EDUCATION

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Ph.D. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE | 2022

Atlanta, Georgia

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Atlanta, Georgia

M.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE | 2022

IIT KANPUR

B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering | 2017

Kanpur, India

WORK EXPERIENCE

TIKTOK

Machine Learning Scientist | Jan 2023 - Present

- Lead research and development projects as a member of the core recommendation team, driving innovations in large-scale recommendation systems that serve hundreds of millions of users
- Develop solutions leveraging **state-of-the-art machine learning techniques** for all aspects of the recommendation system, including **content retrieval, ranking, and re-ranking**, resulting in significant Active Users and Stay Duration gains
- Spearheaded a high-impact project, successfully transforming TikTok's recommendation system architecture in the US from a single data center to a **disaster-tolerant**, **multi-data center design**, ensuring scalability and reliability

AMAZON

APPLIED SCIENTIST INTERN | MAY 2021 - AUG 2021

- Worked on fairness and transparency in machine learning with Prof. Michael Kearns and Dr. Matthäus Kleindessner
- Introduced a **new notion for fairness** in multi-arm bandits enabling equitable product ranking and recommendations

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

RESEARCH SCIENTIST | JAN 2021 - APRIL 2021

• Worked on designing simple and incentive compatible auctions for revenue maximization in repeated auctions

FACEBOOK

RESEARCH INTERN | MAY 2020 - Nov 2020

- Part of the Economics, Algorithms, and Optimization research team in Core Data Science
- Developed algorithms for **optimal spend plan prediction** and **automatic bid pacing** for budget constraint ad campaigns

FACEBOOK

MACHINE LEARNING ENGINEERING INTERN | MAY 2019 - JUL 2019

- Designed a new ranking objective for predicting Return on Ad Spend in ads ranking using deep learning
- Introduced a two-tower model architecture and increased ad revenue while saving 60 TB memory usage (86 % decrease)

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH INTERN | May 2016 - Aug 2016

Worked on stochastic methods for Kernel PCA by extending Stochastic PCA methods using non linear feature maps

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] ActiveHedge: Hedge meets Active Learning with Jacob Abernethy and Venkatesh Saligrama International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2022 (Spotlight)
 - Also selected as oral talk at Complex Feedback in Online Learning Workshop, ICML 2022
 - Also presented at Adaptive Experimental Design and Active Learning in the Real World Workshop, ICML 2022
- [2] **Observation Free Attacks on Stochastic Bandits** with Yinglun Xu and Jacob Abernethy *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, 2021
- [3] Optimal Spend Rate Estimation and Pacing for Ad Campaigns with Budgets with Jamie Morgenstern, and Okke Schrijvers Talk at INFORMS Annual Meeting 2021
- [4] Learning Auctions with Robust Incentive Guarantees with Jacob Abernethy, Rachel Cummings, Jamie Morgenstern, Samuel Taggart
 - Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS), 2019
 - Preliminary version presented at the Learning in Presence of Strategic Behavior Workshop, EC 2019
- [5] Accelerated Federated Optimization with Quantization with Yeojoon Youn and Jacob Abernethy. Oral at Federated Learning Workshop, NeurIPS 2022
- [6] Bridging Truthfulness and Corruption-robustness in Multi-Armed Bandit Mechanisms with Jacob Abernethy, Thodoris Lykouris, and Yinglun Xu
 Incentives in Machine Learning Workshop, ICML 2020
- [7] Accelerated Parallelizable Projection-Free Algorithm for the Nuclear-Norm Ball Constraint with Jun-Kun Wang and Jacob Abernethy. *Preprint*

AWARDS

- Awarded Chair's fellowship by The School of Computer Science, Georgia Tech, 2017
- Received the NeurIPS Travel Award to attend NeurIPS 2019, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Received the Academic Excellence Award each year at IIT Kanpur (2013-2017) for outstanding academic achievements
- Secured All India Rank 269 (99.98 Percentile) in IIT-JEE 2013
- Cleared the Mathematics, Informatics, and Astronomy Olympiads organized by the Govt. of India, 2012
- Awarded the KVPY fellowship for higher studies in Sciences by the Dept. of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, 2011
- Awarded the National Talent Search Examination (NTSE) scholarship by the Govt. of India, 2009

TEACHING

• Instructor, Online Decision Making in Machine Learning (ECE8803)

Georgia Tech: Fall 2022

• TA, Machine Learning for Trading (CS7646)

Georgia Tech: Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022

• TA, Machine Learning Theory (CS7545)

Georgia Tech: Fall 2018, Fall 2019 IIT Kanpur: Fall 2016, Spring 2017

• TA, Introduction to Computing (ESC101)

OTHER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

ACTION RECOGNITION IN VIDEOS

Dr. Gaurav Sharma, IITK | 2017

- Used **deep learning** with trajectory pooled features for **action recognition in videos** and achieved state of the art results.
- Implemented alternating minimization for homography estimation to speed up train and test time by 50%.

ROBUST PCA Dr. P. Kar, IITK and Dr. Prateek Jain, Microsoft Research | 2016

- Solved non-convex Robust PCA for background subtraction in surveillance videos with moving cameras.
- Extended methods for still camera to camera motion by devising fast methods for homography estimation.

OBJECT AND FACE RECOGNITION IN VIDEOS

DR. H. KARNICK, IITK | 2016

• Developed methods for object recognition for traffic surveillance from traffic camera videos using deep learning.

LEADERSHIP/SERVICE

- Conference reviewer for: NeurIPS, ICML, COLT, ALT, EC, SODA, JMLR
- Vice President | SCS Graduate Student Association, GaTech: Founding vice-president of the newly formed School of Computer Science Graduate Student Association at Georgia Tech, 2021-2022
- Grand Award Judge | ISEF 2022: Judged the finals of International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in the Robotics and Intelligent Systems track, 2022
- Faculty hiring student nominee | School of Computer Science, GaTech: Organized students-candidate meetings and represented the student body in faculty hiring decisions of the department, 2019-2020
- Co-organizer | ACO Student Seminar, GaTech: Organized weekly seminars on algorithms, combinatorics, optimization, and machine learning, 2018-2019
- Coordinator | Programming Club, IITK: Organized various programming contests, hackathons, summer projects, programming workshops and events for the community while managing a team of over 15 members, 2015-2016
- Group Leader | Science Coffeehouse, IITK: Organized regular meets, contests and managed the administrative tasks for the Science discussion group at IITK, 2015-2016

SELECT PROJECTS

- photoCENTER Image/Video Processing App: Developed an open-source multi-platform software to edit videos and images including background extraction capabilities using computer vision techniques.
- Artify: Designed a web app in Django for deep neural style transfer written in Tensorflow creating artistic images.
- ColourIT: Developed a learning algorithm to automatically colour a grayscale image using deep learning.
- Research Group Website Designed a package to manage a research group's website using Node.js.

SKILLS

Languages C++ • Python • C Matlab • Octave

Scientific Libraries Tensorflow • Keras PyTorch • SKlearn OpenCV • pandas

General Tools MySQL • Presto • Git Latex • OpenGL

Webdev Node.is • Diango • CSS Javascript • HTML