

- * Developed the first data system for tacking the unbounded vocabulary (labels that were not present during training) issue for video querying
- * Designed the system unified and domain-agnostic, and lets application users generalize to unbounded vocabularies in an out-of-the-box manner without tedious manual re-training of DNNs
- * Implemented the prototype with Python and TensorFlow. Tested with applications including face recognition, pedestrian re-identification, car model recognition, animal species recognition, etc. It can achieve between 2x to 20x higher efficiency and generalize well to unbounded vocabularies

• Cerebro:

- * Developed Cerebro, a scalable system for high-throughput reproducible neural network model selection
- * Proposed a novel form of parallelism for ANN training called model hopper. This approach improves both throughput and reproducibility
- * In terms of resource efficiency, it can be the optimal choice over the TensorFlow parameter server, Horovod, or task parallelism. Built a prototype to support both TensorFlow and PyTorch

• Greenplum R&D at VMware, Inc.

Palo Diego, CA

Software Engineer Intern, in-database deep learning

Summer 2019

- Worked on incorporation of deep learning functionalities into Greenplum database, allowing training and inference of deep learning models with TensorFlow on database-resident data
- o Integrated my research idea, Cerebro, into the deep learning training infrastructure of Greenplum, boosting the efficiency (convergence speed) by 10x
- o Contributed to Apache MADlib open-source project. Developed the core feature of a major release

• Opera Solutions

San Diego, CA Summer 2018

Data Scientist Intern, machine learning based scheduling system

- Tested and analyzed a production machine learning-based scheduling system for cinema theaters. Optimized the parallel programming model and IPC mechanisms, resulting in over 50% of reduction in execution time
- Migrated the existing single-node applications to the Hadoop ecosystem for distributed computing. Redesigned the data source layer to reduce the data warehouse I/O overheads, with over 90% of improvement
- \circ Reduced communication overheads, increasing the capacity of the system from 80 parallel jobs to 200 \sim 300 as the customer requested, concluding the 10-month-long project in 3 months

Publications

Y. Zhang and A. Kumar, Panorama: A Data System for Unbounded Vocabulary Querying over Video, PVLDB (2020) S. Nakandala, Y. Zhang, and A. Kumar, Cerebro: Efficient and Reproducible Model Selection on Deep Learning Systems, ACM SIGMOD DEEM Workshop (2019)

Y.-H. Zhang and X.-Q. Li, Three-generation neutrino oscillations in curved spacetime, Nucl. Phys. B 911, 563 (2016) [hep-ph/1606.05960]

C. Liu, Y.-G. Miao, Y.-M. Wu and Y.-H. Zhang, Self-regular black holes quantized by means of an analogue to hydrogen atoms, Adv. High Energy Phys. 2016, 5982482 (2016) [hep-th/1511.04865]