Yash Kumar Lal

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(443)-207-3261

Education

Stony Brook, NY **Stony Brook University** **August 2020 –**

- PhD in Computer Science. Advisor: Niranjan Balasubramanian. Research Area: Question Answering

Baltimore, MD **Johns Hopkins University** **August 2018 – May 2020**

- M.S.E. in Computer Science. Thesis: Low resource problems in NLP. Advisor: Philipp Koehn. CGPA: 3.94

Manipal, India **Manipal Institute of Technology** **Aug 2014 – June 2018**

- B.Tech. in Computer Science Engineering. CGPA: 3.34

Employment

Research Intern **Google Research** **Sep 2023 – Nov 2023**

- Project Title: Automatic Generation of Adversarial Examples
- Mentor: Ananth Balashankar, Ahmad Beirami, Preethi Lahoti

Research Intern **Allen Institute for AI** **May 2023 – Aug 2023**

- Project Title: Customizing Open-Domain Procedures
- Introduced a new dataset for the task as well as proposed team-of-agents framework over LLMs to tackle it
- Mentor: Niket Tandon

Research Intern **Salesforce Inc.** **May 2022 – Aug 2022**

- Project Title: Leveraging Knowledge Graphs for Pre-Training Question Decomposers
- Designed a strategy to extract synthetic data from KBs analogous to multi-hop reasoning steps
- Mentors: Semih Yavuz, Ye Liu, Yingbo Zhou

Technical Experience

Selected Publications

- **Edit-Based Agents for Open-Domain Procedure Customization**. Findings of ACL, 2024.
- **Socialite-Llama: An Instruction-Tuned Model for Social Scientific Tasks**. EACL 2024.
- **Systematic Evaluation of GPT-3 for Zero-Shot Personality Estimation**. WASSA@ACL 2023.
- **Evaluating Paraphrastic Robustness in Textual Entailment Models**. ACL 2023.
- **Using Commonsense Knowledge to Answer Why-Questions**. EMNLP 2022.
- **TellMeWhy: A Dataset for Answering Why-Questions in Narratives**. Findings of ACL-IJCNLP, 2021.
- **IrEne: Interpretable Energy Prediction for Transformers**. ACL-IJCNLP, 2021.
- **Temporal Reasoning in Natural Language Inference**. Findings of EMNLP, 2020.
- **Sentence-Level Adaptation for Low-Resource Languages**. LoResMT workshop, MT Summit, 2019.
- **De-Mixing Sentiment from Code-Mixed Text**. ACL Student Research Workshop, 2019.
- **Identifying Clickbait: A Multi-Strategy Approach Using Neural Networks**. SIGIR, 2018.

Selected Projects

- **Ping** - A smart platform for language independent communication between businesses and their customers. Uses AI to present messages to users, in their preferred language. (Swift 3, Python, Redis, Travis CI, AWS)
- **hello friend** - SMS service utilising natural language processing to bring essential smartphone features to simple feature phones. (Python, Heroku)

Service and Awards

- **Best Long Paper Runner-Up**, Fourth Workshop on Trustworthy NLP, NAACL 2024
- **Chair**: NAACL 2022 Reproducibility Track
- **Workshop Organizer:** Narrative Understanding, 2024; Commonsense Representation and Reasoning, 2022
- **Reviewer:** ECIR ’19, ’21; WMT ’19; TALLIP ’20; EMNLP ’21-’23; ACL Rolling Review Nov ’21 - present
- **Program Committee:** ACL SRW ’20-’21; AACL SRW ’20; NAACL ’21; NAACL SRW ’21, ACL ’23
- **Winner, Acceleprise Award** at AngelHack Global Demo Day ’17, San Francisco; AngelHack Hyderabad ’17