YINGSHAN CHANG



Research Keywords: Natural Language Processing, Reasoning, Compositionality, Multimodal Knowledge Aggregation

Key to my research goal is the following questions:

- 1) How to endow machines with reusable skills that can be compositionally built up to achieve systematic generalization?
- 2) What appropriate roles can language play in (1), drawing inspiration from how humans use language as a medium to:
 - Acquire knowledge (language as **instruction**, human->computer);
 - Externalize thoughts (language as **explanation**, computer->human);
 - Exchange information (language as **communication**, computer->computer).

EDUCATION

Master of Language Technologies, Carnegie Mellon University GPA: 4.12/4.3

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology GPA: 4.038/4.3

First Class Honors, additional major in Mathematics

Outbound Exchange, Georgia Institute of Technology GPA: 4.0/4.0

AEARU STEM Summer Camp, Peking University GPA: 93/100

08/2020 — 08/2020
09/2016 — 06/2020
01/2019 — 05/2019
07/2018

RESEARCH

Graduate Research Assistant / WebQA: Multihop and Multimodal QA

Advised by Yonatan Bisk Paper Leaderboard Website

09/2020 — Present

CMU, PA

- Crowdsourced a dataset with knowledge-seeking QA pairs and multimodal (image+snippets) knowledge sources.
- Mined hard negatives which have high lexical overlap with the question or positive sources, while lacking reference to the answer.
- Adversarially created the train/test split such that the majority answers concluded from the training set cannot carry over to testing, thus suppressing purely statistical approaches.
- Implemented baseline models for WebQA under both fine-tuning (finetune a vision-and-language Transformer) and few-shot (prompt GPT-3 with engineered prefixes) settings.
- Accepted to NeurIPS 2021 Competition Track. In submission to CVPR2022. (First Author)

Undergrad Final Year Project / Low-Light Video Enhancement Using Deep Learning Advised by Qifeng Chen Thesis

08/2019 - 05/2020

HKUST, HK

- Designed a novel method for collecting dark and blurry video frames with corresponding bright and sharp ground-truth images.
- Proposed an end-to-end CNN pipeline with a fine-tuning strategy for low-light video enhancement.
- Evaluated end-to-end training on the collected dataset with both quantitative metrics and qualitative human evaluation.

Visiting Research Assistant / Event-to-Sentence Using BERT in Automatic Story Generation Advised by Mark Riedl

05/2019 — **08/2019** *GaTech, GA*

- Implemented a Fill-in-the-Blank and an Editing-Writing network based on BERT, which is able to expand an event <sbj, pred, obj>tuple into a sentence.
- Investigated the contributions of pre-trained unsupervised models to story generation.

Undergrad Research Project / Building a Blockchain and Smart Contract Application *Advised by Shing-Chi Cheung*

09/2018 - 12/2018

HKUST, HK

- Implemented a smart contract based on Ethereum framework.
- Developed a web interface for user interaction, supporting functions for transaction creation, manipulation and approval.

Undergrad Research Project / Smart Home Solutions with Gesture Interaction *Advised by Xiaojuan Ma*

06/2017 — 08/2017 HKUST, HK

• Built a gesture-control light that works together with a gesture sensor and a PC in a local wifi network.

SKILLS

Tools and Programming

Python, PyTorch, Git, 上人, MarkDown, Linux, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Java, Matlab, R, d3

Communication

Python, PyTorch, Git, 上人, MarkDown, Linux, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Java, Matlab, R, d3

Mandarin (native), English (proficient), French (beginner)

INTERNSHIP

HKUST Student Lab Helper / COMP2611

09/2018 - 12/2018

Assisted teaching and helped students complete programming assignments in lab sessions

HKUST, HK

Summer Intern / Bank of China Software Center

06/2018 - 06/2018

• Assisted in value analysis and revision of 46 innovation initiatives related to mobile banking service.

Beijing, CN

• Audited the Developers Conference and two cloud platform trainings directed by IBM and CloudWalk.