

MS, PhD Applications

Vikram

Profile

- Area of interest: Machine Learning, Computer Vision
- GPA: 9.75
- GRE: 169 (Quant), 159 (Verbal), 4 (AWA)
- TOEFL: 112

Profile

- Internships:
 - Microsoft Research: 7th Semester
 - University of Heidelberg: 3rd year summer through DAAD
 - Video Analytics Lab IISc: 2nd year summer
 - IIT Gandhinagar: 1st year summer
- Publications
 - 2 A* workshop papers
 - 1 B tier conference paper
 - 1 other paper

Admits and rejects so far ..

UW Madison: MS+PhD, fully funded

CMU MS in CS

CMU MS in CV

CMU MS in CDS

UT Austin MS

UPenn PhD

UCLA PhD

Georgia Tech MS

UIUC MS

Stanford MS

Maryland PhD

Princeton PhD

CMU PhD in ML

CMU PhD in RI

CMU MS in ML

Apply ambitiously and to as many places as you can!!

Factors affecting your Application

1. College and GPA

- College - Reputation of NITK at various Universities. Apply to places where previous batches are getting admits. Nothing much can be done now!
- GPA - This is in your hand. Keep it as high as possible! Universities give a lot of importance to this.

Factors affecting your Application

2. Publications

- A lot of papers being published in ML these days, hundreds of unranked local conferences - not all count as credible!
- A good website to see the rating of the conference - <http://portal.core.edu.au/conf-ranks/>
- Workshop papers at known A* conferences better than local conferences which are not recognized in the US

Factors affecting your Application

3. LORs

- Try getting at least one recommendation from outside NITK, a recommender who is known to the professors in the admission committee can easily pull up your application.
- Be sure that your recommender is happy to give you their letter and you are not forcing him!
- Papers written with your recommenders adds a lot of impact.
- Ask your recommenders from NITK to mention your rank (if it's high).

Factors affecting your Application

4. Research Internships

- Good research internships can help in both publications and LORs.
- Keep in touch with your mentors and other people in your lab.
- Getting your first research internship is hard, after that it becomes relatively easier.
- Do good work which will reflect as publications and strong LORs!

Factors affecting your Application

5. SOPs

- Keep it as short, crisp and to the point, people don't have much time to read!
- No cliché stuff and random stories.
- Speak about the work you have done, back it up with facts and publications. Share it with your letter writers so that they can testify your claims.
- For MS SOPs: Tell why you want to do masters such as - courses you want to do, opportunity to do research, foundation for PhD etc.

Factors affecting your Application

5. SOPs

- For PhD SOPs:
 - Find 3-4 professors in the university you want to work with.
 - Write about at least one paper of each of them in one or two lines. It would be best if you could relate it to the work you have done.
- Have crisp starting and ending paragraphs.

Factors affecting your Application

6. GRE

- Study from Magoosh flash cards App.
- Give many mock tests.
- Improve reading speed.
- Practice writing.
- Don't make mistakes in quant section.

Factors affecting your Application

7. TOEFL

- Easier than GRE english.
- Practice for speaking section.

Thank you!

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