

Preetam Dammu

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Information Science University of Washington , Seattle, Washington	2022 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor: Prof. Chirag Shah• Recipient of the UW Top Scholar Fellowship	
Master of Technology, Artificial Intelligence University of Hyderabad , Hyderabad, India	2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advisor: Prof. Raju S. Bapi• Recipient of the Department's Gold Medal (1st Rank)	
Bachelor of Technology, Computer Science & Engineering Sreenidhi Institute of Science & Technology , Hyderabad, India	2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Graduated with Distinction• Head of Android Development Club (ADC)	

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Amazon Science <i>Applied Scientist II Intern</i>	June 2024 – Sep 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intern in Search Experience Science team.• Projects focused on Generative Agents.	
Amazon Science <i>Applied Scientist II Intern</i>	June 2023 – Sep 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intern in AlexaShopping / Nile Research team.• Projects focused on LLMs and Evidence Attribution in NLG.	
UW iSchool <i>Graduate Research Assistant</i>	Sep 2022 - Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member of RAISE and InfoSeeking Lab.• Research focused on Generative AI (Agents, VLMs & LLMs).	
TCS Research & Innovation Labs <i>Researcher</i>	Aug 2019 – Sep 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Member of the "Secure and Private AI" research team• Projects focused on solving security-related technological barriers to AI adoption.	
Computational Intelligence Lab, UoH <i>Graduate Student Researcher</i>	Sep 2017 – Sep 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted reasearch in the intersection of Cognitive Neuroscience and ML.• Employed machine learning techniques to model and detect neurological disorders.	

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. "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](#).
- 2) **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](#).
- 3) **Dammu**, Alonso & Problete. A Shopping Agent for Addressing Subjective Product Needs. *(Under review at WSDM 2025)*.
- 4) **Dammu** and Alonso. "Near-duplicate Question Detection". *Companion Proceedings of the ACM on Web Conference (WebConf 2024)*. [Paper Link](#).
- 5) Alonso, **Dammu**, & Yang. An Interpretable Answer Scoring Framework. *The Second Workshop on Generative Information Retrieval (SIGIR Workshop 2024)*. [Paper Link](#).
- 6) **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](#).
- 7) **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](#).
- 8) **Dammu** et al. "Explainable and Personalised Privacy Prediction". In *International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management Workshops (CIKM Workshop 2021)*. [Paper Link](#).
- 9) **Dammu** et al. "Interpretable and Robust Face Verification". In *International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management Workshops (CIKM Workshop 2021)*. [Paper Link](#).
- 10) **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](#).
- 11) **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 AWARDED

- 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 AND HONORS

- 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