
Research Interests

I am broadly interested in Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, and Information Retrieval. My recent research has focused on multilingual unsupervised syntactic parsing, semi-supervised learning, interpretability and robustness of machine learning algorithms, and understanding social inequality and bias in language.

Education

- 2020 – 2021 **M.Sc. by Research, Informatics**, The University of Edinburgh, Scotland, United Kingdom.
Research Unit: *Institute for Language, Cognition and Computation (ILCC)*
Research Areas: Unsupervised Parsing, Knowledge Graph Completion
Thesis: *Co-training a Weakly Supervised Constituency Parser of Natural Language*
Advisor: Prof. [Shay Cohen](#)
- 2011 – 2015 **B.E. in Electronics and Communication**, CMR Institute of Technology, Bangalore, India.
GPA: 7.58/10

Work Experience

- May 2018 – Sept. 2020 **Senior Software Developer - NLP**, Niki.ai, Bangalore, India.
- Developed a real-time pause detection algorithm on speech signals to identify end-of-speech conditions.
 - Designed a probabilistic model to classify if an utterance is a valid parse or not.
 - Developed a bot that could respond to about 75 FAQs in regional languages and English.
 - Built a character-level RNN model to classify utterances as 'Hinglish' words with minimum lexicon support.
 - Created an algorithm to automatically generate contextual synonyms and augment concept-grammar data.
- Sept. 2016 – Feb. 2018 **Data Scientist - Research and Development**, Sociograph Solutions, Bangalore, India.
- Built a time series model to generate weekly/monthly sales forecasts of products with scarce data.
 - Devised a robust machine learning model to predict and optimize e-commerce metrics for retailers.
 - Created an image search engine to recommend similar images based on segmentation as a selective search.
- Feb. 2016 – May 2016 **Junior Data Scientist**, Hotify.ai, Bangalore, India.
- Aggregated tweets from pre-selected news sources to estimate trending hashtags.
 - Created actionable insights by analyzing how select twitter users through A/B testing react to real-time events.
 - Prepared training data by examining RSS feeds of news sources and rated each source using multiple factors.

Internships

- Aug. 2021 – Oct. 2021 **Research Assistant**, Usher Institute (University of Edinburgh) and Institute of Health Informatics (UCL), Edinburgh, UK.
Topic: *Clinical Natural Language Processing for Automated Medical Coding*
Mentor: Dr. [Hang Dong](#)
- May 2021 – Aug. 2021 **Student Developer**, Google Summer of Code (GSoC), Remote.
Topic: *Identify Joint Meaning Construal Patterns using Co-speech Gestures*
Mentor: Prof. [Tiago Torrent](#)

Selected Publications

- Preprint Co-training an Unsupervised Constituency Parser with Weak Supervision [PDF]
Nickil Maveli, Shay Cohen
ACL 2022 (under review)
- WNUT@EMNLP 2020 EdinburghNLP at WNUT-2020 Task 2: Leveraging Transformers with Generalized Augmentation for Identifying Informativeness in COVID-19 Tweets [PDF]
Nickil Maveli
Proceedings of the 2020 EMNLP Workshop W-NUT

Technical Skills

- Specialties Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Recommender Systems, Time-series Forecasting
- Languages Python, R, Matlab, Javascript, SQL, HTML/CSS, \LaTeX
- Tools and Frameworks Pandas, NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-Learn, NLTK, Keras, PyTorch, TensorFlow, PySpark, Flask, Django, Docker, Kubernetes, AWS, Jira, Git, Elastic Stack, MongoDB

Key Achievements

- 2021 Selected to participate in the Lisbon Machine Learning School (LxMLS 2021). [Details]
- 2020 Secured Top 2% in the Jigsaw Multilingual Toxic Comment Classification Challenge hosted on Kaggle; Won a silver medal. [Details]
- 2019 Finished 2nd out of 479 competitors in the Quality Forecasting in Cement Manufacturing Challenge hosted on CrowdAnalytix; Won \$2,500 as prize money; Winner representing India. [Details]
- 2019 Secured Top 3% in the Quora Insincere Questions Classification Challenge hosted on Kaggle; Won a silver medal. [Details]
- 2018 Finished 2nd out of 750 competitors in the Predicting How Points End in Tennis Challenge hosted on CrowdAnalytix; Won \$2500 as prize money; [Featured in Tennis Australia's official press release](#). [Details] [Media Coverage]
- 2017 Placed 3rd out of 2975 competitors in the Click Prediction Challenge hosted on AnalyticsVidhya; Awarded a cash prize of ₹25000. [Details]
- 2016 – present Among Top Stack Overflow Users for tags — Python, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib with an overall 25000+ reputation score and more than 4 million post views worldwide. [Details]

Academic Services

Reviewer

- 2021 AmericasNLP
- 2020 W-NUT@EMNLP (Shared Task 2), Scipy (Tutorials, Talk & Poster Presentations)

Volunteer

- 2021 ACL, ICML, NAACL, ICLR, EACL (Social events)
- 2020 EMNLP (Lead Zoom)