Omkar Ranadive

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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 – 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
Applied Scientist — *Jul 2021 – Oct 2022*

- 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
Graduate Research Assistant | Prof. 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 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 — Mumbai, India
Research Intern | Prof. Grishma Sharma — *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.

Accelo Innovation Mumbai, India
Machine Learning Intern *Aug 2017 – Oct 2017*

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

Publications

Preprints

1. **O. Ranadive**, N. Thakurdesai, A. S. Morcos, M. Leavitt, and S. Deny, "On the special role of class-selective neurons in early training," in *arXiv preprint*, May 2023.

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** 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 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

- Samarth Shah, Machine Learning Intern, Alchera Labs *2022*

Service

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