RESEARCH Interests

My general research interest is in developing methods to learn efficient and robust representations of discrete-valued sequence data (specifically natural language). I'm also interested in understanding and finding ways to fix their pathologies once trained. My research broadly covers topics in representation learning, interpretability, and out-of-domain robustness/generalization.

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

Visiting Scholar

Sept 2021 - present

Advisor: Prof. Marzyeh Ghassemi

University of Toronto

Toronto, Ontario Sept 2019 - present

Ph.D. Machine Learning Advisor: Prof. Marzyeh Ghassemi

University of California San Diego

San Diego, California

BS Computer Science (Summa Cum Laude)

Sep 2014 - Jun 2018

Advisor: Prof. Zachary Lipton and Prof. Julian McAuley

Professional Prescient Design

New York, New York

EXPERIENCE

Research Intern (Kyunghyun Cho)

Blind Biological Sequence Denoising with Self-Supervised Set Learning

New York, New York (Virtual)

Meta Research Intern (Naman Goyal)

Summer 2021

Summer 2022

Growing Switch Transformers for Multilinguality

Google

Mountain View, California (Virtual)

Research Intern (Qi Guo)

Summer 2020

Improving Dialogue Breakdown Detection with Semi-Supervised Learning

Meta (Full Time)

Research Engineer (Michael Auli)

Menlo Park, California

Sep 2018 - Sep 2019

Meta

Software Engineering Intern

Menlo Park, California Summer 2016 / Summer 2017

San Diego, California

Qualcomm Software Engineering Intern

Summer 2015

Refereed **PUBLICATIONS**

- 1. N. Ng, J. W. Park, J. H. Lee, R. Kelly, S. Ra, and K. Cho. "Blind Biological Sequence Denoising with Self-Supervised Set Learning". In: TMLR. 2024.
- 2. N. Ng, N. Hulkund, K. Cho, and M. Ghassemi. "Predicting Out-of-Domain Generalization with Neighborhood Invariance". In: TMLR. 2023.
- 3. J. Bae, N. Ng, A. Lo, M. Ghassemi, and R. Grosse. "If Influence Functions are the Question, What is the Answer?" In: Proc. of NeurIPS. 2022.
- 4. N. Ng, K. Cho, and M. Ghassemi. "SSMBA: Self-Supervised Manifold Based Data Augmentation for Improving Out-of-Domain Robustness". In: Proc. of EMNLP. 2020.
- 5. T. Lau, N. Ng, J. Gingold, N. Desai, J. McAuley, and Z. C. Lipton. "Embryo staging with weakly-supervised region selection and dynamically-decoded predictions". In: Proc. of Machine Learning for Healthcare. 2019.

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- 6. **N. Ng**, K. Yee, A. Baevski, M. Ott, M. Auli, and S. Edunov. "Facebook FAIR's WMT19 News Translation Task Submission". In: *Proc. of WMT*. 2019.
- 7. K. Yee, **N. Ng**, Y. Dauphin, and M. Auli. "Simple and Effective Noisy Channel Modeling for Neural Machine Translation". In: *Proc. of EMNLP*. 2019.
- 8. N. Ng, R. Gabriel, J. McAuley, C. Elkan, and Z. Lipton. "Predicting surgery duration with neural heteroscedastic regression". In: *Proc. of Machine Learning for Healthcare*. 2017.

WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS

- 1. N. Ng, N. Thangarajan, J. Pan, M. Ghassemi, and Q. Guo. "Improving Dialogue Breakdown Detection with Semi-Supervised Learning". In: *Proc. of Workshop on Human in the Loop Dialogue Systems at NeurIPS*. 2020. Oral.
- 2. M. Ott, S. Edunov, A. Baevski, A. Fan, S. Gross, **N. Ng**, D. Grangier, and M. Auli. "fairseq: A fast, extensible toolkit for sequence modeling". In: *Proc. of NAACL-HLT: Demonstrations*. 2019.
- 3. N. Ng, J. McAuley, Z. Lipton, and N. Desai. "Predicting Embryo Morphokinetics in Videos with Late Fusion Nets & Dynamic Decoders". In: *Proc. of ICLR Workshops*. 2018.

Shared	1st in Dialogue Breakdown Detection Challenge English task
Tasks	1st in WMT News Translation English \leftrightarrow German task
	1st in WMT News Translation English \leftrightarrow Russian task

PROFESSIONAL Head Organizer

ACTIVITIES

Workshop on Robustness in Sequence Modeling at NeurIPS

2022

Teaching Assistant

Teaching Assistant

2020 2019 2019

Reviewer

NeurIPS	2022, 2023
ICLR	2023
Machine Learning for Healthcare	2020

TEACHING AND TALKS

University of Toronto

CSC 2515: Introduction to Machine Learning (Graduate Level)	Fall 2020
CSC 2541: Topics in Machine Learning: Machine Learning for Health	$Winter\ 2020$
CSC 311: Introduction to Machine Learning	Fall 2019

MetaInternal LecturerSpecial Topics in Deep Learning: NLP and TranslationFeb 2019, Sep 2019

University of California, San Diego

CSE 101: Design and Analysis of Algorithms	Winter 2018
CSE 158: Web Mining and Recommender Systems	Fall 2017
CSE 21: Mathematics for Algorithms and Systems	$Winter\ 2017$
CSE 11: Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming	Fall 2015

Honors and Awards

• Jacobs Scholarship, University of California San Diego	2014
• Regents Scholarship, University of California San Diego	2014

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