Ramnath Kumar

RESEARCH INTERESTS & SUMMARY

My research interests broadly span deep learning, with a focus on designing **robust** and **efficient** techniques for building practical deep learning systems. I am particularly interested in representation learning and the optimization of training paradigms for such models.

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

USA

PhD. in Computer Science

09/2024 - Present

. Mentor: Cho-Jui Hsieh

BITS Pilani, Hyderabad Campus

India

B.E. in Computer Science, and MSc. in Economics

08/2016 - 08/2021

SELECTED RESEARCH/WORK EXPERIENCE

Google DeepMind

India

Pre-Doctoral Researcher at Google

07/2022 - 08/2024

- . Mentors: Prateek Jain and Inderjit S. Dhillon
- . Led a cross-functional team in developing and deploying RGD in product-driven research, improving performance of ViT by up to $\bf 1.01\%$ on ImageNet-1K [1].
- . Developed an End-to-End efficient retrieval architecture (EHI), that improved upon prior retrieval benchmarks by up to 1.45% at a fixed compute budget. This effort is slated for integration into various Google products [2].
- . Received recognition for efforts in improving related product retrieval for users across the world. Took initiative in proposing a novel end-to-end retrieval architecture, improving efficiency and robustness in ongoing projects, with contributions recognized in .

Google Research

India

Research Associate at Google

04/2022 - 07/ 2022

- . Mentor: Dheeraj Nagaraj
- . Developed Introspective Experience Replay (IER), a novel replay buffer sampling strategy inspired by Reverse Experience Replay (RER), demonstrating up to $7 \times$ faster convergence in Reinforcement Learning algorithms such as DQN and TD3 [5].

Mila - Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute

Canada

Consultant

07/2021 - 03/2022

- . Mentor: Yoshua Bengio
- . Initiated and led a project exploring the impact of diversity in meta-learning, collaborating closely with his group. Designed and executed experiments, leading to an oral presentation at the "Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence" (AAAI) that challenged the conventional wisdom of diversity being strictly useful to meta-learning [3].

Amazon ML

 India

Applied Scientist Intern

01/2021 - 06/2021

- . Mentor: Gokul Swamy
- . Led a study on causal attribution within Amazon's sales model as first author, with findings presented at Amazon's internal conference (AMLC 2021).

Research Intern

- . Mentors: Amit P. Sheth and Krishnaprasad Thirunarayan
- . Collaborated with a cross-functional research team across multiple time zones as first author on the *eDarkFind* project, where I developed an unsupervised multi-view framework for Sybil detection, specifically targeting Darknet market activities [4].

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Stochastic Re-weighted Gradient Descent via Distributionally Robust Optimization Ramnath Kumar, Kushal Alpesh Majmundar, Dheeraj Mysore Nagaraj, and Arun Suggala Transactions on Machine Learning Research, 2024.

 Google AI Blog Coverage.
- [2] EHI: End-to-end Learning of Hierarchical Index for Efficient Dense Retrieval Ramnath Kumar*, Anshul Mittal*, Nilesh Gupta, Aditya Kusupati, Inderjit Dhillon, and Prateek Jain Transactions on Machine Learning Research, 2024.
- [3] The Effect of diversity in Meta-Learning Ramnath Kumar, Tristan Deleu, and Yoshua Bengio

 Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), 2023 (Oral Paper).

 SyncedReview Blog Coverage.
- [4] eDarkFind: Unsupervised Multi-view Learning for Sybil Account Detection Ramnath Kumar, Shweta Yadav, Raminta Daniulaityte, Francois Lamy, Krishnaprasad Thirunarayan, Usha Lokala, and Amit Sheth

 The Web Conference (WWW), 2020.
- [5] Introspective Experience Replay: Look Back When Surprised (*)
 Ramnath Kumar and Dheeraj Nagaraj
 Transactions on Machine Learning Research, 2024.
 Google Research Blog Coverage.
- [6] Rethinking Learning Dynamics in RL using Adversarial Networks Ramnath Kumar, Tristan Deleu, and Yoshua Bengio
 NeurIPS Workshop on DeepRL, 2022.
- [7] Temporal Dynamics and Spatial Content in IoT Malware detection Ramnath Kumar and G Geethakumari

 IEEE TENCON, 2019.

SELECTED AWARDS AND HIGHLIGHTS