YINING MAO

EDUCATION

Stanford University, California, USA

09/2022 - Present

Master student in Electronics Engineering (EE), expected 06/2024

Zhejiang University, Zhejiang, China

09/2018 - 06/2022

B.E. in Computer Science and Technology (CS)

- **GPA: 3.92**/4.0 (**90.2**/100); Junior&Senior year GPA: 3.98/4.0 (92.8/100)
- Rank: top 2% of 269 students
- Main Courses and Scores: Computer Vision (97), Operating System (97), C Programming (95), Computer Graphics (93), Computer Networks (94), Theory of Computation (93), Linux Programming (95), Computer Architecture (98), Object-Oriented Programming (95), Digital Image Processing (96)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Massachusetts, USA (Remote)

08/2022

Online courses: Machine Learning + Deep Learning; Project: "COVID-19 detection from X-Ray Images"

PUBLICATIONS & MANUSCRIPTS

On the nonlinear correlation of ML performance between data subpopulations 🖹 🕠

Weixin Liang*, Yining Mao*, Yongchan Kwon*, Xinyu Yang, James Zou

ICML 2022 Workshop on Principles of Distribution Shift

ICML 2022 Workshop on Spurious Correlations, Invariance, and Stability

Learning Graph Neural Networks for Image Style Transfer 🖹 🛷

Yongcheng Jing, Yining Mao, Yiding Yang, Yibing Zhan, Mingli Song, Xinchao Wang, Dacheng Tao. ECCV 2022

Safe Distillation Box 🖪

ICCV 2021

Jingwen Ye, Yining Mao, Jie Song, Xinchao Wang, Cheng Jin, Mingli Song. AAAI 2022

Mutual-Complementing Framework for Nuclei Detection and Segmentation in Pathology Image A Zunlei Feng, Zhonghua Wang, Xinchao Wang, Yining Mao, Thomas Li, Jie Lei, Yuexuan Wang, Mingli Song.

A Location Constrained Dual-branch Network for Reliable Diagnosis of Jaw Tumors and Cysts 🗗 Jacong Hu, Zunlei Feng, Yining Mao, Jie Lei, Dan Yu, Mingli Song. MICCAI 2021

👺 Selected Research Experience

ML Performance Correlations Under Subpopulation Shifts

04/2022 - 09/2022

Supervisor: Prof. James Zou; Co-worker: Weixin Liang

Research Intern @ Stanford AI Lab

• Empirically show that out-of-distribution (OOD) performance often has nonlinear ("moon shape") correlation with in-distribution (ID) performance under subpopulation shifts.

- Discover how the results complement and contrast previous works in the presence of spurious correlation.
- Publication: "On the nonlinear correlation of ML performance between data subpopulations", ICML 2022 Workshop

Image Style Transfer with Graph Neural Networks (GNN)

08/2021 - 02/2022

Supervisor: Prof. Xinchao Wang; Co-worker: Yongcheng Jing (University of Sydney) Summer Research Intern @ National University of Signapore (Remote)

- The first to propose a semi-parametric neural style transfer framework with graph neural networks (GNNs).
- Developed an attention-based heterogeneous GNN model using image patches as vertices and introduced a deformable graph convolution operation for cross-scale style-content matching.
- Achieved diversified patch-based stylization with a single model.
- Publication: "Learning Graph Neural Network for Image Style Transfer", ECCV 2022

Key-based Safe Knowledge Distillation Box

Supervisor: Prof. Mingli Song; Co-worker: Jingwen Ye

Undergraduate Research Intern @ Zhejiang University VIPA Lab

- Developed a Safe Distillation Box (SDB) framework aimed at solving the task of intellectual property protection in knowledge distillation.
- Implemented with 3 strategies: key embedding to integrate a random key into training, knowledge disturbance to confuse soft labels, and knowledge preservation to maintain and augment the knowledge.
- Publication: "Safe Distillation Box", AAAI 2022

Image Classification with both Noisy Labels and Long-Tailed Distribution 03/2021 – 09/2021

Advisor: Dr. Lechao Cheng Research Intern @ Zhejiang Lab

- To deal with the label noise, proposed an inference matching paradigm to screen out noisy samples and a leave-noise-out regularization to eliminate the effect of the recognized noisy samples.
- To deal with long-tailed distribution, incorporated a prediction penalty based on online prior distribution.
- **Publication:** "Combating Noisy Labels in Long-Tailed Image Classification", submitted to IEEE Transactions on Image Processing

SELECTED COURSE PROJECTS

Comparative Study of Watermark Detection & Removal Algorithms

04/2020 - 04/2021

Student Research Training Program (SRTP), Supervisor: Prof. Mingli Song

- Extensively studied 10+ papers. Reproduced a multi-image matting algorithm and a conditional GAN algorithm. Tested on both public datasets and a self-constructed small dataset.
- Proposed a method to split the dataset by pixel values and train separately to improve results.
- Optimized the matting method to apply on full screen watermarks.

Flashing Flight Game (C++; OpenGL) | Lead Programmer of 3-member Team (A)

01/2021

- An integrated tunnel flying game with an installer package (Windows 10).
- Based on OpenGL, implemented and encapsulated the random-generated sweeping tunnels, obj-model import, gravity simulation, real-time collision detection, particle effects and multi-source lighting system.

COVID-19 detection from X-Ray Images (Tensorflow) | *Lead Programmer of 5-member Team (A)* 08/2020

- Leveraged a dataset of 100+ sample to predict the infection, accuracy up to 75%.
- Based on VGG-19, implemented lung-segmentation, transfer learning and Class Activation Mappings.

Chinese Calligraphy Character Retrieval (MatLab) | Independent Course Project (A+)

07/2019

- Developed masked erosion/dilation algorithms, elastic meshing technique and directional feature extraction.
- Implemented a graphical interface presenting the results. Recall Ratio > 80% for half samples.

SKILLS

- Programming Languages: Proficient: C/C++, Python; Practiced: Java, JavaScript.
- Tools: OpenCV, OpenGL, Pytorch, Tensorflow, Matlab, R, MySQL, Shell, LATEX, Adobe Ps/Ai/Lr.
- English Proficiency: TOEFL: 108 (R28+L29+S24+W27); GRE: V155+Q170+AW3.5; CET-4: 647.

♥ Honors and Awards

Scholarships

Outstanding Graduate of Zhejiang University	06/2022
Outstanding Graduation Thesis	06/2022
• First-Class Scholarship of Zhejiang University (Top 3%)	2019, 2020
 Zhejiang Provincial Government Scholarship 	2020

Extracurricular Activities

• 1 st Prize of Zhejiang University Powerlifting Competition	05/2022
• 1 st Prize of Zhejiang University Bodybuilding Competition	05/2022
• Five-star Volunteer of Zhejiang University: 250+ volunteer hours	05/2020
• Supporting Education (2-week teaching in Yunnan; 2-week teaching in Sichuan)	07/2019, 08/2019