

# Xiang Ren

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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## Employment History

### University of Southern California

ANDREW AND ERNA VITERBI EARLY CAREER CHAIR

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (WITH TENURE), COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

RESEARCH TEAM LEADER, INFORMATION SCIENCE INSTITUTES (BY COURTESY)

DIRECTOR, USC INTELLIGENCE AND KNOWLEDGE DISCOVERY RESEARCH LAB

Los Angeles, CA

10/2022 - present

04/2023 - present

02/2018 - 03/2023

05/2020 - present

02/2018 - present

### Sahara AI

CO-FOUNDER

Los Angeles, CA

03/2023 - present

### Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)

VISITING RESEARCH SCIENTIST (20%)

Los Angeles, CA

04/2022 - 04/2023

### ACM SIGKDD

INFORMATION DIRECTOR, APPOINTED CHAIR

Los Angeles, CA

01/2019 - present

### Snap Inc.

DATA SCIENCE ADVISOR

Santa Monica, CA

03/2018 - 03/2019

### Stanford University

RESEARCH SCHOLAR, NLP GROUP & SNAP GROUP

Stanford, CA

05/2017 - 02/2018

## Research Interests

### NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

- LLM reasoning and generalization
- Model safety and trust
- Attribution, memorization, and provenance

### MACHINE LEARNING

- Efficient inference time method and scaling
- Continual learning & rapid generalization
- Interpretability; Post-hoc model explanation

## Education History

### Ph.D. in Computer Science

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, IL, 08/2012 - 02/2018

Advisor: Jiawei Han; Committee members: Chengxiang Zhai, Heng Ji, Tarek Abdelzaher

2018 ACM SIGKDD Doctoral Dissertation Award, C. W. Gear Outstanding Graduate Student Award

### M.Sc. in Computer Science

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, IL, 04/2016

2016 David J. Kuck Outstanding M.S. Thesis Award (given to 1 student from the computer science department)

### B.Eng. in Computer Science

ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY, HANGZHOU, CHINA, 05/2008 - 06/2012

Excellence Senior Thesis Award, Computer Science Department, Graduate with honors, Chu Kochen Honors College

## Selected Honors and Awards

2024	ACM WSDM Test of Time Award
2023	ACL Outstanding Paper Award
2023	Samsung AI Researcher of the Year
2023	MIT Tech Review Innovators Under 35 (Asia Pacific)
2022	NAACL Outstanding Paper Award

2022	Andrew and Erna Viterbi Early Career Chair, USC
2022	Amazon Alexa Fairness in AI Award
2021	<b>NSF CAREER Award</b>
2021	Facebook Faculty Research Award
2021	Best Paper Award, NAACL TrustNLP Workshop
2020	<b>Best Paper Award Runner-up, The Web Conference (WWW)</b>
2020	Sony Faculty Research Award
2020	Snapchat Faculty Research Award
2019	<b>Forbes' Asia 30 Under 30, Healthcare &amp; Science</b>
2019	JP Morgan AI Research Award
2019	Amazon Faculty Research Award
2019	Adobe Data Science Research Award
2018	Google Faculty Research Award
2018	<b>Winner, ACM SIGKDD Doctoral Dissertation Award</b>

## Top Five Cited Papers (Total Citation on Google Scholar: 28,404)

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- [1] Hierarchical Graph Representation Learning with Differentiable Pooling (**Citations: 2,294**)  
Rex Ying, Jiaxuan You, Chris Morris, **Xiang Ren**, William L. Hamilton, Jure Leskovec  
*Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS)*, 2018
- [2] GraphRNN: A Deep Generative Model for Graphs (**Citations: 1,343**)  
Jiaxuan You, Rex Ying, **Xiang Ren**, William L. Hamilton, Jure Leskovec  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2018
- [4] Personalized Entity Recommendation: A Heterogeneous Information Network Approach (**Citations: 1,010**)  
X. Yu, **Xiang Ren**, Y. Sun, Q. Gu, B. Sturt, U. Khandelwal, B. Norick, J. Han  
*7th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM)*, 2014. (**Test of Time Award**)
- [4] Kagnet: Knowledge-aware graph networks for commonsense reasoning (**Citations: 653**)  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Xinyue Chen, Jamin Chen, **Xiang Ren**.  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2019
- [5] Faith and fate: Limits of transformers on compositionality (**Citations: 620**)  
Nouha Dziri, Ximing Lu, et al., **Xiang Ren**, Allyson Ettinger, Zaid Harchaoui, Yejin Choi  
*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2023

## Research Grants, Sponsorship, Gifts

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Total funding (own share)  $\approx$  \$5.8 million

- [11] **NSF Proto-OKN: Knowledge Graph Construction for Resilient, Trustworthy, and Secure Software Supply Chain.**  
- **PI**, (10-01-2023 - 09-30-2026), \$350,505 (my share)  
- **Role**: Build a natural language interface to the software knowledge base system.
- [10] **NSF CAREER: Teaching Machine through Human Explanations for Information Extraction.**  
- **sole PI**, award# 2048211 (05-15-2021 - 04-30-2026), \$513,058 (total)  
- **Role**: Build and maintain domain-specific information extraction systems with human explanations.
- [9] **NSF SciSIP: Modeling the Invention, Dissemination, and Translation of Scientific Concepts.**  
- **PI**, award# 1829268 (08-01-2018 - 08-31-2020), \$239,988 (own share); \$503,974 (total). **Co-PI**: Daniel MacFarland  
- **Role**: Develop neural models for measuring and modeling processes of scientific innovation.
- [8] **DARPA Machine Commonsense (MCS): Multi-modal Open World Grounded Learning and Inference (MOWGLI).**  
- **Co-PI** (06-01-2019 - 05-31-2023), \$1,026,796 (own share); \$8.6M (total).  
- **PI**: Pedro Szekely. **Other Co-PIs**: Jay Pujara, Jure Leskovec, Sameer Singh, Deborah McGuinness  
- **Role**: Address the challenge of machine common sense by reading the web and modeling structured knowledge.
- [7] **DARPA Knowledge Management at Scale and Speed (KMASS): LKNIC: Knowledge Needed in Context.**  
- **Co-PI** (03-01-2022 - 02-31-2024), \$526,613 (own share); \$4.5M (total).  
- **PI**: Jay Pujara. **Other Co-PIs**: Jonathan May, David Truam, Elizabeth Boschee  
- **Role**: Revolutionize knowledge management through the use of a cognitively-inspired organization of multimodal background knowledge, a dialogue-driven agent for knowledge capture and dissemination.
- [6] **DARPA Grounded Artificial Intelligence Language Acquisition (GAILA): Learning Language from Image and Video Entities.**  
- **Co-PI** (07-01-2019 - 5-31-2022), \$372,747 (own share); \$925k (total). **PI**: Ram Nevatia; **Other Co-PI**: Yan Liu.  
- **Role**: Develop continual learning algorithms for vision-language models.

- [5] **Schmidt Family Foundation Grant: Using Artificial Intelligence to Support Cognitive Task Analysis.**  
 - **Co-investigator** (06-15-2019 – 09-30-2020), \$173k (own share); \$340k (total). **PI:** Kenneth Yates; **Co-PI:** Rao Machiraju  
 - **Role:** Automatic construction of procedure knowledge graphs from interview transcripts.
- [4] **IARPA Human Interpretable Attribution of Text Using Underlying Structure (HIATUS): SADIRI: Stylometric Authorship Discernment and Interpretation for Realistic Inputs.**  
 - **Co-investigator** (09-10-2022 – 06-15-2025), \$411,156 (own share)  
 - **PI:** Elizabeth Boschee. **Other Co-PIs:** Scott Miller  
 - **Role:** Develop enhanced methods for explaining language models for authorship detection.
- [3] **IARPA Better Extraction from Text Towards Enhanced Retrieval (BETTER): Cross-Lingual Event & Argument Retrieval.**  
 - **Co-investigator** (06-01-2019 – 11-30-2022), \$479,682 (own share); \$7.28M (total)  
 - **PI:** Elizabeth Boschee. **Other Co-PIs:** Scott Miller, James Allan  
 - **Role:** Develop enhanced methods for personalized, multilingual semantic extraction and retrieval from text.
- [2] **DARPA Influence Campaign Awareness and Sensemaking (INCAS)**  
 - **Co-investigator**, (8-15-2021 – 12-31-2025), \$464,803 (own share); \$4.2M (total)  
 - **PI:** Emilio Ferrara. **Other Co-PIs:** Alessandro Flammini, Jacob Shapiro, Jonathan May  
 - **Role:** Develop explanation-based learning methods for campaign prediction models.
- [1] **DARPA Systematizing Confidence in Open Research and Evidence (SCORE): Macroscopic models for Reproducibility and Replicability of Research Claims in the Social and Behavioral Sciences.**  
 - **Co-PI**, (10-01-2019 – 12-31-2021), \$274,104 (own share); \$1.83M (total). **PI:** Jay Pujara. **Other Co-PI:** Kristina Lerman  
 - **Role:** Develop human-in-the-loop learning interfaces for information extraction from scientific papers.
- [0] **Gift awards from Industry (sole PI, \$830k+):** Google Research Scholar Award (\$60k), Facebook Sponsored Research Award (\$150k), Amazon Trust ML grant (\$70k), JP Morgan AI research award (\$150k), Sony faculty innovation award (\$100k), Google faculty research award (\$80k), Amazon research award (\$160k), Adobe data science award (\$80k), Snapchat gifts (\$20k)

## Selected Media Coverage

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2025	<b>NASDAQ</b> TradeTalk: “Proactive AI Policy Balancing National Security, Privacy, and Economics”
2025	<b>PYMNTS</b> “Decentralization Emerges as a Test of Big Tech’s AI Power”
2024	<b>Reuters</b> “Decentralized AI network Sahara raises fresh capital”
2024	<b>Bloomberg</b> “USC Professor Lands \$43 Million in Funding for AI Startup”
2023	<b>USC Viterbi</b> “Dungeons & Dragons: Leading the Conversation through Theory-of-Mind”
2021	<b>Communications of the ACM</b> “The Best of NLP”
2020	<b>The Register</b> While text-generating AI can write like humans, it lacks common sense
2020	<b>TechXplore</b> New test reveals AI still lacks common sense
2020	<b>Radio.com</b> AI still lacks common sense according to new research

## Service

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### COMMUNITY: K-12 OUTREACH

Project pitch panel, Linked Learning Engineering Pathway at STEM Academy Hollywood, Los Angeles, 03/ 2021  
 Project advising, Linked Learning Engineering Pathway at Theodore Roosevelt High School, Los Angeles, 03/ 2021  
 Guest lecture, Theodore Roosevelt High School, Los Angeles, 02/ 2021

### PROFESSIONAL: ORGANIZER / CHAIR ON EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

ACM SIGKDD Information Director, Sep 2018 - present  
 Commonsense Representation and Reasoning (**CRR**), Workshop Co-chair, co-located with ACL 2022  
 Federated Learning for NLP (**FedNLP**), Workshop Co-chair, co-located with ACL 2022  
 Deep Learning for Low-resource NLP (**DeepLo**), Workshop Co-chair, co-located with NAACL 2022  
 Trustworthy NLP (**TrustNLP**) Workshop Co-chair, co-located with NAACL 2021  
 The 2nd Learning from Limited Labeled Data Workshop (**LLD**), Workshop Co-chair, co-located with ICLR 2019  
 The 4th Workshop on Representation Learning for NLP (**Rep4NLP**), Workshop Co-chair, co-located with ACL 2019  
 First Conference on Automated Knowledge Base Construction (**AKBC**), Workshop Co-chair, 2018

### PROFESSIONAL: AREA CHAIR / SENIOR PC FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**ACL**), Area Chair, 2019-2021, 2023-2024  
 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (**EMNLP**), Area Chair, 2018-2022  
 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the ACL (**NAACL**), Area Chair, 2021  
 The International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**), Area Chair, 2020-2022  
 The Thirty-Fourth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), Senior Area Chair, 2020  
 International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**), Area Chair, 2022

## PROFESSIONAL: PROGRAM COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (**KDD**): 2015-21  
Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (**NeurIPS**): 2019-21  
International Conference on Machine Learning (**ICML**): 2019-20  
Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**ACL**): 2017-19  
Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (**EMNLP**): 2015-18  
International World Wide Web Conference (**WWW**): 2017-20  
The AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**): 2018-19  
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (**IJCAI**): 2018-19  
ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (**WSDM**): 2017-19  
Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**NAACL**): 2018-19  
ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval (**SIGIR**): 2017-18  
ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (**CIKM**): 2017

## PROFESSIONAL: JOURNAL REVIEWER

Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (**TACL**)  
IEEE Transactions on Knowledge and Data Engineering (**TKDE**)  
ACM Transactions on Knowledge Discovery from Data (**TKDD**)

## Teaching

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### Classes taught at USC

Spring26	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 662: Advanced Natural Language Processing	USC
Spring26	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 444: Natural Language Processing	USC
Spring22	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 566: Deep Learning and its Applications	USC
Fall21	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 699: Representation Learning for NLP	USC
Fall120	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 699: Representation Learning for NLP	USC
Fall2019	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 699: Advanced Topics in Representation Learning for NLP	USC
Spring19	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 699: Machine Learning for Knowledge Extraction and Reasoning	USC
Fall18	<b>Instructor</b> , CSCI 699: Introduction to Information Extraction.	USC

### Conference tutorials

- [10] Learning from Task Instructions  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2023.
- [9] Knowledge-Augmented Methods for Natural Language Processing  
*The Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022.
- [8] Scalable Construction and Reasoning of Massive Knowledge Bases  
*The Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2018.
- [7] Scalable Construction and Querying of Massive Knowledge Bases  
*27th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW)*, 2018.
- [6] Construction and Querying of Large-scale Knowledge Bases  
*ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)*, 2017.
- [5] Mining Entity-Relation-Attribute Structures from Massive Text Corpora  
*23th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)*, 2017.
- [4] Building Structured Databases of Factual Knowledge from Massive Text Data  
*2017 International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD)*, 2017.
- [3] Constructing Structured Information Networks from Massive Text Corpora  
*26th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW)*, 2017.
- [2] Automatic Entity Recognition and Typing in Massive Text Data  
*2016 International Conference on Management of Data (SIGMOD)*, 2016.
- [1] Automatic Entity Recognition and Typing in Massive Text Corpora  
*25th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW)*, 2016.

## Invited Talks

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- [29] The API Privacy Paradox: How LLM APIs Unintentionally Reveal Model Details. Seoul National University; Berkeley RDI; Google; Stanford, 2025.
- [28] AI in Web3, Pantera Summit, 2025.
- [27] The Convergence of AI and Web3, UC Berkeley RDI Summit, 2025.
- [26] Reflex or Reflect: When Do Language Tasks Need Slow Reasoning?, UCSD AI Seminar (SoCal), 2023.
- [26] UMass NLP seminar, Apr 2023.
- [25] UPenn NLP seminar, Dec 2022.
- [24] HiTZ Basque Center for Language Technology, Sep 2022.
- [23] Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Mar 2022.
- [22] Intel, Sep 2021.
- [21] Amazon Alexa NU Summit, April 2021.
- [20] UIUC NLP Seminar, Mar 2021.
- [19] Google X, Sep 2020.
- [18] CMU LTI Colloquium, Feb 2020.
- [17] UT Austin, Jan 2019.
- [16] Bloomberg, May 2019.
- [15] JP Morgan, May 2019.
- [14] IBM Research, Almaden, May 2019.
- [13] Stanford NLP Seminar, May 2019.
- [12] Stanford University, Aug 2017.
- [11] Peking University, Computer Science Department, Jun 2017.
- [10] Microsoft Research Asia, Jun 2017.
- [9] Tsinghua University, Computer Science Department, Jun 2017.
- [8] IBM Research Almaden, Jun 2017.
- [7] Duke University, Computer Science Department, March 2017.
- [6] University of California, Los Angeles, Computer Science Department, March 2017.
- [5] UC Davis, Computer Science Department, March 2017.
- [4] Georgia Tech, School of Computer Science, March 2017.
- [3] University of Southern California, Computer Science, Feb. 2017.
- [2] Google Research, August 2016.
- [1] Microsoft Research, Redmond, August 2015.

## Mentoring

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**Graduated PhDs advised at USC:** Aaron Chan (CS, 2017-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2022; **Placement:** Full-time research scientist at Meta AI), Yuchen Lin (CS, 2018-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2022; **Placement:** Postdoc scholar at University of Washington Seattle and Allen Institute of Artificial Intelligence), Shushan Arakelyan (CS, 2017-present, sole advisor), Woojeong Jin (CS, 2018-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2024; **Placement:** Applied Scientist at Hippocratic AI), Qinyuan Ye (CS, 2019-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2025; **Placement:** Applied Scientist at Salesforce Research), Pei Zou (CS, 2019-present, co-advised w/ Jay Pujara, primary advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2024; **Placement:** Senior Applied Scientist at Microsoft), Xisen Jin (CS, 2019-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2025; **Placement:** Research Scientist at Sahara AI), Jun Yan (CS, 2019-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2025; **Placement:** Research Scientist at Google AI), Peifeng Wang (CS, 2019-present, co-advised w/ Pedro Szekely, secondary co-advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2023; **Placement:** Research Scientist at Salesforce Research), Soumya Sanyal (CS, 2020-present, sole advisor; **Graduation date:** December of 2025; **Placement:** Applied Scientist at Amazon AWS)

**Current PhD students advised at USC:** Brihi Joshi (CS, Fall 2021 – present, co-advised w/ Swabha Swayamdipta; primary advisor Xiang Ren), Jacob Bremerman (CS, Fall 2021 – present, co-advised w/ Jonathan May; primary advisor Xiang Ren), Huihan Li (CS, Fall 2022 – present, sole advisor Xiang Ren), Sahana Ramnath (CS, Fall 2022 – present, sole advisor Xiang Ren), Sayan Ghosh (CS, Fall 2022 – present, sole advisor Xiang Ren), Hirona Arai (CS, Fall 2022 – present, sole advisor Xiang Ren), Matthew Finlayson (CS, Fall 2023 – present, co-advised w/ Swabha Swayamdipta; primary advisor Xiang Ren), Skyler Hallinan (CS, Fall 2024 – present, co-advised w/ Sai Praneeth Karimireddy; primary advisor Xiang Ren), Michael Duan (CS, Fall 2025 – present, sole advisor Xiang Ren), Sheryl Mathew (CS, Fall 2025 – present, co-advised w/ Julian J. Traum; primary advisor Xiang Ren)

**PhD thesis committee member at USC:** Sahil Garg (CS, 2014), Yaguang Li (CS, 2014), Fenxiao Chen (EE, 2014), Fenxiao Chen (EE, 2014), Akira Matsui (CS, 2017), Yilei Zeng (CS, 2017), Alana Shine (CS, 2017), Yu-Chuan Yen (CS, 2017); Tae Jin Park (ECE, 2015); Nazgol Tavabi (CS, 2015), Minh Pham (CS 2018), Rujun Han (CS 2018), Yury Zemlyanskiy (CS 2018), Akira Matsui (CS 2017), Aida Davani (CS, 2017), Brendan Kennedy (CS, 2016), Chaoyang He (CS, 2018), Thamme Gowda (CS, 2017)

**Master students advised at USC (sole advisor):** Hongtao Lin (CS, 2017-2018), Yozen Liu (CS, 2017-2018), Junyi Du (CS, 2017-2019), Ouyu Lan (CS, 2018-2019), Dongho Lee (CS, 2018-2020), Seyeon Lee (CS, 2019-present), Suji Kim (CS, 2019-present), Rahul Khanna (CS, 2019-present), Ravi Kiran Selvam, (CS, 2020-2021), Mahak Agarwal (CS, 2020-2021), Akshen Kadakia (CS, 2021-2022), Juan Zha (CS, 2021-present), Ziyi Liu (CS, 2021-present), Junfeng Liu (CS, 2021-present)

**Undergraduate students advised at USC:** Hao Chen (CS, 2018-2019), Yu Cao (CS progressive degree, 2018-2019, *USC Undergraduate Research Award*), Jamin Chen (CS, 2019-2020), Priya Irukulapati (CS, 2019-2020), Kelly Dickson (CS, 2019-2020), Ryan Moreno (CS, 2019-2020, *USC Undergraduate Research Award, Best Undergraduate Thesis Award*), Boyuan Long (CS, 2020-2021), Raymond Cheung (CS, 2020-2021), Wardah Jabeen (CS, 2020-2021), Adeline Liou (CS, 2020-2021), Jiashu Xu (CS, 2020-2021), Jordan McWilliams (CS, 2020-2021), Lindsey Feng (CS, 2021-2022), Kangmin Tan (CS, 2021-2022)

## Publications

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### BOOK

Mining Structures of Factual Knowledge from Text: An Effort-Light Approach  
**Xiang Ren** and Jiawei Han  
*Morgan & Claypool Publishers, 2018*

### REFEREED CONFERENCE ARTICLES

- [186] Diverging Preferences: When do Annotators Disagree and do Models Know?  
 Michael J. Q. Zhang, Zhilin Wang, Jena D. Hwang, Yi Dong, Olivier Delalleau, Yejin Choi, Eunsol Choi, **Xiang Ren**, Valentina Pyatkin  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2025
- [185] Attributing Culture-Conditioned Generations to Pretraining Corpora  
 Huihan Li, Arnav Goel, Keyu He, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2025
- [184] ELI-Why: Evaluating the Pedagogical Utility of Language Model Explanations  
 Brihi Joshi, Keyu He, Sahana Ramnath, Sadra Sabouri, Kaitlyn Zhou, Souti Chattopadhyay, Swabha Swayamdipta, Xiang Ren  
*Findings of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2025
- [183] REL-A.I.: An Interaction-Centered Approach To Measuring Human-LM Reliance  
 Kaitlyn Zhou, Jena D. Hwang, **Xiang Ren**, Nouha Dziri, Dan Jurafsky, Maarten Sap  
*North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2025
- [182] CAVE: Controllable Authorship Verification Explanations  
 Sahana Ramnath, Kartik Pandey, Elizabeth Boschee, Xiang Ren  
*North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2025
- [181] Logits of API-Protected LLMs Leak Proprietary Information  
 Matthew Finlayson, **Xiang Ren**, Swabha Swayamdipta  
*Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)*, 2025

- [180] The Surprising Effectiveness of Membership Inference with Simple N-Gram Coverage  
Skyler Hallinan, Jaehun Jung, Melanie Sclar, Ximing Lu, Abhilasha Ravichander, Sahana Ramnath, Yejin Choi, Sai Praneeth Karimireddy, Niloofar Mireshghallah, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Language Modeling (COLM)*, 2025
- [179] Improving LLM Personas via Rationalization with Psychological Scaffolds  
Brihi Joshi, **Xiang Ren**, Swabha Swayamdipta, Rik Koncel-Kedziorski, Tim Paek  
*Findings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [178] Amulet: Putting Complex Multi-Turn Conversations on the Stand with LLM Juries  
Sahana Ramnath, Anurag Mudgil, Brihi Joshi, Skyler Hallinan, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [177] Mixing Inference-time Experts for Enhancing LLM Reasoning  
Soumya Sanyal, Tianyi Xiao, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [176] Rethinking Backdoor Detection Evaluation for Language Models  
Jun Yan, Wenjie Mo, **Xiang Ren**, Robin Jia  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [175] Diagnosing Memorization in Chain-of-Thought Reasoning, One Token at a Time  
Huihan Li, You Chen, Siyuan Wang, Yixin He, Ninareh Mehrabi, Rahul Gupta, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [174] Stepwise Informativeness Search for Improving LLM Reasoning  
Siyuan Wang, Enda Zhao, Zhongyu Wei, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2025
- [173] Demystifying Language Model Forgetting with Low-rank Example Associations  
Xisen Jin, Xiang Ren  
*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2025
- [172] Better Language Model Inversion by Compactly Representing Next-Token Distributions  
Murtaza Nazir, Matthew Finlayson, John X. Morris, **Xiang Ren**, Swabha Swayamdipta  
*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2025
- [171] Tailoring Self-Rationalizers with Multi-Reward Distillation  
Sahana Ramnath, Brihi Joshi, Skyler Hallinan, Ximing Lu, Liunian Harold Li, Aaron Chan, Jack Hessel, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2024
- [170] (InThe)WildChat: 570K ChatGPT Interaction Logs In The Wild  
Wenting Zhao, **Xiang Ren**, Jack Hessel, Claire Cardie, Yejin Choi  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR) Spotlight*, 2024
- [169] Phenomenal Yet Puzzling: Testing Inductive Reasoning Capabilities of Language Models with Hypothesis Refinement  
Linlu Qiu, Liwei Jiang, Ximing Lu, Melanie Sclar, Valentina Pyatkin, Chandra Bhagavatula, Bailin Wang, Yoon Kim, Yejin Choi, Nouha Dziri, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR) Oral*, 2024
- [168] Instruction-following evaluation through verbalizer manipulation  
Shiyang Li, Jun Yan, Hai Wang, Zheng Tang, **Xiang Ren**, Vijay Srinivasan, Hongxia Jin  
*Findings of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2024
- [167] Virtual Prompt Injection for Instruction-Tuned Large Language Models  
Jun Yan, Vikas Yadav, Shiyang Li, Lichang Chen, Zheng Tang, Hai Wang, Vijay Srinivasan, **Xiang Ren**, Hongxia Jin  
*North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2024
- [166] Are Machines Better at Complex Reasoning? Unveiling Human-Machine Inference Gaps in Entailment Verification  
Soumya Sanyal, Tianyi Xiao, Jiacheng Liu, Wenya Wang, Xiang Ren  
*Findings of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2024

- [165] Relying on the Unreliable: The Impact of Language Models’ Reluctance to Express Uncertainty  
Kaitlyn Zhou, Jena D. Hwang, **Xiang Ren**, Maarten Sap  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2024
- [164] Can LLMs Reason with Rules? Logic Scaffolding for Stress-Testing and Improving LLMs  
Siyuan Wang, Zhongyu Wei, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2024
- [163] What Will My Model Forget? Forecasting Forgotten Examples in Language Model Refinement  
Xisen Jin, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) Spotlight*, 2024
- [162] WildChat: 1M ChatGPT Interaction Logs in the Wild  
Wenting Zhao, **Xiang Ren**, Jack Hessel, Claire Cardie, Yejin Choi  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2024
- [161] PlaSma: Procedural Knowledge Models for Language-based Planning and Re-Planning  
Faeze Brahman, Chandra Bhagavatula, Valentina Pyatkin, Jena D. Hwang, Xiang Lorraine Li, Hirona Jacqueline Arai, Soumya Sanyal, Keisuke Sakaguchi, **Xiang Ren**, Yejin Choi  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2024
- [160] Symbolic Working Memory Enhances Language Models for Complex Rule Application  
Siyuan Wang, Zhongyu Wei, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2024
- [159] In Search of the Long-Tail: Systematic Generation of Long-Tail Knowledge via Logical Rule Guided Search  
Huihan Li, Yuting Ning, Zeyi Liao, Siyuan Wang, Xiang Lorraine Li, Ximing Lu, Faeze Brahman, Wenting Zhao, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2024
- [158] WinoViz: Probing Visual Properties of Objects Under Different States  
Woojeong Jin, Tejas Srinivasan, Jesse Thomason, Xiang Ren  
*ICLR Workshop on Secure and Trustworthy Large Language Models*, 2024
- [157] WildVis: Open Source Visualizer for Million-Scale Chat Logs in the Wild  
Yuntian Deng, Wenting Zhao, Jack Hessel, **Xiang Ren**, Claire Cardie, Yejin Choi  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) Demo*, 2024
- [156] CULTURE-GEN: Revealing Global Cultural Perception in Language Models through Natural Language Prompting  
Huihan Li, Liwei Jiang, Jena D. Huang, Hyunwoo Kim, Sebastin Santy, Taylor Sorensen, Bill Yuchen Lin, Nouha Dziri, **Xiang Ren**, Yejin Choi  
*ACL 2024 C3NLP Workshop*, 2024
- [155] Stress-Testing Long-Context Language Models with Lifelong ICL and Task Haystack  
Xiaoyue Xu, Qinyuan Ye, Xiang Ren  
*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) Dataset and Benchmark Track*, 2024
- [154] Self-Discover: Large Language Models Self-Compose Reasoning Structures  
Pei Zhou, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**, Xinyun Chen, Heng-Tze Cheng, Quoc V. Le, Ed H. Chi, Denny Zhou, Swaroop Mishra, Huaixiu Steven Zheng  
*Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2024
- [153] Phenomenal Yet Puzzling: Testing Inductive Reasoning Capabilities of Language Models with Hypothesis Refinement  
Linlu Qiu, Liwei Jiang, Ximing Lu, Melanie Sclar, Valentina Pyatkin, Chandra Bhagavatula, Bailin Wang, Yoon Kim, Yejin Choi, Nouha Dziri, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR) Oral*, 2023
- [152] (InThe)WildChat: 570K ChatGPT Interaction Logs In The Wild  
Wenting Zhao, **Xiang Ren**, Jack Hessel, Claire Cardie, Yejin Choi, Yuntian Deng  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR) Spotlight*, 2023

- [152] Tailoring Self-Rationalizers with Multi-Reward Distillation  
Sahana Ramnath, Brihi Joshi, Skyler Hallinan, Ximing Lu, Liunian Harold Li, Aaron Chan, Jack Hessel, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2023
- [151] PlaSma: Making Small Language Models Better Procedural Knowledge Models for (Counterfactual) Planning  
Faeze Brahman, Chandra Bhagavatula, Valentina Pyatkin, Jena D Hwang, Xiang Lorraine Li, Hirona J Arai, Soumya Sanyal, Keisuke Sakaguchi, **Xiang Ren**, Yejin Choi  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2023
- [150] SwiftSage: A Generative Agent with Fast and Slow Thinking for Complex Interactive Tasks  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Yicheng Fu, Karina Yang, Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Faeze Brahman, Shiyu Huang, Chandra Bhagavatula, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) Spotlight*, 2023
- [149] Inference-Time Policy Adapters (IPA): Tailoring Extreme-Scale LMs without Fine-tuning  
Ximing Lu, Faeze Brahman, Peter West, Jaehun Jang, Khyathi Chandu, Abhilasha Ravichander, Lianhui Qin, Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Liwei Jiang, Sahana Ramnath, Nouha Dziri, Jillian Fisher, Bill Yuchen Lin, Skyler Hallinan, **Xiang Ren**, Sean Welleck, Yejin Choi  
*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) Spotlight*, 2023
- [148] Inference-Time Policy Adapters (IPA): Tailoring Extreme-Scale LMs without Fine-tuning  
Ximing Lu, Faeze Brahman, Peter West, Jaehun Jang, Khyathi Chandu, Abhilasha Ravichander, Lianhui Qin, Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Liwei Jiang, Sahana Ramnath, Nouha Dziri, Jillian Fisher, Bill Yuchen Lin, Skyler Hallinan, **Xiang Ren**, Sean Welleck, Yejin Choi  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2023
- [147] How Predictable Are Large Language Model Capabilities? A Case Study on BIG-bench  
Qinyuan Ye, Harvey Yiyun Fu, **Xiang Ren**, Robin Jia  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP)*, 2023
- [146] Estimating Large Language Model Capabilities without Labeled Test Data  
Harvey Yiyun Fu, Qinyuan Ye, Albert Xu, **Xiang Ren**, Robin Jia  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP)*, 2023
- [145] Exploring Distributional Shifts in Large Language Models for Code Analysis  
Shushan Arakelyan, Rocktim Jyoti Das, Yi Mao, Xiang Ren  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2023
- [144] Bootstrap Your Own Skills: Learning to Solve New Tasks with Large Language Model Guidance  
Jesse Zhang, Jiahui Zhang, Karl Pertsch, Ziyi Liu, **Xiang Ren**, Minsuk Chang, Shao-Hua Sun, Joseph J Lim  
*Conference on Robot Learning (CORL)*, 2023
- [143] SCOTT: Self-Consistent Chain-of-Thought Distillation  
Peifeng Wang, Zhengyang Wang, Zheng Li, Yifan Gao, Bing Yin, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023  
**ACL Outstanding Paper Award**
- [142] Are Machine Rationales (Not) Useful to Humans? Measuring and Improving Human Utility of Free-text Rationales  
Brihi Joshi, Ziyi Liu, Sahana Ramnath, Aaron Chan, Zhewei Tong, Shaoliang Nie, Qifan Wang, Yejin Choi, Xiang Ren  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [141] FiD-ICL: A Fusion-in-Decoder Approach for Efficient In-Context Learning  
Qinyuan Ye, Iz Beltagy, Matthew E. Peters, **Xiang Ren**, Hannaneh Hajishirzi  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [140] Symbolic Chain-of-Thought Distillation: Small Models Can Also “Think” Step-by-Step  
Liunian Harold Li, Jack Hessel, Youngjae Yu, **Xiang Ren**, Kai-Wei Chang and Yejin Choi  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [139] CoNAL: Anticipating Outliers with Large Language Models  
Albert Xu, **Xiang Ren**, Robin Jia  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [138] PairReranker: Pairwise Learning to Rank for Decoding Language Models  
Dongfu Jiang, **Xiang Ren**, Bill Yuchen Lin  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023

- [137] APOLLO: A Simple Approach for Adaptive Pretraining of Language Models for Logical Reasoning  
Soumya Sanyal, Yichong Xu, Shuohang Wang, Ziyi Yang, Reid Pryzant, Wenhao Yu, Chenguang Zhu, Xiang Ren  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [136] REV: Information-Theoretic Evaluation of Free-Text Rationales  
Hanjie Chen, Faeze Brahman, **Xiang Ren**, Yangfeng Ji, Yejin Choi, Swabha Swayamdipta  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [135] Textual Backdoor Attacks with Iterative Trigger Injection  
Jun Yan, Vansh Gupta, Xiang Ren  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [134] Cross-lingual Lifelong Learning  
Meryem M'hamdi, **Xiang Ren**, Jonathan May  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [133] An AI Dungeon Master's Guide: Learning to Converse and Guide with Intents and Theory-of-Mind in Dungeons and Dragons  
Pei Zhou, Andrew Zhu, Jennifer Hu, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**, Chris Callison-Burch, Yejin Choi, Prithviraj Ammanabrolu  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2023
- [132] Dataless Knowledge Fusion by Merging Weights of Language Models  
Xisen Jin, **Xiang Ren**, Daniel Preotiuc-Pietro, Pengxiang Cheng  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2023
- [131] PINTO: Faithful Language Reasoning Using Prompt-Generated Rationales  
Peifeng Wang, Aaron Chan, Filip Ilievski, Muhao Chen, Xiang Ren  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2023
- [130] On Grounded Planning for Embodied Tasks with Language Models  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Chengsong Huang, Qian Liu, Wenda Gu, Sam Sommerer, **Xiang Ren**  
*The AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2023
- [129] Retweet-BERT: Characterizing Echo Chambers by Leveraging Language Features and Information Diffusion in Social Media  
Julie Jiang, **Xiang Ren**, and Emilio Ferrara  
*The International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)*, 2022
- [128] Reflect, Not Reflex: Inference-Based Common Ground Improves Dialogue Response Quality  
Pei Zhou, Hyundong J. Cho, Pegah Jandaghi, Dong-Ho Lee, Bill Yuchen Lin, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2022
- [127] Machine Translation Robustness to Natural Asemantic Variation  
Jacob Bremerman, **Xiang Ren**, Jonathan May  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2022
- [126] ER-Test: Evaluating Explanation Regularization Methods for NLP Models  
Brihi Joshi, Aaron Chan, Ziyi Liu, Shaoliang Nie, Maziar Sanjabi, Hamed Firooz, **Xiang Ren**  
*Findings of The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2022
- [125] RobustLR: Evaluating Robustness to Logical Perturbation in Deductive Reasoning  
Soumya Sanyal, Zeyi Liao, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2022
- [124] Eliciting Transferability in Multi-task Learning with Task-level Mixture-of-Experts  
Qinyuan Ye, Juan Zha, **Xiang Ren**  
*Findings of The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2022
- [123] Unsupervised Cross-Task Generalization via Retrieval Augmentation  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Kangmin Tan, Chris Miller, Beiwen Tian, **Xiang Ren**  
*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2022
- [122] NS3: Neuro-Symbolic Semantic Code Search  
Shushan Arakelyan, Anna Hakhverdyan, Miltiadis Allamanis, Christophe Hauser, Luis Antonio Garcia, **Xiang Ren**  
*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2022
- [121] UniREx: A Unified Learning Framework for Language Model Rationale Extraction  
Aaron Chan, Maziar Sanjabi, Lambert Mathias, Liang Tan, Shaoliang Nie, Xiaochang Peng, **Xiang Ren**, Hamed Firooz  
*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*, 2022
- [120] Lifelong Pretraining: Continually Adapting Language Models to Emerging Corpora  
Xisen Jin, Dejiao Zhang, Henghui Zhu, Wei Xiao, Shang-Wen Li, Xiaokai Wei, Andrew Arnold, **Xiang Ren**  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2022
- [119] Sparse Distillation: Speeding Up Text Classification by Using Bigger Models  
Qinyuan Ye, Madian Khabsa, Mike Lewis, Sinong Wang, **Xiang Ren**, Aaron Jaech  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2022

- [118] FedNLP: A Research Platform for Federated Learning in Natural Language Processing  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Chaoyang He, Zihang Zeng, Hulin Wang, Yufen Huang, Mahdi Soltanolkotabi, **Xiang Ren**, Salman Avestimehr  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Findings of NAACL)*, 2022
- [117] On the Robustness of Reading Comprehension Models to Entity Renaming  
Jun Yan, Yang Xiao, Sagrik Mukherjee, Bill Yuchen Lin, Robin Jia, **Xiang Ren**  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2022
- [116] NewsEdits: A Dataset of News Article Revision Histories and a Novel Document-Level Reasoning Challenge  
Alexander Spangher, **Xiang Ren**, Jonathan May, Nanyun Peng  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2022.  
**NAACL Outstanding Paper Award**
- [115] FaiRR: Faithful and Robust Deductive Reasoning over Natural Language  
Soumya Sanyal, Harman Singh, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [114] A Good Prompt Is Worth Millions of Parameters?: Low-resource Prompt-based Learning for Vision-Language Models  
Woojeong Jin, Yu Cheng, Yelong Shen, Weizhu Chen, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [113] Fixing Errors in the Wild: On Continual Model Refinement in Out-of-Distribution Data Streams  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Sida Wang, Xi Victoria Lin, Robin Jia, Lin Xiao, **Xiang Ren**, Scott Yih  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [112] Good Examples Make A Faster Learner: Simple Demonstration-based Learning for Low-resource NER  
Dong-Ho Lee, Mahak Agarwal, Akshen Kadakia, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [111] Think Before You Speak: Using Self-talk to Generate Implicit Commonsense Knowledge for Response Generation  
Pei Zhou, Karthik Gopalakrishnan, Behnam Hedayatnia, Seokhwan Kim, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**, Yang Liu, Dilek Hakkani-Tur  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [110] Leveraging Visual Knowledge in Language Tasks: An Empirical Study on Intermediate Pre-training for Cross-Modal Knowledge Transfer  
Woojeong Jin, Dong-Ho Lee, Chenguang Zhu, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [109] KG-FiD: Infusing Knowledge Graph in Fusion-in-Decoder for Open-Domain Question Answering  
Donghan Yu, Chenguang Zhu, Yuwei Fang, Wenhao Yu, Shuohang Wang, Yichong Xu, **Xiang Ren**, Yiming Yang, Michael Zeng  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2022
- [108] Contextualized Scene Imagination for Generative Commonsense Reasoning  
Peifeng Wang, Jonathan Zamora, Junfeng Liu, Filip Ilievski, Muhao Chen, **Xiang Ren**  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2022
- [107] Refining Language Models with Compositional Explanations  
Huihan Yao, Ying Chen, Qinyuan Ye, Xisen Jin, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021 (**Spotlight**, ac rate: 3%)
- [106] SaliKG: Learning From Knowledge Graph Explanations for Commonsense Reasoning  
Aaron Chan, Boyuan Long, Jiashu Xu, Soumya Sanyal, Tanishq Gupta, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)
- [105] Gradient Based Memory Editing for Task-Free Continual Learning  
Xisen Jin, Arka Sadhu, Junyi Du, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)
- [104] **CrossFit**: A Few-shot Learning Challenge for Cross-task Generalization in NLP  
Qinyuan Ye, Yuchen Lin, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [103] **RICA**: Evaluating Robust Inference Capabilities Based on Commonsense Axioms  
Pei Zhou, Rahul Khanna, Bill Yuchen Lin, Daniel Ho, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [102] *Learn Continually, Generalize Rapidly*: Lifelong Knowledge Accumulation for Few-shot Learning  
Xisen Jin, Bill Yuchen Lin, Mohammad Rostami, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP)*, 2021
- [101] Discretized Integrated Gradients for Explaining Language Models  
Soumya Sanyal, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [100] On the Influence of Masking Policies in Intermediate Pre-training  
Qinyuan Ye, Belinda Z. Li, Sinong Wang, Benjamin Bolte, Hao Ma, Wen-tau Yih, **Xiang Ren**, Madian Khabisa  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)

- [99] *Lawyers are Dishonest? : Quantifying Representational Harms in Commonsense Knowledge Resources*  
Ninareh Mehrabi, Pei Zhou, Fred Morstatter, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**, Aram Galstyan  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [98] *Probing Commonsense Explanation in Dialogue Response Generation*  
Pei Zhou, Pegah Jandaghi, Hyundong Cho, Bill Yuchen Lin, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [97] *ECONET: Effective Continual Pretraining of Language Models for Event Temporal Reasoning*  
Rujun Han, **Xiang Ren**, Nanyun Peng  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [96] *Extract, Denoise and Enforce: Evaluating and Improving Concept Preservation for Text-to-Text Generation*  
Yuning Mao, Wenchang Ma, Deren Lei, Jiawei Han, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [95] *Cross-Attention is All You Need: Adapting Pretrained Transformers for Machine Translation*  
Mozhdeh Gheini, **Xiang Ren**, Jonathan May  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [94] *MSD: Saliency-aware Knowledge Distillation for Multimodal Understanding*  
Woojeong Jin, Maziar Sanjabi, Shaoliang Nie, Liang Tan, **Xiang Ren**, Hamed Firooz  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (Findings of EMNLP)*, 2021
- [93] **RockNER**: Evaluating the Robustness of Named Entity Recognition with Natural Adversarial Attacks  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Wenyang Gao, Jun Yan, Ryan Moreno, **Xiang Ren**  
*The Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2021 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [92] **ForecastQA**: A Question Answering Challenge for Event Forecasting  
Woojeong Jin, Rahul Khanna, Suji Kim, Dong-Ho Lee, Fred Morstatter, Aram Galstyan, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 21.3%)
- [91] *Learning to Generate Task-specific Adapters from Task Description*  
Qinyuan Ye, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 21.3%)
- [90] *Common Sense Beyond English: Evaluating and Improving Multilingual Language Models for Common Sense Reasoning*  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Seyeon Lee, Xiaoyang Qiao, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 21.3%)
- [89] *AdaTag: Multi-Attribute Value Extraction from Product Profiles with Adaptive Decoding*  
Jun Yan, Nasser Zalmout, Yan Liang, Christan Grant, **Xiang Ren**, Xin Luna Dong  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 21.3%)
- [88] *Learning Contextualized Knowledge Structures for Commonsense Reasoning*  
Jun Yan, Mrigank Raman, Aaron Chan, Tianyu Zhang, Ryan Rossi, Handong Zhao, Sungchul Kim, Nedim Lipka, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Findings of ACL)*, 2021
- [88] **RiddleSense**: A Challenge Dataset for Answering Riddle-Style Commonsense Questions  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Ziyi Wu, Yichi Yang, Dong-Ho Lee, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Findings of ACL)*, 2021
- [87] *Do Language Models Perform Generalizable Commonsense Inference?*  
Peifeng Wang, Filip Ilievski, Muhao Chen, **Xiang Ren**  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Findings of ACL)*, 2021
- [86] *Semi-Automated Protocol Disambiguation and Code Generation*  
Jane Yen, Tamás Lévai, Qinyuan Ye, **Xiang Ren**, Ramesh Govindan, Barath Raghavan  
*Annual conference of ACM SIGCOMM (SIGCOMM)*, 2021
- [85] *Pre-training Text-to-Text Transformers for Concept-centric Common Sense*  
Wangchunshu Zhou, Dong-Ho Lee, Ravi Kiran Selvam, Seyeon Lee, Bill Yuchen Lin, **Xiang Ren**  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2021
- [84] *Learning to Deceive Knowledge Graph Augmented Models via Targeted Perturbation*  
Mrigank Raman, Siddhant Agarwal, Peifeng Wang, Aaron Chan, Hansen Wang, Sungchul Kim, Ryan Rossi, Handong Zhao, Nedim Lipka, **Xiang Ren**  
*International Conference on Representation Learning (ICLR)*, 2021  
**Best Paper Award Runner-up at NeurIPS 2020 KR2ML Workshop**
- [83] *Differentiable Open-Ended Commonsense Reasoning*  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Haitian Sun, Bhuwan Dhingra, Manzil Zaheer, **Xiang Ren**, William W. Cohen  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)
- [82] *On Transferability of Bias Mitigation Effects in Language Model Fine-Tuning*  
Xisen Jin, Francesco Barbieri, Brendan Kennedy, Aida Mostafazadeh Davani, Leonardo Neves, **Xiang Ren**  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)

- [81] X-METRA-ADA: Cross-lingual Meta-Transfer learning Adaptation to Natural Language Understanding  
Meryem M'hamdi, Doo Soon Kim, Franck Dernoncourt, Trung Bui, **Xiang Ren**, Jonathan May  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)
- [80] TaxoClass: Hierarchical Multi-Label Text Classification Using Only Class Names  
Jiaming Shen, Wenda Qiu, Yu Meng, Jingbo Shang, **Xiang Ren**, Jiawei Han  
*Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2021 (ac rate: 26%)
- [79] IsoBN: Fine-Tuning BERT with Isotropic Batch Normalization  
Wenxuan Zhou, Bill Yuchen Lin, **Xiang Ren**  
*The AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)*, 2021
- [78] Time-Series Event Prediction with Evolutionary State Graph  
Wenjie Hu, Yang Yang, Ziqiang Cheng, Carl Yang, **Xiang Ren**  
*ACM International Web Search and Data Mining conference (WSDM)*, 2021
- [77] Visually Grounded Continual Learning of Compositional Phrases  
Xisen Jin, Junyi Du, Arka Sadhu, Ram Nevatia, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [76] Scalable Multi-Hop Relational Reasoning for Knowledge-Aware Question Answering  
Yanlin Feng, Xinyue Chen, Bill Yuchen Lin, Peifeng Wang, Jun Yan, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [75] Recurrent Event Network: Autoregressive Structure Inference over Temporal Knowledge Graphs  
Woojeong Jin, Meng Qu, Xisen Jin, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [74] Birds have four legs?! NumerSense: Probing Numerical Commonsense Knowledge of Pre-trained Language Models  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Seyeon Lee, Rahul Khanna, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [73] Learning Collaborative Agents with Rule Guidance for Knowledge Graph Reasoning  
Deren Lei, Gangrong Jiang, Xiaotao Gu, Kexuan Sun, Yuning Mao, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [72] Multi-document Summarization with Maximal Marginal Relevance-guided Reinforcement Learning  
Yuning Mao, Yanru Qu, Yiqing Xie, **Xiang Ren**, Jiawei Han  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [71] SynSetExpan: An Iterative Framework for Joint Entity Set Expansion and Synonym Discovery  
Jiaming Shen, Wenda Qiu, Jingbo Shang, Michelle Vanni, **Xiang Ren**, Jiawei Han  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.4%)
- [70] Teaching Machine Comprehension with Compositional Explanations  
Qinyuan Ye, Xiao Huang, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2020
- [69] CommonGen: A Constrained Text Generation Challenge for Generative Commonsense Reasoning  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Ming Shen, Pei Zhou, Chandra Bhagavatula, Yejin Choi, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2020
- [68] RICA: Evaluating Robust Inference Capabilities Based on Commonsense Axioms  
Pei Zhou, Rahul Khanna, Bill Yuchen Lin, Daniel Ho, Jay Pujara, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2020
- [67] Connecting the Dots: A Knowledgeable Path Generator for Commonsense Question Answering  
Peifeng Wang, Nanyun Peng, Pedro Szekely, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2020
- [66] Will this Idea Spread Beyond Academia? Understanding Knowledge Transfer of Scientific Concepts across Text Corpora  
Hancheng Cao, Mengjie Cheng, Zhepeng Cen, Daniel McFarland, **Xiang Ren**  
*The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings)*, 2020
- [65] Learning to Contextually Aggregate Multi-Source Supervision for Sequence Labeling  
Ouyu Lan\*, Xiao Huang\*, Bill Yuchen Lin, He Jiang, Liyuan Liu, X. Ren  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.7%)
- [64] Facet-Aware Evaluation for Extractive Summarization  
Yuning Mao, Liyuan Liu, Qi Zhu, X. Ren, Jiawei Han  
*Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)*, 2020 (ac rate: 22.7%)
- [63] TriggerNER: Learning with Entity Triggers as Explanation for Named Entity Recognition  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Dongho Lee, Ming Shen, Xiao Huang, Ryan Moreno, Prashant Shiralkar, X. Ren.  
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- [62] Contextualizing Hate Speech Classifiers with Post-hoc Explanation  
Brendan Kennedy\*, Xisen Jin\*, Aida Mostafazadeh Davani, Morteza Dehghani, X. Ren.  
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- [61] Temporal Attribute Prediction via Joint Modeling of Multi-Relational Structure Evolution  
Sankalp Garg\*, Navodita Sharma\*, Woojeong Jin, Xiang Ren.  
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- [60] Alleviate Dataset Shift Problem in Fine-grained Entity Typing with Virtual Adversarial Training  
Haochen Shi, Siliang Tang, Xiaotao Gu, Bo Chen, Xiang Ren.  
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- [59] Learning from Explanations with Neural Execution Tree  
Ziqi Wang, Yujia Qin, Wenxuan Zhou, Jun Yan, Qinyuan Ye, Leonardo Neves, Zhiyuan Liu, Xiang Ren.  
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- [58] Towards Hierarchical Importance Attribution: Explaining Compositional Semantics for Neural Sequence Models  
Xisen Jin, Junyi Du, Zhongyu Wei, Xiangyang Xue, Xiang Ren.  
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- [57] NERO: A Neural Rule Grounding Framework for Label-Efficient Relation Extraction  
Wenxuan Zhou, Hongtao Lin, Bill Yuchen Lin, Ziqi Wang, Junyi Du, Leonardo Neves, Xiang Ren.  
*The Web Conference (WWW)*, 2020. **Runner-up of Best Paper Award**
- [56] KagNet: Learning to Answer Commonsense Questions with Knowledge-Aware Graph Networks  
Bill Yuchen Lin, Xinyue Chen, Jamin Chen, Xiang Ren.  
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- [55] Collaborative Policy Learning for Open Knowledge Graph Reasoning  
Cong Fu, Tong Chen, Meng Qu, Woojeong Jin, Xiang Ren.  
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- [54] Looking Beyond Label Noise: Shifted Label Distribution Matters in Distantly Supervised Relation Extraction  
Qinyuan Ye, Liyuan Liu, Maosen Zhang, Xiang Ren.  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2019 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [53] Learning Dynamic Context Augmentation for Global Entity Linking  
Xiyuan Yang, Xiaotao Gu, Sheng Lin, Siliang Tang, Yueting Zhuang, Fei Wu, Zhigang Chen, Guoping Hu, Xiang Ren.  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2019 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [52] Hierarchical Text Classification with Reinforced Label Assignment  
Yuning Mao, Jingjing Tian, Jiawei Han, Xiang Ren.  
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- [51] HMEAE: Hierarchical Modular Event Argument Extraction  
Xiaozhi Wang, Ziqi Wang, Xu Han, Zhiyuan Liu, Juanzi Li, Peng Li, Maosong Sun, Jie Zhou, Xiang Ren.  
*Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2019 (ac rate: 24.6%)
- [50] Reporting the Unreported: Event Extraction for Analyzing the Local Representation of Hate Crimes  
A. M. Davani, L. Yeh, M. Atari, B. Kennedy, G. P. Wightman, E. Gonzalez, N. Delong, R. Bhatia, A. Mirinjian, X. Ren and M. Dehghani.  
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- [49] Eliciting Knowledge from Experts: Automatic Transcript Parsing for Cognitive Task Analysis  
J. Du, H. Jiang, J. Shen, X. Ren.  
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- [47] Posterior-regularized REINFORCE for Instance Selection in Distant Supervision  
Q. Zhang, S. Tang, F. Wu, S. Pu, Y. Zhuang, X. Ren.  
*2019 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)*, 2019
- [46] Characterizing and Forecasting User Engagement with In-App Action Graphs: A Case Study of Snapchat  
Y. Liu, X. Shi, L. Pierce, X. Ren.  
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- [45] AtSNE: Efficient and Robust Visualization on GPU through Hierarchical Optimization  
C. Fu, Y. Zhang, D. Cai, X. Ren.  
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J. Shen, R. Lyu, X. Ren, M. Vanni, B. Sadler, J. Han.  
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- [43] Cross-relation Cross-bag Attention for Distantly-supervised Relation Extraction  
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- [42] Learning Dual Retrieval Module for Semi-supervised Relation Extraction  
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- [41] Jointly Learning Explainable Rules for Recommendation with Knowledge Graph  
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- [40] Integrating Local Context and Global Cohesiveness for Open Information Extraction  
Qi Zhu, **Xiang Ren**, Jingbo Shang, Yu Zhang, Ahmed El-Kishky, Jiawei Han.  
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- [39] Open-Schema Event Profiling for Massive News Corpora  
Quan Yuan, **Xiang Ren**, Wenqi He, Chao Zhang, Xinhe Geng, Lifu Huang, Heng Ji, Chin-Yew Lin, Jiawei Han.  
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Rex Ying, Jiaxuan You, Chris Morris, **Xiang Ren**, William L. Hamilton, Jure Leskovec  
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Lucas Liu, **Xiang Ren**, Jingbo Shang, Jian Peng, Jiawei Han  
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- [36] Learning Named Entity Tagger using Domain-Specific Dictionary  
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- [35] GraphRNN: A Deep Generative Model for Graphs  
Jiaxuan You, Rex Ying, **Xiang Ren**, William L. Hamilton, Jure Leskovec  
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- [34] End-to-End Reinforcement Learning for Automatic Taxonomy Induction  
Yuning Mao, **Xiang Ren**, Jiaming Shen, Xiaotao Gu, Jiawei Han  
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Qi Zhu, **Xiang Ren**, Jingbo Shang, Yu Zhang, Frank Xu, Jiawei Han  
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- [30] Indirect Supervision for Relation Extraction using Question-Answer Pairs  
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- [29] Empowering Sequence Labeling with Task-Aware Neural Language Model  
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- [28] Dynamic Network Embedding by Modeling Triadic Closure Process  
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- [25] Automatic Synonym Discovery with Knowledge Bases  
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- [20] Label Noise Reduction in Entity Typing by Heterogeneous Partial-Label Embedding  
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- [17] Precision Matrix Estimation in High Dimensional Gaussian Graphical Models with Faster Rates  
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- [8] HeteRec: Entity Recommendation in Heterogeneous Information Networks with Implicit User Feedback  
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- [4] Linearized Alternating Direction Method with Adaptive Penalty and Warm Starts for Fast Solving Transform Invariant Low-Rank Textures  
X. Ren and Z. Lin  
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