Richard Kim

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Education

Columbia University, M.S. in Computer Science: NLP Track   Sep 2021 – May 2024
- **Relevant Coursework:** NLP, Applied ML, AI, Data Science

University of California, Davis, B.S. in Computer Science, Minor in Linguistics   Sep 2014 – Jun 2019
- **Relevant Coursework:** Data Structures, Algorithm Design/Analysis, Computational Linguistics

Work Experience

Headline Venture Capital, NLP Engineer, *San Francisco, CA*   Jan 2022 – May 2024
- Led the development of Trove, an AI-powered financial intelligence API, leveraging LLMs to preprocess transactions, extract entities, and rank merchants; processed 30M+ raw transactions, earned Product Hunt's "Product of the Week", and contributed to the company's Series A startup evaluations
- Developed an LLM-powered summarizer by fine-tuning BART model on 70K+ custom dataset, achieving an evaluation score of 80% and automating company summaries for the internal sourcing platform

Headline Venture Capital, Data Scientist, *San Francisco, CA*   Jun 2019 – Mar 2021
- Designed a credit card transaction matching algorithm using classical NLP techniques and converted to Rust for scalability, boosting CPU runtime by 250% and accuracy across terabytes of financial data
- Contributed to the NLP and ML features in the company's analytics system, delivering back-end and data engineering road map milestones to support Series A due diligence for NLP-focused tech startups
- Enhanced the company's internal sourcing platform by extracting insights from the Department of Labor's Form-5500 dataset, enriching growth signals and providing actionable intelligence for company analysis

Research Experience

Speech Lab, Research Assistant, *Columbia University*   Jan 2023 – Jul 2023
Worked with Professor Julia Hirschberg for the CCU Emotion project:
- Advanced multimodal emotion detection for DARPA CCU project and cross-cultural research by fine-tuning English and Chinese pre-trained models (MacBERT, LERT, RoBERTa) and the MEmoR model on CPED and "The Big Bang Theory" datasets, improving detection of trust, anticipation, and other complex emotions

APAR Fintech Lab, Research Lead, *Columbia University*   Jan 2022 – May 2022
Worked with Professor R.A. Farrokhnia for the Torque-SEC project:
- Led a team to fine-tune GPT-3 for democratizing financial information access, developing a QA and summarization prototype, enabling language queries (e.g., "How did Apple perform in Q4 2018?"), while driving progress through Agile sprints, resolving blockers, and ensuring on-time delivery with strong team morale
- Developed a mini-VC tool to identify companies with high IPO or acquisition potential, aiding student job searches and improving startup evaluation strategies

Language, Multimodal and Interaction Lab, Research Assistant, *UC Davis*   Mar 2018 – Dec 2018
Worked with Professor Zhou Yu for the Persuasive Dialogue System project:
- Designed persuasive conversation methods and annotated 1000+ dialogues using an AI chatbot framework and MTurk, developing a baseline classifier for predicting persuasion strategies and earning a nomination for the ACL 2019 Best Paper Award

Skills

Technical: Python, PyTorch, NLP, ML, Git

Personal: Active listener, Adaptable, Creative, Enthusiastic, Lifelong learner