Ningkun Zhou

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Machine Learning Engineer with **5 years of experience**, specializing in computer vision applications in industrial and scientific settings

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Genetics and Computer Science

Sep 2015 - May 2019

University of Wisconsin, Madison

WORK EXPERIENCE

Algorithm Engineer - Danieli China

Apr 2022 - Jul 2024

Developed Deep Learning-based Automatic Scrap Classification system for multiple steel plants.

- Auto-adaptive PTZ camera: I developed an auto-adaptive image acquisition system designed to consistently capture unique, high-resolution zoomed-in images. Leveraging YOLO, Deep SORT tracking and image registration algorithms, the system precisely identifies new layers of exposed scrap for detailed imaging. Each zoomed-in image maintains a stable scale, matching the width of the unloading truck. This stability is achieved through a PTZ vs. XY-Mag calibration algorithm that I developed.
- Scrap Net: Customized and fine-tuned popular instance segmentation architectures to production level, handling large quantities of annotation data, exceeding 25,000 images and 100,000 polygons per dataset. Decoupled the original software into multiple API and MQ-based microservices, which enhanced system stability. Collaborated closely with customers to optimize the recognition system, achieving an accuracy rate of 90% to 95%. Under my leadership of the algorithm team, our product have dominated the domestic market, with over 5 projects successfully accepted.

• Innovations:

- CLIP: Fine-tuned and deployed the CLIP model to reduce the need for extensive image classification annotations by encoding text prompts and image features. Achieved a 30% higher accuracy compared to the baseline EfficientNet model with the same amount of annotated data, reaching a 90% accuracy with only 200 images.
- Bale Breaker: Developed the first-in-market quality assessment system for automatic monitoring of the scrap metal bale breaking process. Implemented mechanical arms to capture multi-angle interior images without disrupting on-site operations once the bale is dismantled. Achieved a classification accuracy of 95%.

Research Assistant - Chinese Academy of Sciences, GIBH

 $\mathbf{Jun}\ \mathbf{2019} - \mathbf{Apr}\ \mathbf{2022}$

Employed both conventional and innovative methods to resolve protein structures.

- Cryo-EM [1],[2]: Applied advanced cryogenic-electron microscopy techniques to resolve multiple protein structures, managing all phases from data collection, particle extraction, unsupervised clustering, to reconstruction of 2D projections into 3D density maps and atomic-level protein model building. Contributed to two publications in high-impact journals, with co-first author status on one.
- Cryo Check: Developed a deep learning-based tool for cryo-EM micrograph quality assessment, facilitating real-time evaluation during Cryo-EM data collection. This innovative approach significantly reduced time and eliminated human bias in the selection of raw EM data. https://github.com/nzhou26/cryoCheck
- Particle Seg: Semantic segmentation tool for cryo-EM particles. It accurately segments a cryo-EM particle into three parts: signal, background, and edge. From the segmented ROI, for some cases, final resolution could be improved by 0.5 angstrom. https://github.com/nzhou26/particleSeg

SKILLS

- Machine Leaning: EfficientNet, U-Net, Mask R-CNN, YOLO, K-means clustering, CLIP
- Programming: Python (Tensorfow, Pytorch, OpenCV, Numpy, Pandas, Matplotlib, Flask), SQL, Bash
- Miscellaneous: Linux, Docker, Redis, RabbitMQ, RESTful API, PLC, Socket

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. S. Dong, H. Li, **N. Zhou**, et al., "Structural basis of nucleosome deacetylation and DNA linker tightening by Rpd3S histone deacetylase complex," *Cell Research*, 2023. DOI: 10.1038/s41422-023-00869-1.
- 2. L. Tang, S. Dong, N. Zhou, et al., "Vibrio parahaemolyticus prey targeting requires autoproteolysis-triggered dimerization of the type VI secretion system effector RhsP," Cell Reports, 2022. DOI: 10.1016/j.celrep.2022.111732.