Omkar Ranadive

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Education

Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois

Master of Science in Computer Science, GPA: 4.0/4.0

Sep 2019 – Mar 2021

Coursework: Machine Learning, Statistics, Deep Learning Foundations, Advanced Deep Learning, Data Science Seminar, Statistical Language Modeling, Algorithms, Social Network Analytics

Labs/Groups: REALM Lab, MAGICS Lab, AI Journal Club

K.J Somaiya College of Engineering

Mumbai, India

Bachelor of Technology in Computer Engineering, GPA: 8.99/10

Aug 2015 - May 2019

Coursework: Machine Learning, Neural Nets, Image Analysis, Artificial Intelligence, Data Structures, Algorithms, Operating System

Work Experience

NU Earth

Evanston, Illinois

Research Specialist | Prof. Suzan Van Der Lee

Nov 2022 – Present

• Developing unsupervised learning algorithms to analyze and detect small seismic events in highly fluctuating and noisy urban seismic data from Greater Chicago area.

Alchera Labs

San Diego, California Jul 2021 – Oct 2022

Applied Scientist

- Developed an early detection system for wildfires which can detect wildfire smoke with 91.6% accuracy. The system is actively being used in the USA to monitor near real-time data from hundreds of cameras daily.
- Researched the emergence and importance of class-selective neurons during the early epochs of training and demonstrated through a set of experiments that class selectivity is essential for successful training.

CIERA

Evanston, Illinois

Researcher | Prof. Vicky Kalogera's Group

Jun 2020 – Jun 2021

Earthquake Detective | Prof. Suzan Van Der Lee

- Compiled and processed the first ever comprehensive ML benchmark dataset of potentially triggered earthquakes and tremors with 130k+ samples.
- Developed a ML model which uses Wavelet Scattering and Image Convolutions to detect low amplitude earthquake and tremor signals with 90.4% accuracy.
- Developed a retirement algorithm to effectively retire labeled seismic samples on Earthquake Detective a crowdsourcing platform.

Northwestern University

Evanston, Illinois

Jan 2020 - Jun 2020

Graduate Research Assistant | Prof. Prem Seetharaman

- Developed Otoworld, an interactive environment for training Reinforcement Learning agents for Computer Audition.
- Agents trained in this environment implicitly learn to separate audio sources by learning to maximize the reward of "turning-off" these sources.
- Developed a RL agent with a Monaural Separation Model, Spatial Feature Extractor and a Q-Network to navigate this environment.

K.J Somaiya College of Engineering Research Intern | Prof. Grishma Sharma

Mumbai, India

Jan 2018 – Apr 2018

• Developed a few-shot facial recognition system which can be trained to a high accuracy (90-100%) using only 3 samples per class.

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• Developed depth mapping, lane detection, and object detection modules for assistive driving system.

Publications

Conference Papers

- 1. **O. Ranadive**, J. Kim, S. Lee, Y. Cha, H. Park, M. Cho, and Y. K. Hwang, "Image-based early detection system for wildfires," in *Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning workshop, Thirty-sixth Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems* (NeurIPS'22), Dec. 2022.
- 2. **O. Ranadive**, S. van der Lee, V. Tang, and K. Chao, "Applying machine learning to crowd-sourced data from earthquake detective," in *AI for Earth Sciences Workshop, Thirty-fourth Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS'20*), Dec. 2020.
- 3. **O. Ranadive**, G. Gasser, D. Terpay, and P. Seetharaman, "Otoworld: Towards learning to separate by learning to move," in *Self Supervision in Audio and Speech Workshop*, 37th International Conference on Machine Learning, Vienna, Austria (ICML'20), Jul. 2020.
- 4. K. Joisher, S. Khan, and **O. Ranadive**, "Simulation environment for development and testing of autonomous learning agents," in 2nd International Conference on Advances in Science & Technology (ICAST'19, Elsevier SSRN), Apr. 2019.

Journal Articles

- 1. **O. Ranadive**, N. Thakurdesai, A. S. Morcos, M. L. Leavitt, and S. Deny, "On the special role of class-selective neurons in early training," *Transactions on Machine Learning Research*, 2023.
- 2. **O. Ranadive** and D. Thakkar, "K-shot learning for face recognition," *International Journal of Computer Applications* 181 (18), pp. 43–48, Sep. 2018.

Abstracts

- 1. A. M. Thomas, **O. Ranadive**, and S. van der Lee, "Feature engineering and clustering for single-station seismic waveform classification in an urban environment," in *SSA Annual Meeting*, Apr. 2023.
- 2. M. P. Flanagan, V. Tang, **O. Ranadive**, A. M. Thomas, and S. van der Lee, "Earthquake detective: Citizen scientists use eyes and ears to classify small seismic events," in *AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts*, Dec. 2021.

Projects

Reinforcement Learning for High-Frequency Trading

- Developed an environment to process HFT (level-2) data and maintain a limit-order book in real-time.
- Developed a DDQN agent which leverages the level-2 data to take intelligent trading decisions.

LinkedIn Network Analytics

• Analyzed changes in the LinkedIn network in the post-COVID era using centrality measures, sentiment analysis, decomposition algorithms, and social network models.

Analyzing spread of COVID-19 using Graph Neural Networks

- Developed an end-to-end pipeline to process COVID-19 data into graph structures and analyze it.
- Predicted future spread in US states using Graph Convolution Network and Message Passing Network based on census data, time series info, travel data and distances between US states.

Domain Adaptation using CycleGAN

- Developed a CycleGAN architecture to map simulated images to real-world images to reduce the domain gap between real-world data and virtual environment data.
- Developed a multi-iterative CycleGAN architecture to enhance the GAN output.

Citizens Police Data Project

- Analyzed crime trends, officers, and incidents using SQL, Tableau and D3.JS.
- Created a co-accusal network of officers and used graph analytics to identify key officers.
- Applied NLP on reports to find important keywords and assign severity scores.

Skills

Languages/Web: Python, Java, R, C, C++, Flask, HTML, CSS, PHP, Javascript, AngularJS, Node.js, React Analytics/Tools: AWS, Git, Docker, Spark, Tableau, Trifacta, Matplotlib, D3.js, Google Earth Engine, ArcGIS Databases: PostgreSQL, MySQL, MongoDB Libraries: Pytorch, Tensorflow, OpenCV, Gym, Numpy, Pandas, SkLearn, NLTK, Keras

Certifications: Deep Learning Specialization (Deeplearning.AI), Machine Learning (Stanford, Coursera)

Teaching

• Invited Lecturer - Machine Learning, ROSES'21, American Geophysical Union	2021
CS496 - Advanced Deep Learning, Graduate Student Instructor, Northwestern University	2021
• STAT461 - Statistical Machine Learning, Graduate Student Instructor, Northwestern University	2021
Machine Learning Workshop, CSI, K.J Somaiya College of Engineering	2016
Cryptography Workshop, CSI, K.J Somaiya College of Engineering	2016

Talks

• Tackling Climate Change with Machine Learning Workshop, NeurIPS 2022	Dec 2022
Using machine learning to detect wildfires, NICO	Oct 2021
MuZero: Learning to plan in unknown environments, AI Journal Club	Feb 2021
AI for Earth Sciences Workshop, NeurIPS 2020	Dec 2020
Agent57: Surpassing human performance on Atari Games, AI Journal Club	Oct 2020
Self-Supervision in Audio and Speech Workshop, ICML 2020	Jul 2020
Imagination and Curiosity in Reinforcement Learning, AI Journal Club	May 2020
Multi-Agent Reinforcement Learning, AI Journal Club	Feb 2020

Media Coverage

Alchera & Sierra Home Health Care Collaboration, TV Interview	Apr 2022
Earthquake Detection using crowd-sourced data, Data Skeptic Podcast	Dec 2020

Awards

• Undergraduate Final Year, Rank 2 2019 • Winner of IEEE Technical Paper Presentation for the paper "Framework for low cost 2017 driver-assistance system" • Undergraduate highest marks (rank 1) for courses - Machine Learning, Image Analysis, 2015-2019 Operating Systems, Communication Skills, Advanced Internet Technology

Mentoring

• Samarth Shah, Machine Learning Intern, Alchera Labs 2022

Service

• Reviewer, PeerJ Computer Science Journal 2022 • Council Member of Computer Society of India 2016-2017