Tian Yun

tttyuntian.github.io | tian yun@brown.edu | (530) 551-9835

EDUCATION

Brown University Providence, RI

Doctor of Philosophy in Computer Science September 2022 - Present

Brown University Providence, RI

Master of Science in Computer Science August 2020 - May 2022

Wake Forest UniversityWinston-Salem, NCBachelor of Science in Mathematical StatisticsAugust 2016 - May 2020

Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Statistics
Honors Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

PUBLICATIONS

[1] Can Frozen Large Language Models Solve Visual Reasoning? Tian Yun, Ellie Pavlick, Chen Sun

Under Review

[2] \$100K or 100 days: Trade-offs when Pre-Training with Academic Resources
Apoorv Khandelwal, **Tian Yun**, Nihal V. Nayak, Jack Merullo, Stephen H. Bach, Chen Sun, Ellie Pavlick
Under Review

[3] mOthello: When Do Cross-Lingual Representation Alignment and Cross-Lingual Transfer Emerge in Multilingual

Tianze Hua*, Tian Yun*, Ellie Pavlick

NAACL 2024

[4] Emergence of Grounded Representations in Embodied Sequence Modeling Tian Yun*, Zilai Zeng*, Kunal Handa, Ashish Thapliyal, Bo Pang, Ellie Pavlick, Chen Sun EMNLP 2023

- [5] Improved Inference of Human Intent by Combining Plan Recognition and Language Feedback Ifrah Idrees, Tian Yun, Naveen Sharma, Nakul Gopalan, Stefanie Tellex, George Konidaris IROS 2023
- [6] Do Vision-Language Pretrained Models Learn Primitive Concepts? **Tian Yun**, Usha Bhalla, Ellie Pavlick, Chen Sun

TMLR

[7] Does Vision-and-Language Pretraining Improve Lexical Grounding?

Tian Yun, Chen Sun, Ellie Pavlick *Findings of EMNLP*, 2021

[8] Mining Biomedical Texts for Pediatric Information

Tian Yun, Deepti Garg, Natalia Khuri

14th International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies, 2021

PREPRINTS

[9] BLOOM: A 176B-Parameter Open-Access Multilingual Language Model Teven Scao et al.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

LUNAR Lab & PALM Lab, Brown University

Providence, RI

Co-advised by Ellie Pavlick and Chen Sun

August 2020 – Present

- Investigated whether vision-and-language (VL) pretraining yields better linguistic representations.
- Researched whether pretrained vision-and-language (VL) models learn composable primitive concepts.
- Studied how grounded world representations emerge in embodied sequence modeling.

Humans to Robots Lab, Brown University

Providence, RI

Advised by Stefanie Tellex

March 2021 – December 2023

 Proposed a situation-aware coaching dialogue system that guides users to accomplish daily tasks by reasoning over uncertainties in the environment and asking clarification questions to the users.

Google Mountain View, CA

Student Researcher, Advised by Bo Pang and Ashish Thapliyal

June 2022 – August 2022

• Studied how well vision-and-language models can leverage learned visual commonsense knowledge to adapt to new visual commonsense knowledge in synthetic environment.

BigScience Workshop, HuggingFace

Providence, RI

Advised by Ellie Pavlick

May 2021 – Aug 2022

 Co-led the engineering team in Evaluation working group to build an evaluation pipeline with a large set of prompted datasets for large language models.

DataMine Research Group, Wake Forest University

Winston-Salem, NC

Advised by Natalia Khuri

August 2019 – August 2020

 Built a pipeline with machine learning algorithms to extract information about safety and efficacy of drugs in pediatric populations from approved drug product labels.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

September 2021 – December 2021

Teaching Assistant Instructor: Chen Sun

CSCI-1460: Computational Linguistics, Brown University

Teaching Assistant Instructor: Eugene Charniak

Computer Science Peer Tutor, Wake Forest University

September 2017 – May 2020

January 2021 – April 2021

SERVICE (*outstanding reviewer)

Conference Reviewer

AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)

2025

ACL Rolling Review (ARR)

2024

Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR)

2022, 2023, 2024

European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV)

2022, 2024

International Conference on Computer Vision (ICCV)

2023*