

Xiong Zhang

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EDUCATION

University of Rochester, US Ph.D. Student in Computer Science, Advisor: Philip Guo	SEP 2015 – PRESENT
Harbin Institute of Technology, China M.S. in Computer Science, Advisor: Haifeng Li	SEP 2013 – JULY 2015
Harbin Institute of Technology, China B.S. in Computer Science	AUG 2009 – JULY 2013
Tsinghua University, China Exchange in Computer Science	SEP 2010 – FEB 2011

RESEARCH & ENGINEERING PROJECTS

Information Bot for Events FUSE LAB OF MICROSOFT RESEARCH REDMOND
Mentors: Will Portnoy, Lars Liden, Andres Monroy-Hernandez Jun 2016 – Aug 2016

- Built an information bot for the BumberShoot event in Seattle using Microsoft Bot Framework, available on both Facebook Messenger and SMS.

Improving the Player Interface for Programming Tutorial Videos UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
Advisor: Philip Guo Sep 2015 – Dec 2015

- Making programming tutorial videos more browsable and skimmable by using text detection technologies to find coding-related frames.

Offline Handwriting Recognition SPEECH GROUP OF MICROSOFT RESEARCH ASIA
Mentors: Lijuan Wang, Qiang Huo, Frank Soong Apr 2014 – June 2015

- Made the first effort to build a recognizer for cursive human handwriting in Microsoft Research.
- Implemented an offline handwriting system based on Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory & Hidden Markov Model hybrid structure, the system achieves comparable results with state-of-the-art systems on the IAM database.
- Proposed the method to mix skeletonized online handwriting data with offline handwriting data to enlarge the training set, which further improves the recognition accuracy.

Audio Visual Speech Recognition SPEECH GROUP OF MICROSOFT RESEARCH ASIA
Mentors: Lijuan Wang, Frank Soong Dec 2012 – Aug 2013

- Developed a method to fuse visual features (dimension reduced mouth image pixels by PCA) with audio features to improve speech recognition accuracy in videos.
- Made the first effort to build large audio-visual speech database from MOOC platforms, which included 5 hours high quality audio visual speech data.
- Implemented an audio-visual speech recognition system based on Deep Neural Network & Hidden Markov Model hybrid structure on the collected audio-visual database.

PUBLICATIONS

- Xiong Zhang, Min Wang, Lijuan Wang, Qiang Huo and Haifeng Li: *Building Handwriting Recognizers by Leveraging Skeletons of Both Offline and Online Samples*. International Conference on Document Analysis and Recognition (ICDAR), 2015

SKILLS

Programming: Python, C, C++, Java, Matlab, PHP, JavaScript

Musical Instruments: Acoustic guitar and similar string instruments like ukulele and bass.

HONORS & AWARDS

- Outstanding Masters Thesis Award, 2014, Harbin Institute of Technology
- First Class Graduate Fellowship, 2013 & 2014, Harbin Institute of Technology
- First Class People's Scholarship, 2010, Harbin Institute of Technology