Yi Yang

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Education

Doctor of Philosophy — Expected in December 2016
School of Interactive Computing, College of Computing — GPA: 3.92/4.0
Georgia Institute Technology, Atlanta, GA

Bachelor of Science — Sep.2007 - Jun.2011
School of Software — GPA: 3.70/4.0, Rank: 2/144
Beihang University, Beijing, China

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant — Jan. 2013 - present
Computational Linguistics Lab, School of Interactive Computing
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

- Unsupervised Domain Adaptation for Structured Prediction
  - Feature embedding for unsupervised multi-domain adaptation.
  - Representation learning through marginalized denoising autoencoders with structured dropout noise.
- Token-based Unsupervised Text Normalization
  - Defined a log-linear model for unsupervised text normalization.
  - Approximated target distributions with Sequential Monte Carlo.

Graduate Research Assistant — Aug. 2011 - Dec. 2012
Data Intensive Systems Lab, CERCS, School of Computer Science
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

- A Study of Mercenary Followers
  - Used monitoring based approaches to identify mercenary followers and their employers.
  - Conducted extensive observation / analysis on mercenary followers.
  - Studied the benefits of follower employers from employing mercenary followers.

Work Experience

Research Intern — May. 2014 - Aug. 2014
Internet Services Research Center (ISRC) Group — Mentor: Ming-Wei Chang
Microsoft Research Redmond, WA

- Proposed Structured Multiple Additive Regression Trees (S-MART) for fast non-linear structured learning.
- Proposed a global joint model for tweet entity linking.

Research Scientist Intern — May. 2013 - Jul. 2013 & May. 2012 - Aug. 2012
Speech Group & Natural Language Understanding Group — Mentor: Bjoern Hoffmeister & Imre Kiss
Amazon, inc. Seattle, WA

- Improved confusion network decoding for Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR).
- Improved confidence modeling for Natural Language Understanding (NLU) with ASR output.
- Proposed a SMT based approach for Named Entity Recognition.

Publications

Yi Yang and Ming-Wei Chang. S-MART: Novel Tree-based Structured Learning Algorithms Applied to Tweet Entity Linking. *To appear in The 53rd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2015* (Full Oral Paper)

Yi Yang and Jacob Eisenstein. Unsupervised Multi-Domain Adaptation with Feature Embeddings. *To appear in the 2015 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL), 2015* (Full Paper)

Yi Yang and Jacob Eisenstein. Unsupervised Domain Adaptation with Feature Embeddings. *To appear in the 3rd International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR), 2015* (Workshop Paper)

Yi Yang and Jacob Eisenstein. Fast Easy Unsupervised Domain Adaptation with Marginalized Structured Dropout. *In Proceedings of The 52nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2014.* (Short Paper)

Yi Yang and Jacob Eisenstein. A Log-Linear Model for Unsupervised Text Normalization. *In Proceedings of Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), 2013.* (Full Oral Paper) (8% acceptance rate)

Yi Yang and Lambert Mathias. A statistical machine translation approach to entity recognition. *In Proceedings of Amazon Conference on Machine Learning, 2013*

Fangtao Li, Minlie Huang, **Yi Yang** and Xiaoyan Zhu. Learning to Identify Review Spam. *In Proceedings of the Twenty-Second International Joint Conference On Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI), 2011.* (Full Oral Paper) (17% acceptance rate)

Minlie Huang, **Yi Yang** and Xiaoyan Zhu. Quality-biased Ranking of Short Texts in Microblogging Services. *In Proceedings of the 5th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing (IJCNLP), 2011* (Full Oral Paper)

Rezarta Islamaj Doan, **Yi Yang**, Aurlie Nvol, Minlie Huang and Zhiyong Lu. Identifying protein-protein interactions in biomedical text articles. *In Proceedings of the Third BioCreative Challenge Evaluation Workshop, 2010*

Teaching Experience

- Intro to Enterprise Computing — Spring 2013
- J2EE Architecture — Spring 2011
- Java Programming Language — Fall 2010
- Algorithm Analysis & Design — Fall 2009

Professional Services

- Program Committee Member: EMNLP 2015, ACL 2015, ACL 2014
- Conference Review: CONLL 2014, EMNLP 2013, ICDCS 2012, WWW 2011

Selected Honors

- ACL Student Travel Awards — 2014
- EMNLP Student Volunteer — 2013
- Excellent Student of Beihang University (Top 1%) — 2010
- First Prize for Academic Excellent Student (Top 2%), Beihang University — 2010
- Ranked 7th in ACM Programming Contest, Beihang University — 2009
- First Prize for Innovative Student (Top 2%), Beihang University — 2009
- National Scholarship (Top 2%), P.R.China — 2009