Preetam Dammu

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Information Science   2022 - Present
University of Washington, Seattle, Washington
- Advisor: Prof. Chirag Shah
- Recipient of the UW Top Scholar Fellowship

Master of Technology, Artificial Intelligence   2017 - 2019
University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, India
- Advisor: Prof. Raju S. Bapi
- Recipient of the Department's Gold Medal

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

AWS AI   June 2025 – Sep 2025
Applied Scientist II Intern
- Intern in AWS Themis team.
- Projects focused on Dynamic Evaluations of Agentic Systems.

Amazon Science   June 2024 – Sep 2024
Applied Scientist II Intern
- Intern in Search Experience Science team.
- Projects focused on Generative Agents.

Amazon Science   June 2023 – Sep 2023
Applied Scientist II Intern
- Intern in AlexaShopping / Nile Research team.
- Projects focused on LLMs and Evidence Attribution in NLG.

UW iSchool   Sep 2022 - Present
Graduate Research Assistant
- Member of RAISE and InfoSeeking Lab.
- Research focused on Generative AI (Agents, VLMs & LLMs).

TCS Research Labs   Aug 2019 – Sep 2022
Researcher
- Member of the "Secure and Private AI" research team
- Projects focused on solving security-related technological barriers to AI adoption.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Generative AI: Agents, VLMs & LLMs
- Responsible AI: Explainability, Fairness, Robustness, Security & Privacy
- Information Retrieval
- Natural Language Processing
- Computer Vision

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

1) **Dammu**, et al. "Dynamic-KGQA: A scalable framework for generating adaptive question answering datasets". 48th ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval *(SIGIR 2025).* Paper Link.

2) **Dammu**, et al. "A Shopping Agent for Addressing Subjective Product *Needs". Proceedings of the 18th ACM International Conference on Web Search and Data Mining (WSDM 2025)*. Paper Link.

3) **Dammu** et al. "They are uncultured": Unveiling Covert Harms and Social Threats in LLM Generated Conversations. *Proceedings of the 2024 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2024)*. Paper Link.

4) **Dammu** et al. ClaimVer: Explainable Claim-Level Verification and Evidence Attribution of Text Through Knowledge Graphs. *Findings of the 2024 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP Findings 2024)*. Paper Link.

5) **Dammu** and Alonso. "Near-duplicate Question Detection". *Companion Proceedings of the ACM on Web Conference (WebConf 2024).* Paper Link.

6) Alonso, **Dammu**, & Yang. An Interpretable Answer Scoring Framework. *The Second Workshop on Generative Information Retrieval (SIGIR Workshop 2024).* Paper Link.

7) **Dammu** and Shah. "Detecting Spurious Correlations via Robust Visual Concepts in Real and AI-Generated Image Classification". *37th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS 2023), XAIA Workshop*. Paper Link.

8) **Dammu**, Feng, and Shah. "Addressing Weak Decision Boundaries in Image Classification by Leveraging Web Search and Generative Models". *Proceedings of the Thirty-Second International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2023)*. Paper Link.

9) **Dammu** et al. "Explainable and Personalised Privacy Prediction". In *International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management Workshops (CIKM Workshop 2021)*. Paper Link.

10) **Dammu** et al. "Interpretable and Robust Face Verification". In *International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management Workshops (CIKM Workshop 2021)*. Paper Link.

11) **Dammu** & Bapi. "Employing Temporal Properties of Brain Activity for Classifying Autism Using Machine Learning". In *8th International Conference on Pattern Recognition and Machine Intelligence (PReMI 2019)*. Paper Link.

12) **Dammu** & Bapi. "Temporal Dynamics of the Brain Using Variational Bayes Hidden Markov Models: Application in Autism". In *8th International Conference on Pattern Recognition and Machine Intelligence (PReMI 2019)*. Paper Link.

PATENTS

1) Method and System for Feature Based Image Retrieval
   Inventors: **Dammu, P. P. S.**, Chalamala. S. R., & Singh, A.K.
   Application Numbers – IP India: 202121021834, US PTO: 17/660,034

2) Systems and Methods for Constructing a Modular Siamese Network for Face Verification
   Inventors: **Dammu, P. P. S.**, Chalamala. S. R., & Singh, A.K.
   Application Numbers – IP India: 202121007953, US PTO: 17/358,496

3) System and Method for Explainable and Personalised Privacy Prediction
   Inventors: **Dammu, P. P. S.**, Chalamala. S. R., & Singh, A.K.
   Application Numbers – IP India: 202121049709, US PTO: TBD

AWARDS

1) Azure Cloud Computing Credits (Co-PI, Amount: $20,000)
2) UW Top Scholar Award (Amount: 1 Quarter Funding & $5,000)
3) Gold Medal – SCIS, University of Hyderabad