HONGRU WANG

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[Homepage](#) | [Thesis Slides (v2)](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

RESEARCH STATEMENT

My research focus revolves around internal cognitive tools and external physical tools of personalized language agents, designed to seamlessly unifing reasoning and acting from tool perspective instead of treat them in isolation. My long-term objective is to achieve the *impossible triangle* between safety, personalization and autonomy of language agent to learn from interactions internally or externally.

EDUCATION

The Chinese University of Hong Kong   **2021/09 - Now**
Ph.D. candidate supervised by Prof. Kam-Fai Wong   GPA: 3.82/4.00
Dialogue System, Large Language Models, Tool Learning

The Chinese University of Hong Kong   **2019/09 - 2020/11**
M.Eng. Computer Science and Engineering   GPA: 3.60/4.00
Data Mining, Big Data Technology, Machine Learning

Communication University of China   **2015/09 - 2019/09**
B.Eng. Computer Science and Technology   GPA: 3.27/4.00
Computer Operation System, Computer Networks, Data Structures and Algorithms

(CO-)FIRST AUTHOR CONFERENCES

11. Self-DC: When to retrieve and When to generate? Self Divide-and-Conquer for Compositional ..
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Boyang Xue, Baohang Zhou, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
    NAACL 2025 LLM , Tool Learning

10. AppBench: Planning of Multiple APIs from Various APPs for Complex User Instruction
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Rui Wang, Boyang XUE, et. al, Jeff Z. Pan, Kam-Fai Wong
    EMNLP 2024 LLM , Tool Learning (Apple Intelligence)

9. TPE: Towards Compositional Reasoning over Conceptual Tools with Multi-persona Collaboration
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Huimin Wang, Lingzhi Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
    NLPCC 2024 LLM , Tool Learning (Meta-reasoning theory / Cognitive tools)

8. Enhancing Large Language Models Against Inductive Instructions with Dual-critique Prompting
    Rui Wang*, <u>Hongru Wang</u>*, Fei Mi, Boyang XUE, Yi Chen, Kam-Fai Wong, Ruifeng Xu
    NAACL 2024 LLM , Safety * *denotes equal contribution*

7. UniRetriever: Multi-task Candidates Selection for Various Context-Adaptive Conversational Retrieval
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Boyang Xue, Baohang Zhou, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
    LREC-COLING 2024 Dialogue System , Tool Learning

6. M3Sum: A Novel Unsupervised Language-guided Video Summarization
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Baohang Zhou, Zhengkun Zhang, Yiming Du, David Ho, Kam-Fai Wong
    ICASSP 2024 LLM , MM

5. Large Language Models as Source Planner for Personalized Knowledge-grounded Dialogue
    <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Minda Hu, Yang Deng, et. al, Irwin King, Kam-Fai Wong
    Findings of **EMNLP 2023** Dialogue System , LLM **Best Paper Award 😊 @Doctoral Forum**

4. Cue-CoT: Chain-of-thought Prompting for Responding to In-depth Dialogue Questions with LLMs
Hongru Wang*, Rui Wang*, Fei Mi, et. al, Ruifeng Xu and Kam-Fai Wong
Findings of **EMNLP 2023** Dialogue System , LLM Blog

3. MCML: A Novel Memory-based Contrastive Meta-Learning Method for Few Shot Slot Tagging
Hongru Wang, Zezhong Wang, Wai-Chung Kwan, Kam-Fai Wong
IJCNLP-AACL 2023 Dialogue System

2. Integrating Pretrained Language Model for Dialogue Policy Learning
Hongru Wang, Huimin Wang, Zezhong Wang and Kam-Fai Wong
ICASSP 2022 Dialogue System , RLHF (probably first work of RLHF)

1. CUHK at SemEval-2020 Task 4: CommonSense Explanation, Reasoning and Prediction ..
Hongru Wang, Xiangru Tang, Sunny Lai, et. al, Gabriel Pui Cheong Fung and Kam-Fai Wong
SemEval of **COLING 2020**. Commonsense

(CO-)FIRST AUTHOR JOURNAL

2. KddRES: A Multi-level Knowledge-driven Dialogue .. Towards Customized Dialogue System
Hongru Wang, Wai-Chung Kwan, Min Li, Zimo Zhou and Kam-Fai Wong
Computer Speech and Language 2024 (**Tsinghua B, JCR Q2, IF: 4.3**) Dialogue System

1. A Survey on Recent Advances and Challenges in Reinforcement Learning Methods ..
Wai-Chung Kwan*, Hongru Wang*, Huimin Wang and Kam-Fai Wong
Machine Intelligence Research 2023 (**JCR Q1, IF: 6.4**) Dialogue System , RLAIF

NON-FIRST AUTHOR CONFERENCES

19. Steering Knowledge Selection Behaviours in LLMs via SAE-Based Representation Engineering
Yu Zhao, et al., Hongru WANG, Xuanli He, Kam-Fai Wong, Pasquale Minervini
NAACL 2025 LLM (tool / knowledge conflicts, detections and control)

18. SeqAR: Jailbreak LLMs with Sequential Auto-Generated Characters
Yan Yang, Zeguan Xiao, Xin Lu, Hongru WANG, et al., Guanhua Chen, Yun Chen
NAACL 2025 LLM

17. AutoPSV: Automated Process-Supervised Verifier
Jianqiao Lu, Zhiyang Dou, Hongru Wang, et. al, Zhijiang Guo
NeurIPS 2024 LLM (Meta-reasoning theory)

16. Knowledge Conflicts for LLMs: A Survey
Rongwu Xu, Zehan Qi, Zhijiang Guo, Cunxiang Wang, Hongru Wang, Yue Zhang, Wei Xu
EMNLP 2024 LLM Blog

15. VLEU: a Method for Automatic Evaluation for Generalizability of Text-to-Image Models
Jingtao Cao, Zhang Zheng, Hongru Wang, Kam-Fai Wong
EMNLP 2024 MM

14. Less is More: Making Smaller Language Models .. Subgraph Retrievers for Multi-hop KGQA
Wenyu Huang, Guancheng Zhou, Hongru Wang, et. al, Mirella Lapata, Jeff Z. Pan
Findings of **EMNLP 2024** LLM (Differentiable Search Index (DSI))

13. Enhancing Biomedical Knowledge RAG with Self-Rewarding Tree Search and PPO
Minda Hu, Licheng Zong, Hongru Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong, Yu Li, Irwin King
Findings of **EMNLP 2024** LLM

12. DPDLLM: A Black-box Framework for Detecting Pre-training Data from Large Language Models
    Baohang Zhou, Zezhong WANG, Lingzhi Wang, Hongru Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
    Findings of **ACL 2024** `LLM`

11. Medical Dialogue: A Survey of Categories, Methods, Evaluation and Challenges
    Xiaoming Shi, Zeming Liu, Li Du, Yuxuan Wang, Hongru Wang, et. al, Shaoting Zhang
    Findings of **ACL 2024** `LLM`

10. REGA: Role Prompting Guided Multi-Domain Adaptation for Large Language Models
    Rui Wang, Fei Mi, Yi Chen, Boyang XUE, Hongru Wang, Qi Zhu, Kam-Fai Wong, Ruifeng Xu
    Findings of **NAACL 2024** `LLM` , `Role Playing`

9. SELF-GUARD: Empower the LLM to Safeguard Itself
   Zezhong Wang, Fangkai Yang, Lu Wang, Pu Zhao, Hongru Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
   NAACL 2024 `LLM` , `Safety`

8. JoTR: A Joint Transformer and Reinforcement Learning Framework for Dialog Policy Learning
   Wai-Chung Kwan, Huimin Wang, Hongru Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong
   LREC-COLING 2024 `Dialogue System`

7. MCIL: Multimodal Counterfactual Instance Learning for .. Multimodal Information Extraction
   Baohang Zhou, Ying Zhang, Kehui Song, Hongru Wang, Yu Zhao, Xuhui Sui, Xiaojie Yuan
   LREC-COLING 2024 `LLM` , `MM`

6. ReadPrompt: A Readable Prompting Method for Reliable Knowledge Probing
   Zezhong Wang*, Luyao YE*, Hongru Wang, Wai-Chung Kwan, David Ho, Kam-Fai Wong
   Findings of **EMNLP 2023** `LLM`

5. Improving Factual Consistency for Knowledge-Grounded Dialogue Systems via Knowledge ..
   Boyang XUE*, Weichao Wang*, Hongru Wang, et. al, Xin Jiang, Qun Liu, Kam-Fai Wong
   Findings of **EMNLP 2023** `Dialogue System`

4. Prompting and Evaluating Large Language Models for Proactive Dialogues ..
   Yang Deng, Lizi Liao, Liang CHEN, Hongru Wang, Wenqiang Lei, Tat-Seng Chua
   Findings of **EMNLP 2023** `LLM`

3. Towards Robust Personalized Dialogue Generation via Order-Insensitive Representation ..
   Liang Chen, Hongru Wang, Yang Deng, Wai Chung Kwan, Zezhong Wang, Kam-Fai Wong
   Findings of **ACL 2023** (short) `Dialogue System`

2. Retrieval-free Knowledge Injection through Multi-Document Traversal for Dialogue Models
   Rui Wang, Jianzhu Bao, Fei Mi, Yi Chen, Hongru Wang, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong, Ruifeng Xu
   ACL 2023 `Dialogue System`

1. DIGAT: Modeling News Recommendation with Dual-Graph Interaction
   Zhiming Mao, Jian Li, Hongru Wang, Xingshan Zeng, Kam-Fai Wong
   Findings of **EMNLP 2022** `Others`

WORKSHOP, TUTORIAL AND OTHERS

4. Analysing the Residual Stream of Language Models Under Knowledge Conflicts
   Yu Zhao, Xiaotang Du, et. al, Hongru Wang, Xuanli He, Kam-Fai Wong, Pasquale Minervini
   MINT Workshop of **NeurIPS 2024**

3. PerLTQA: A Personal Long-Term Memory Dataset for Memory Classification, Retrieval, and ..
   Yiming Du, Hongru Wang, Zhengyi Zhao, et. al, Kam-Fai Wong

SIGHAN Workshop of **ACL 2024**. **Best Paper Award** 😊.

2. OSPC: Detecting Harmful Memes with Large Language Model as a Catalyst
   Jingtao Cao, Zheng Zhang, <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Bin Liang, Hao Wang, Kam-fai Wong
   Online Safety Prize Challenge, **WWW 2024**. **Champion Solution** 😊.

1. Empowering Large Language Models: Tool Learning for Real-World Interaction
   <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Yujia Qin, Yankai Lin, Jeff Z. Pan, Kam-fai Wong
   Tutorial, **SIGIR 2024** `LLM` , `Tool Learning`

PREPRINTS

5. MlingConf: A Comprehensive Study of Multilingual Confidence Estimation on LLMs
   Boyang XUE*, <u>Hongru WANG</u>*, Rui Wang, et al., Bin Liang, Kam-Fai Wong
   Under Review, ARR Oct (3 3.5 3.5) `LLM`

4. Compound-QA: A Benchmark for Evaluating LLMs on Compound Questions
   Yutao Hou, Yajing Luo, Zhiwen Ruan, <u>Hongru WANG</u>, et al., Guanhua Chen
   Under Review, ARR Oct (3 3 3.5) `LLM`

3. Can LLMs Evaluate Complex Attribution in QA? Automatic Benchmarking Using Knowledge Graphs
   Nan Hu, Jiaoyan Chen, Yike Wu, Guilin Qi, <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Sheng Bi, Tongtong Wu, Jeff Z. Pan
   Under Review, `LLM`

2. A Survey of the Evolution of Language Model-Based Dialogue Systems
   <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Lingzhi Wang, Yiming Du, Liang Chen, Jingyan Zhou, Yufei Wang, Kam-Fai Wong
   Under Review `LLM` `Dialogue System` Blog

1. UniMS-RAG: A Unified Multi-source Retrieval-Augmented Generation for Personalized ..
   <u>Hongru Wang</u>, Wenyu Huang, Yang Deng, et. al, Jeff Z Pan, Kam-Fai Wong
   Under Review `LLM` , `Dialogue System`

EXPERIENCE

Visiting Student	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	**2024/12 - Now**
BlenderLab (Mentor: Prof. Heng Ji)		
Research Intern	Seed-LLM-Harizon (Doubao)	**2024/08 - 2024/12**
ByteDance (SZ) (Mentor: Dr. Deng Cai, Dr. Wanjun Zhong)		
Visiting Student	University of Edinburgh	**2024/04 - 2024/11**
EdinburghNLP (Mentor: Prof. Jeff Z. Pan)		
Research Assistant	MoE Key Lab of High Confidence Software Technologies	**2019/12 - 2021/07**
CUHK (Mentor: Prof. Kam-Fai Wong)		

GRANTS / FUNDING

3. Overseas Research Attachment Programme (50,000 HKD, ORAP 2023-2024)

2. A Knowledge Graph Based Dynamic Video Extractive Summarization System (PRP/054/21FX)

1. "SEVES: Semantic-driven Effective Video Extractive Summarization System" – Technology and Business Development Fund (200,000 HKD, TBF22ENG004)

TEACHING ASSISTANT

SEEM 3450 Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship
SEEM 3490 Information Systems Management
SEEM 5730 / ECLT 5910 Information Technology Management

COMPETITIONS & AWARDS

Top 1 at Online Safety Prize Challange, WWW 2024	international
Reaching Out Awards (2022-2023)	school
Top 10 at ICLR 2021 Workshop MLPCP Track 1 (rank 7th)	international
Third Price at SMP2020-ECDT Few-shot Spoken Language Understanding	international
Top 10 at SemEval2020-Task4: CommonSense Detection and Explanations	international
Distinguished Academic Performance Scholarship (2019-2020), CUHK CSE	school
Meritorious Winner, Mathematical Contest In Modeling (2018)	international
A software copyright of "WeCampus WeChat mini-program" (2018SR562540)	national
China National Radio Scholarship	school

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

Reviewer: ICLR, ACL/EMNLP/NAACL/COLING, AAAI, IJCAI, ARR, ...
Organizer: ToolsMeetLLM@SIGIR2024
Co-founder and Committee: NLP Academic Exchange Platform (NICE) (Fans: 10w+; Views: 15w+)