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Professional Profile

Multidisciplinary and self-driven researcher applying machine learning to complex, data-intensive problems in physics, climate, and structural biology. Skilled at translating real-world challenges into machine learning solutions and delivering effective results.

SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Python, C
- Frameworks & Libraries: PyTorch, OpenCV, SciPy, Scikit-learn, NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib
- Technologies: Deep Learning (CNN, U-Net), Computer Vision, Weights and Bias, Git, Linux, Notion
- Communication: Cross-functional collaboration with scientists/engineers; leadership/mentorship of junior researchers

Projects

- CryoID2: AI framework for protein/RNA identification in cryo-electron microscopy (cryoEM) maps
 - Implemented multi-hierarchical U-Net from scratch using PyTorch to capture volumetric features
 - Integrated into an inference workflow with automated preprocessing for scalable deployment
 - Achieved high recall on key biological features (0.9788/0.9895/0.8266)
- CryoDataBot: Scalable cryoEM dataset generation for supervised learning applications
 - o Orchestrated an end-to-end pipeline covering data acquisition, preprocessing, and fine-grained annotation at scale
 - Generated datasets used to retrain deep learning models, improving precision over 22% (0.556 \rightarrow 0.679)
 - Supervised 4 team members; delegated tasks based on individual strengths and ensured timely progress
- Stratospheric sudden warming (SSW) predictive modeling post-event weather prediction
 - Developed a novel spatiotemporal PCA method to extract dominant modes from multi climate datasets
 - o Trained ML models on principal components to achieve >75% accuracy in post-event weather prediction

EXPERIENCE

California NanoSystems Institute, UCLA

Los Angeles, CA

Postdoc Scholar - Applied Machine Learning

Sep. 2022 - Present

- Data Engineering: Design and implement modular pipelines to automatically construct large-scale cryoEM datasets, integrating data fetching, preprocessing, labeling using Python, Pandas and Numpy
- o Neural Network Modeling: Develop and optimize convolutional neural networks for protein structure identification, leveraging PyTorch for model design, training, and evaluation
- o Applied Machine Learning: Collaborated with data scientists, application developers, and domain experts to transition prototypes into production-ready ML tools
- Capstone Leadership: Mentored and led a cross-functional team of undergraduates in applying ML to complex data problems

EDUCATION

Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Science

Ph.D. in Meteorology

Beijing, China

Sep. 2016 - June. 2022

Peking University B.S. in Physics

Beijing, China Sep. 2012 - June. 2016

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Xu, Q. et al. CryoDataBot: a pipeline to curate cryoEM datasets for AI-driven structural biology (preprint). Under review in GigaScience.
- Xu, Q., Chen, W. Song, L. Two leading modes in the evolution of major sudden stratospheric warmings and their distinctive surface influence. Geophysical Research Letters 49, e2021GL095431 (2022).