XINYU ZHAO

404-408-7663

xinyu.zhao@gao.io

Experience

Staff Machine Learning Engineer, Quora Inc., Mountain View, CA — 2020 - Present

- **Current work: joined Poe team since Sep, 2022**
    - Poe is a chat APP that allows user to ask questions, get instant answers, and have back-and-forth conversions with AI.
    - As the ML engineer on Poe team, working on
        - Linkification — incrementally highlight keywords in bot response so that user can keep clicking and exploring.
        - Prompt engineering for safety and accuracy.
        - LLM model fine tuning.
- **Previous work: led several projects that achieved product goal and/or reduced technical debt.**
    - Question auto generation: fine tuned GPT-3 to automatically generate questions people might be looking for answers to. This project increases answer volume on Quora and also increases user activities.
    - Spam detection: proposed and developed different models, like image spam detection, near duplicate detection, bad actor detection, etc., to effectively reduce spam content on Quora.
    - Answer ranking on the question page: migrated feature extraction to C++ to reduce system complexity and improve inference time.

Machine Learning Engineer, Quora Inc., Mountain View, CA — 2017 - 2020

- **Previous work: worked on different projects including answer ranking, content quality, moderation, etc.**
    - Question auto correction: developed a sequence-to-sequence model to correct grammar errors in question text: https://www.quora.com/q/quoraengineering/Using-natural-language-models-for-question-correction.
    - Two-phrase duplicate question detection.

- Content embedding for question page answer ranking and feed ranking

Education
- Auburn University, Auburn, AL, USA — Ph.D in Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2012 - 2016
- Auburn University, Auburn, AL, USA — Master in Electrical and Computer Engineering, 2011 - 2012

Skills
Domain knowledge: natural language processing (NLP) and large language models (LLMs)

Languages: Python, C++

Tools/Libraries: Tensorflow, PyTorch