WENTING ZHAO

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago   *August 2018 - Present*
PhD in Natural Language Processing
Major: Computer Science
GPA: 4.0/4.0

Shandong University, Jinan, China   *July 2014 - June 2017*
M.E. in School of Computer Science and Technology
Major: Software Engineering
GPA: 89.6/100 (Ranking: top 1%)

Shandong University, Weihai, China   *July 2010 - June 2014*
B.E. in School of Mechanical, Electrical and Information Engineering
Major: Software Engineering
GPA: 88.6/100 (Ranking: top 6%)

EXPERIENCE

Intern at Salesforce - Expected   *May 2023 - Aug 2023*
Research Intern - Full time
Palo Alto, California, United States

Intern at Amazon AWS Lex team   *May 2022 - Jan 2023*
Research Scientist - Full-time
Seattle, Washington, United States

- Learn API semantics through in-context learning of Dialogue2API
- Define & learn compositionality of Dialogue2API

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SKILLS

Research Interests: Table-to-Text Generation, Few-shot Text Generation, Semantic Parsing, NLP
Program Language: Python, Matlab, C, C++, Java

PROJECTS

learning API semantic for Dialogue2API through LLM   *Jun 2022 - Jan 2023*
Investigation of the few-shot performance of LLM such as Codex, CodeGen, and GPT-Neox on semantic
parsing task. We start from two perspectives: 1)the prompt design, and 2) a novel strategy to leverage
unlabelled data.

Free-form TableQA   *Jun 2021 - May 2022*
Investigation of the free-form TableQA that requires more complex relevant table cell selection strategy
as well as the complex integration and inference of separate pieces of information to generate answer
given a question.

Table-to-Text Generation *August 2019 - May 2021*

Coherent and natural description generation given a semi-structured table under limited training examples.

Evolutionary Computation *July 2014 - June 2017*

Heuristic algorithm to solve optimization problems, including unconstrained optimization problems, constrained problems and multi-objective optimization problems.

PUBLICATIONS

Yibo Wang, Yanbing Xue, Bo Liu, Musen Wen, **Wenting Zhao**, Stephen Guo, and Philip Yu. Click-Conversion Multi-Task Model with Position Bias Mitigation for Sponsored Search in eCommerce.SIGIR 2023.

Wenting Zhao, Ye Liu, Yao Wan, Philip S. Yu. Attend, Memorize and Generate: Towards Faithful Table-to-TextGeneration in Few Shots. Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP 2021.

Ye Liu, Yao Wan, Jianguo Zhang, **Wenting Zhao**, and Philip Yu. Enriching Non-Autoregressive Transformer with Syntactic and Semantic Structures for Neural Machine Translation. In Proceedings of the 16th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Main Volume, pages 12351244, Online. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Wenting Zhao, Lijin Wang, Yilong Yin, et al. Sequential quadratic programming enhanced backtracking search algorithm. Frontiers of Computer Science, pp.1-15, 2017.

Wenting Zhao, Lijin Wang, Bingqing Wang, et al. Best Guided Backtracking Search Algorithm for Numerical Optimization Problems. in the 9th International Conference on Knowledge Science, Engineering and Management (KSEM), pp.414-425, Springer, 2016.

Wenting Zhao, Lijin Wang, Yuhui Shi, et al. A Multi-objective Framework for Brain MRI Threshold Segmentation. in the 8th International Conference on Information Technology in Medicine and Education (ITME), pp. 20-24, 2016.

Wenting Zhao, Lijin Wang, Yilong Yin, et al. An Improved Backtracking Search Algorithm for Constrained Optimization Problems.in the 7th International Conference on Knowledge Science, Engineering and Management (KSEM), pp.222-233, Springer, 2014.

Lijin Wang, Yiwen Zhong, Yilong Yin, **Wenting Zhao**, Bingqing Wang, Yunlong Xu. A Hybrid Backtracking Search Optimization Algorithm with Differential Evolution. Mathematical Problems in Engineering, Volume 2015, Article ID 769245, 2015.

Bingqing Wang, Lijin Wang, Yilong Yin, Yunlong Xu, **Wenting Zhao**, Yuchun Tang. An Improved Neural Network with Random Weights by Backtracking Search Algorithm. Neural Processing Letters, 44(1): 37-52, 2016.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Agu. 2020 - Present	TA, Programming for Engineers with MatLab, UIC, Chicago
Agu. 2018 - May. 2019	TA, Database Systems, UIC, Chicago
Mar. 2014 - Jul. 2017	RA, Machine Learning and Data Mining Lab, Shandong University

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

- EMNLP 2021
  EMNLP: The 2021 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.

- ACL 2020
  ACL: The 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

- Volunteer at conference MICS 2015
  MICS: Medical Image Computing Seminar organized by Dinggang Shen.

- Valse 2015/2016 and ECOLE 2015/2016.
  Valse: Vision And Learning Seminar organized by Shiguang Shan.
  ECOLE: Evolutionary Computation and Learning Seminar organized by Maoguo Gong.