Wasi Uddin Ahmad

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https://wasiahmad.github.io

Research Objective

Developing computational algorithms that (1) reduce the need for large-scale annotated data to train neural models from scratch; (2) adapt to new domains and languages with fewer labeled examples.

Education

Ph.D. in **Computer Science**   09.2017 - 09.2021
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
CGPA: 3.78 on a scale of 4.00
Advisor: Dr. Kai-Wei Chang

Master of **Computer Science**   08.2015 - 08.2017
University of Virginia (UVA)
CGPA: 4.00 on a scale of 4.00
Advisor: Dr. Kai-Wei Chang

B.Sc. in **Computer Science and Engineering**   01.2008 - 02.2013
Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)
CGPA: 3.81 on a scale of 4.00
Position: Ranked 8th in a class of 142 students

Publications [Google Scholar]

1. Huang, K. H., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Improving Zero-Shot Cross-Lingual Transfer Learning via Robust Training. In Proceedings of EMNLP.

2. Parvez, R. Md., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Retrieval Augmented Code Generation and Summarization. In Findings of the ACL: EMNLP.

3. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Li, H., Mehdad, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Syntax-augmented Multilingual BERT for Cross-lingual Transfer. In Proceedings of ACL.

4. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Le, T., Norton, T., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Intent Classification and Slot Filling for Privacy Policies. In Proceedings of ACL.

5. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Bai, X., Lee, S., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Select, Extract and Generate: Neural Keyphrase Generation with Layer-wise Coverage Attention. In Proceedings of ACL.

6. Hasan, M., Muttaqueen, T., Ishtiaq, A. A., Mehrab, K.S., Haque, M. M. A., Hasan, T., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Iqbal, A., & Shahriyar, R. (2021). CoDesc: A Large CodeDescription Parallel Dataset. In Findings of ACL.

7. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2021). Unified Pre-training for Program Understanding and Generation. In Proceedings of NAACL-HLT.

8. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2021). GATE: Graph Attention Transformer Encoder for Cross-lingual Relation and Event Extraction. In Proceedings of AAAI.

9. Chakraborty, S., Tafseer, M. T., & **Ahmad, W. U.** (2021). Simple or Complex? Learning to Predict Readability of Bengali Texts. In Proceedings of AAAI.

10. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chi, J., Tian, Y., & Chang, K. W. (2020). PolicyQA: A Reading Comprehension Dataset for Privacy Policies. In Findings of the ACL: EMNLP.

11. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chakraborty, S., Ray, B., & Chang, K. W. (2020). A Transformer-based Approach for Source Code Summarization. In Proceedings of ACL.

12. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Zhang, Z., Ma, X., Chang, K. W., & Peng, N. (2019). Cross-lingual Dependency Parsing with Unlabeled Auxiliary Languages. In Proceedings of CoNLL.

13. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2019). Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

14. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Zhang, Z., Ma, X., Hovy, E., Chang, K. W., & Peng, N. (2019). On Difficulties of Cross-Lingual Transfer with Order Differences: A Case Study on Dependency Parsing. In Proceedings of NAACL-HLT.

15. Duong, D., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Eskin, E., Chang, K. W., & Li, J. J. (2019). Word and sentence embedding tools to measure semantic similarity of Gene Ontology terms by their definitions. Journal of Computational Biology.

16. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Intent-aware query obfuscation for privacy protection in personalized web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

17. Yu, P., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Wang, H. (2018). Hide-n-Seek: An Intent-aware Privacy Protection Plugin for Personalized Web Search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

18. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Chang, K. W., & Wang, H. (2018). Multi-task learning for document ranking and query suggestion. In Proceedings of ICLR.

19. **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Chang, K. W. (2018). A Corpus to Learn Refer-to-as Relations for Nominals. In Proceedings of LREC.

20. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Rahman, M. M., & Wang, H. (2016). Topic model based privacy protection in personalized Web search. In Proceedings of SIGIR.

Preprints

1. Hasan, T., Bhattacharjee, A., **Ahmad, W. U.**, Li, Y. F., Kang, Y. B., & Shahriyar, R. (2021). CrossSum: Beyond English-Centric Cross-Lingual Abstractive Text Summarization for 1500+ Language Pairs. arXiv preprint arXiv:2112.08804.

2. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Tushar, Md. G. R., Chakraborty, S., & Chang, K. W. (2021). AVATAR: A Parallel Corpus for Java-Python Program Translation. arXiv preprint arXiv:2108.11590.

3. Hasan, M., Mehrab, K.S., **Ahmad, W. U.**, & Shahriyar, R. (2021). Text2App: A Framework for Creating Android Apps from Text Descriptions. arXiv preprint arXiv:2104.08301.

4. **Ahmad, W. U.**, Bai, X., Peng, N., & Chang, K. W. (2018). Learning Robust, Transferable Sentence Representations for Text Classification. arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.00681.

Industrial Experience

Amazon Web Services, Santa Clara, CA   10.2021 - Present
Applied Scientist II, AWS AI Labs

Facebook AI, Menlo Park, CA 06.2020 - 09.2020
Research Intern, Language and Translation Technology

Yahoo Research, Sunnyvale, CA 06.2019 - 09.2019
Research Intern, Ad Quality Science

Microsoft AI & Research, Redmond, WA 06.2018 - 09.2018
Research Intern, Business Applications Group

Walmart Labs, Reston, VA 06.2016 - 08.2016
Research Intern, Wireless Fraud Prevention

REVE Systems, Dhaka, Bangladesh 02.2013 - 10.2013
Software Development Engineer, Android

Teaching Experience

University of California, Los Angeles
Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Introduction to Computer Science II. Instructor: David Smallberg. 01.2019 - 06.2019
- Introduction to Machine Learning. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. 01.2018 - 03.2018

University of Virginia
Graduate Teaching Assistant

- Advanced Machine Learning. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. 01.2017 - 05.2017
- Natural Language Processing. Instructor: Kai-Wei Chang. 08.2016 - 12.2016
- Advanced Software Development. Instructor: Tom Horton. 08.2015 - 05.2016
- Capstone Practicum I & II. Instructor: Aaron Bloomfield. 08.2015 - 05.2016

Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology
Lecturer, Department of Computer Science 11.2013 - 08.2015

Research/Invited Talks

- Representation Learning for Low-resource Language Processing, AWS AI, May, 2021
- Representation Learning for Low-resource Language Processing, Microsoft, April, 2021
- Context Attentive Document Ranking and Query Suggestion, SIGIR, July 2019
- Multi-Task Learning, Machine Learning Seminar, UCLA, November 2017

Professional Services

Program Committee/Reviewer

- 2022: ICML, SIGIR, IJCAI, KDD, ARR, LREC, AAAI, WSDM, ICLR
- 2021: NIPS, EMNLP, SIGIR, ACL-IJCNLP, IJCAI, NAACL, EACL, AAAI
- 2020: EMNLP, ICML, IJCAI, AAAI, LREC
- others: NAACL 2019, EMNLP 2018 (secondary reviewer), TOIS (journal)

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

- SIGIR Student Travel Grant   2016, 2019
- ICLR Travel Award   2018
- Graduate Division Fellowships, UCLA   2017
- William L Ballard Jr Endowed Graduate Fellowship, UVA   2017
- Graduate Division Fellowships, UVA   2015 - 2016
- Dean's List Award, BUET   2008-09 to 2010-11
- University Merit Scholarship, BUET   2007-08 to 2010-11

References

Dr. Kai-Wei Chang
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University of California, Los Angeles
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Dr. Nanyun Peng
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science
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Email: violetpeng@cs.ucla.edu