Chengzu Li

+44-07783 497657 ◇ cl917@cam.ac.uk
[Personal Page] ◇ [Google Scholar] ◇ [Semantic Scholar]

RESEARCH FOCUS

Natural Language Processing, Reasoning, Multimodality, Spatial Reasoning, Natural Language Grounding

EDUCATION

Language Technology Lab, University of Cambridge, *Cambridge, UK*
Ph.D. in Computation, Cognition and Language 2023 - *current*
- Supervised by Dr. Ivan Vulić and Prof. Serge Belongie, fully funded by Cambridge Trust.

University of Cambridge *Cambridge, UK*
M.Phil. in Advanced Computer Science; Graduated with Distinction (81.7/100) 2022 - 2023
- Supervised by Prof. Simone Teufel, fully funded by Cambridge Trust.
- M.Phil. thesis: Generating Instructions for Grounded Robot Navigation (*Distinction*)

Xi'an Jiaotong University, *Xi'an, China*
B.Eng. in Automation, minor in Fintech; GPA: 91.96/100 (top 5%) 2018 - 2022

University of Hong Kong *Hong Kong*
Exchange student in Computer Engineering; GPA: 4.08/4.3 Jan. 2021 - Jun. 2021
Student Research Assistant in Dept. of Computer Science Jul. 2021 - Sept. 2021

PUBLICATIONS

Imagine While Reasoning in Space: Multimodal Visualization-of-Thought
arXiv, submitted to ICML 2025 Jul. 2024 - Jan. 2025
[IEEE Spectrum] | [TWIML AI Podcast]
Chengzu Li*, Wenshan Wu*, Huanyu Zhang, Yan Xia, Shaoguang Mao, Li Dong, Ivan Vulić, Furu Wei

TopViewRS: Vision-Language Models as Top-View Spatial Reasoners
EMNLP 2024 Oral, [Website] Jan. 2024 - Jun. 2024
Non-archival at ACL 2023 SpLU Robo Workshop (Oral), ECCV 2024 Eval-Fomo Workshop
Chengzu Li*, Caiqi Zhang*, Han Zhou, Nigel Collier, Anna Korhonen, Ivan Vulić

Can Large Language Models Achieve Calibration with In-Context Learning?
ICLR 2024 Workshop on Reliable and Responsible Foundation Models Sept. 2023 - Dec. 2023
[BMVA Presentation]
Chengzu Li, Han Zhou, Goran Glavaš, Anna Korhonen, Ivan Vulić

Semantic Map-based Generation of Navigation Instructions
COLING-LREC 2024 Jan. 2023 - May. 2023
Chengzu Li, Chao Zhang, Simone Teufel, Rama Sanand Doddipatla, Svetlana Stoyanchev

Generating Data for Symbolic Language with Large Language Models
EMNLP 2023 Main Jul. 2022 - Dec. 2022
Jiacheng Ye, **Chengzu Li**, Lingpeng Kong, Tao Yu

Binding Language Models in Symbolic Languages
ICLR 2023 Spotlight Feb. 2022 - Oct. 2022
Zhoujun Cheng*, Tianbao Xie*, Peng Shi, **Chengzu Li**, Rahul Nadkarni, Yushi Hu, Caiming Xiong, Dragomir Radev, Mari Ostendorf, Luke Zettlemoyer, Noah A. Smith, Tao Yu

UnifiedSKG: Unifying and Multi-Tasking Structured Knowledge Grounding with Text-to-Text Language Models
EMNLP 2022 Oral Jun. 2021 - Jan. 2022
Tianbao Xie*, Chen Henry Wu*, Peng Shi, Ruiqi Zhong, Torsten Scholak, Michihiro Yasunaga, Chien-Sheng Wu, Ming Zhong, Pengcheng Yin, Sida I. Wang, Victor Zhong, Bailin Wang, **Chengzu Li**, Connor Boyle, Ansong Ni, Ziyu Yao, Dragomir Radev, Caiming Xiong, Lingpeng Kong, Rui Zhang, Noah A. Smith, Luke Zettlemoyer, Tao Yu

(*: equal contribution)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

GenAI Group, Microsoft Research
Research Intern, working with Wenshan Wu on multimodal spatial reasoning. Jun. 2024 - *Dec. 2024*

Toshiba Cambridge Research Laboratory
Research Intern, working with Svetlana Stoyanchev, Chao Zhang, Rama Doddipatla Jan. 2023 - Jul. 2023

Shanghai Artificial Intelligence Laboratory
Research Intern, NLP Group, with Dr. Lingpeng Kong Oct. 2021 - Jan. 2022

University of Hong Kong (2021 HKU CS Research Internship Programme)
Research Intern, NLP Group, with Dr. Lingpeng Kong and Dr. Tao Yu Jul. 2021 - Oct. 2021

Xiamen Dianchu Technology Co., Ltd.
Algorithm Engineer (Intern), Research & Development Center Jul. 2020 - Aug. 2020

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Teaching Assistant Department of Theoretical and Applied Linguistics, University of Cambridge
Li18 Computational Lingustics *(Practical Session)* 2023
Li18 Computational Lingustics *(Practical Session)* 2024

SELECTED AWARDS

2024 Scholar of Jesus College, Cambridge (for outstanding academic performance)
2023 PhD Scholarship from Cambridge Trust (Fully-Funded)
2022 Masters Scholarship from Cambridge Trust (Fully-Funded)
2019 National Scholarship (Top 1%, highest honor for undergraduates in China)
2019 Excellent Student (Top 10% among 5000+ students)

MEDIA COVERAGE & PRESENTATIONS

2025 The TWIML AI Podcast with Sam Charrington
2025 IEEE Spectrum, "Thinking" Visually Boosts AI Problem Solving
2024 BMVA: Trustworthy Multimodal Learning with Foundation Models