# Omkar Ranadive

omkar-ranadive.github.io

omkar.ranadive@u.northwestern.edu

Omkar-Ranadive ⋅ □ omkar-ranadive

#### 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 – Apr 2024

- Developed clustering-based and transformer-based approaches for detecting small seismic events in noisy urban environments.
- Developed an algorithm which optimizes sensitivity volume by efficiently choosing a small subset of rows from a large matrix.
- Developed Earthtunes, a mobile app which allows users to listen to normally inaudible sounds within the Earth.

#### Alchera Labs

#### **Applied Scientist**

San Diego, California Jul 2021 – Oct 2022

- Developed an early detection system for detecting 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 comprehensive ML benchmark dataset of potentially triggered earthquakes and tremors with 130k+ samples.
- Developed an ML model that 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

#### Graduate Research Assistant | Dr. Prem Seetharaman

Jan 2020 – Jun 2020

- 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 an 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 that can be trained to a high accuracy (90-100%) using only 3 samples per class.

# Accelo Innovation Machine Learning Intern

Mumbai, India Aug 2017 – Oct 2017

• Developed depth mapping, lane detection, and object detection modules for an 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), 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 (TMLR)*, 2023.
- 2. **O. Ranadive** and D. Thakkar, "K-shot learning for face recognition," *International Journal of Computer Applications* 181 (18) (*IJCA*), pp. 43–48, Sep. 2018.

#### Abstracts

- 1. A. M. Thomas, **O. Ranadive**, and S. van der Lee, "Towards detecting small, local earthquakes in greater chicago using single-station data," in *AGU Fall Meeting Abstracts* (*AGU*), Dec. 2023.
- 2. 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 (SSA)*, Apr. 2023.
- 3. 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* (*AGU*), Dec. 2021.

## **Projects**

#### Reinforcement Learning for High-Frequency Trading 🗘

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

#### 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: Python, Java, R, C, C++

Web: Flask, HTML, CSS, PHP, Javascript, AngularJS, Node.js, React, Flutter

Analytics: 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
<ul> <li>Self-Supervision in Audio and Speech Workshop, ICML 2020</li> </ul>	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 driver-assistance system"	2017
• Undergraduate highest marks (rank 1) for courses - Machine Learning, Image Analysis, Operating Systems, Communication Skills, Advanced Internet Technology	2015-2019

## Mentoring

Matthew Khoriaty, Undergraduate Researcher, NU Earth	2024
Samarth Shah, Machine Learning Intern, Alchera Labs	2022

## Service

Reviewer, Geophysical Journal International	2024
Reviewer, PeerJ Computer Science Journal	2022
Council Member of Computer Society of India	2016-2017