nischal.mainali@nyu.edu www.nischalmainali.xyz

# MAINALI, NISCHAL

## **EDUCATION**

Exp: 06/21

# Masters in Applied Cybernetics, HD

3AI, School of Cybernetics, Australian National University

On leave

# PhD student in Computational Neuroscience

Edward and Lily Safra Center for Brain Science, Hebrew Unversity of Jerusalem

05/2019

**B.S. Mathematics with minors in Econnomics and CS**, *magna cum laude* New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD)

Studied away at New York, Washington D.C., Florence & London

# **RESEARCH**

02/2021 - Present

# **ANU School of Philosophy**

Research on naturalised theory of mental content with Prof.Colin Klein. We are interested in identifying and defending the epistemic value of representation in connectionist model of the mind.

09/2019 - 02/2020

# **Hebrew University of Jerusalem**

Research on infinite-width neural network correspondence to kernel process with Prof.Haim Sompolinsky. We were interested in generalization performance of neural netwok kernel processes trained on small data sets.

05/2019 - 08/2019

## **NYUAD Center for Cyber Security**

Summer research project on cryptoanalysis of post quantum encryption systems submitted to the NIST competition. I analysed an algebraic surface encryption system and suggested ways to strengthen the algorithms against quantum attacks.

09/2018 - 05/2019

# **NYUAD Mathematics**

I automated the calculation of characterstic classes of topological manifolds such as Chern, Pontryajin, and Wu class of fiber bundles, their relations and the associated polynomial with Prof. Hisham Sati. *Paper in preparation.* 

05/2018 - 08/2018

## **Technical University of Munich**

Summer research project on deep Learning methods for Reynolds-averaged Fluid simulation for Airfoils with Prof.Nils Thuerey. I was involved in design of normalization procedure and custom loss function, Data generation, and Coding.

01/2018 - 06/2018

#### **NYU Center for Data Science**

We trained ML algorithm on applied ethics papers corpora for classification of moral reasoning employed in text with Prof.Elliott Ash and Prof.Daniel Chen. We used the model to analyse US Circuit Court judge rulings since 1891 and find a phase shift from deontological to consequentialist reasoning.Paperpublished in Computational Legal Studies.

05/2017 - 08/2017

# **Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences**

Summer research project where I formulated & implemented a mathematical model of stringed instrument and found the ideal mechanism for modelling timbre of stringed instruments such as Guitar and Sitar with Prof.Charles Peskin.

#### WORK

03/2021 - Current

## Place Intelligence

Writing a report on urban design and analytics for disaster impact management with Place Intelligence. I am involved in writing how predictive frameworks can be used to forecast and control for the impacts of disasters such as bush fires.

10/2020 - 03/2021

#### Microsoft / DPIE

Worked on a joint Project between Microdoft and Department of Planning, Industry and Energy, NSW. We designed a ML model to sift through automatically captured camera trap data to aid environment research and conservation work. I worked on designing an interface for using the model off the shelf.

08/2020 - 11/2020

#### 3A Institute

We analysed and provided recommendation to Quenbeyan smart city project. It involved analysing the decision making, governance, and engineering process and providing reccomendations around managing safety and sustainability using a more than human approach.

08/2020 - 11/2020

#### 3A Institute

We designed a prototype for a smart tap enabled with computer vision that can sesne the object being presented and control for water volume to improve efficiency. The prototype was apart of a larger argument on how computer vision can expand tha capabilities od tap and can help with thing ranging from efficiency to quality monitoring.

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07/2017 - 08/2017

# **NYU Environmental Fluid Dynamics Lab**

Worked on a project that collected and verified data from the Ilulissat Icefjord in Greenland with Prof.David Holland. We were out in the ocean at the vicinity of the fjord to collect boundary data to simulate the melting of the fjord.

01/2017 - 05/2017

## **Duco Experts**

Worked as an intern at a series A startup in Washington D.C. Involved in web design and marketing.

05/2016 - 07/2017

## **CTED Ghana**

Summer project where we researched market forces in rural Ghana with an aim to increase market access for farmers. I analysed various incomplete property data and extrapolated them to full set of data with aim to safeguard farmer's property rights.

# **Teaching**

01/2018 - 06/2018

Held office hours for undergraduate courses in Calculus, Linear Algebra, & Probability.

07/2017 - 11/2017

Tutored IB diploma course in Mathematics and Further Mathematics.

Conferences & Events	
01/2019	Workshop on Applied Topology, Kyoto, Japan
07/2018	Confrence on Numerical Ranges, Munich, Germany
11/2017	HacHarvard, Boston, USA
Awards	
2019	Rhodes Scholarship National Finalist
2017	NYU Global Leadership Scholar
2015	National Topper in A level Further Mathematics, Nepal
Skills	
Languages	Nepali, English, Hindi
Programming	Python (TensorFlow, PyTorch), Matlab, C++, LATEX