

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### Diganta Misra

Research Student and Founder  
Landscape/ W&B/ VITA  
Cuttack, Odisha  
India

Email: [diganta@landscape.ai](mailto:diganta@landscape.ai)  
Web: <https://digantamisra98.github.io/>  
Github: <https://github.com/digantamisra98>  
Blog: <https://blog.paperspace.com/author/diganta/>

---

#### (a) Education

KIIT Bhubaneswar, India Electronics and Electrical Engineering B.Tech, 2020

#### (b) Experience Overview

2021 – present Visiting Research Scholar, VITA (UT-Austin)  
2020 – present Machine Learning Engineer, Weights & Biases  
2020 – present Research Associate, Laboratory of Space Research - Hong Kong University  
2020 – present Deep Learning Content Developer, Paperspace  
2019 – present Founder and Researcher, Landscape  
2018 – 2018 Deep Learning Research Intern, Bennett University  
2018 – 2018 Data Science Intern, CSIR-CDRI  
2018 – 2018 Intern, Indian Institute of Technology - Kharagpur  
2017 – 2017 Exchange Student, Bangkok University

#### (c) Research and Professional Experience

##### *Visiting Research Scholar, VITA, UT-Austin*

Working under the guidance of [Dr. Zhangyang Wang](#) on the topics of sparsity in neural networks.

##### *Founder, Landscape*

Landscape is a small deep learning fundamental research group I founded in September 2019 along with the help of Kris Akira Stern (HKU).

At Landscape, we work on deep learning theory, optimization, attention mechanisms, non-linear dynamics, continual learning and efficient network design.

Our group includes students and researchers from MILA, UIUC, IIT-G, KAIST, HKU and CMU with collaborators from Google Brain, Imperial College and NUS.

At Landscape, I am principally supervised by [Assoc. Prof. Jaegul Choo \(KAIST\)](#).

Visit our [website](#) for further details on publications and members/ affiliates.

##### *Machine Learning Engineer, Weights & Biases*

Working in the Frameworks and Integration team. As a Machine Learning Engineer, I primarily focus on ensuring seamless integration of the W&B API into several deep learning frameworks.

Also responsible for reproducibility pipelines.

##### *Research Associate, Laboratory of Space Research - Hong Kong University (LSR-HKU)*

Working on Planetary Nebulae analysis using deep learning and computer vision based approaches. Our goal is to use generative modelling to understand the different structural variations of PNe as well as constructing an end-to-end pipeline for visually analyzing PNe as well as develop their spectrum profiles.

Mentored by [Prof. Quentin A. Parker](#).

Visit my LSR Profile on the HKU LSR directory [website](#).

### ***Deep Learning Content Developer, Paperspace***

Working on constructing extensive reviews of state of the art and novel papers in the domain of computer vision along with code implementation in PyTorch using the resources offered by Paperspace Gradient. Currently involved in constructing a blog series on *Attention Mechanisms in Computer Vision* along with reviews of papers from CVPR and ECCV 2020. Authored articles can be viewed on my [profile](#).

### ***Deep Learning Research Intern, Bennett University***

Successfully completed the *NVIDIA DLI workshop* and the *Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning Workshop* by Bennett University in collaboration with University College London and AWS Educate. I worked as the group leader of a team of five under the co-supervision of [Prof. Dr. Deepak Garg](#) and [Dr. Suneet Gupta](#). I was a part of 2 research projects during the duration of the internship which include:

- Class imbalanced visual recognition of galaxy images.
- Fine grained classification of crop based diseases.

The projects included documentation and final week panel presentation.

In addition, I was selected to be a part of the [LeadingIndia.AI](#) team where I supervised the hands-on labs for workshops conducted at *Galgotias University* and *Charusat University* along with conducting basic AI training sessions.

Further, I was invited as a collaborator for a project “Large-Scale Meta-Analysis of Genes Encoding Pattern in Wilson’s Disease” with *Indian Institute of Technology, Varanasi (IIT-BHU)* under the supervision of [Dr. Amrita Chaturvedi](#).

### ***Data Science Intern, CSIR-CDRI<sup>†</sup>***

During this internship, I was involved in building the analytical pipeline, data collection, pre-processing of data, cleaning of data, Geo-spatial Analysis of data and Document writing for the project on understanding demographics of Venture Capital and Early Seed Investments. As a part of a team of three, I was advised and mentored by [Dr. Sukant Khurana](#).

<sup>†</sup> Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Central Drug Research Institute.

### ***Intern, Indian Institute of Technology - Kharagpur***

Studied basic algorithmic techniques using functional programming languages - Lisp and Prolog under the guidance of [Assoc. Prof. Pawan Kumar](#).

### ***Exchange Student, Bangkok University***

Served as a primary instructor for cultural engagements along with teaching basic english and computer science to primary grade students at RangsonWittaya School, Nakhon Sawan under the [AIESEC](#) SDG #4 programme. Was also part of culture exchange, entrepreneurship and social service programs at Bangkok University.

(d) **Publications ([Google Scholar](#))**

1. Diganta Misra, **Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function**, Published at the *31st British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC)*, 2020.
2. Diganta Misra, Trikey Nalamada, Ajay Uppili Arasanipalai, and Qibin Hou, **Rotate to Attend: Convolutional Triplet Attention Module**, Accepted to *IEEE Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision (WACV)*, 2021.
3. Diganta Misra, Rahul Pelluri, Vijay Kumar Verma, Bhargav Appasani and Nisha Gupta, **Genetic Algorithm Optimized Inkjet Printed Electromagnetic Absorber on Paper Substrate**, Published at *IEEE International Conference on Applied Electromagnetics, Signal Processing and Communication (AESPC)*, 2018.

(e) **Invited Talks and Podcasts**

1. **Podcast** - *Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function* - [Link](#)  
Episode 7 with Miklos Toth on the [Machine Learning Cafe](#) podcast.
2. **Invited Talk** - *Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function* - [Link](#)  
Presented internally at the [Sicara](#) weekly deep learning club.
3. **Contributed Talk** - *Non-Linear Dynamics in Neural Networks*  
Presented at the Deep Learning colloquium at the University of Athens.
4. **Invited Talk** - *Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function* - [Link](#)  
Presented at the [Computer Vision Talks](#).
5. **Invited Corporate Talk** - *Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function*  
Presented virtually at the Bangalore Robert Bosch office.
6. **Podcast** - *Chatting with a data Science team ft DeepWrex Technologies* - [Link](#)  
Episode 20 with Ankit Jha on [The World Is Ending Podcast](#).
7. **AMA** - *Mish: A Self Regularized Non-Monotonic Activation Function*  
Ask Me Anything (AMA) session on my research with the Weights&Biases (WandB) team.

(f) **Research Interests**

Non-Linear Dynamics	Mean Field Theory	Convex Optimization
Abstract Algebra	Group Theory	Morita Equivalence
Mathematical Modelling	Topology	Algebraic Geometry
Attention Mechanisms	Efficient Network Design	Self Supervised Learning
Continual Learning	Image Reconstruction	Autoencoders
Visual Recognition	Deep Learning Theory	Adversarial Robustness

(g) **Languages**

English   Odia   Hindi

**(h) Additional Experience**

I also served as Content Writer, Growth Associate, Developer, Volunteer and Editor at firms like [Digital Vidya](#), [Digimyx](#), [COSO IT](#), Criotam Technologies Private Limited, [United Nations Volunteers \(UNV\)](#), [AIESEC Bhubaneswar Chapter](#) and [The Insider Tales](#).

**(i) Projects**

For projects and open source contributions, please visit my [GitHub Profile](#).

**(j) Achievements and References**

References, achievements and certifications are available upon request.