Rohan Chacko

Email | LinkedIn | GitHub | Website

EDUCATION

International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad (IIIT-H), India

Aug '17 - Present

B. Tech in Computer Science & Engineering (Honors in Computer Vision)

CGPA: 9.05/10

Advisors: P.J. Narayanan (Director, IIIT-H) & Avinash Sharma

Major GPA: 9.46/10

EXPERIENCE

Research Intern - Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, U.S.A.

May '20 - Aug '20

- Worked (remotely) under Dr. David Held at the R-PAD Lab on zero-shot object segmentation.
- Trained a model using attention mechanisms to improve class-agnostic segmentation performance.
- Analyzed the impact of synthetic object renders as training data on class-based vs. class-agnostic segmentation performance and its potential for zero-shot learning.

Research Assistant - Centre for Visual Information Technology, IIIT-H

Aug. '19 - Present

- Working on 3D human reconstruction using non-parametric representations.
- Developed an end-to-end pipeline to reconstruct a 3D body from a single-view using a multi-layered representation of depth and RGB color maps
- Work accepted to International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV), 2020
- Currently involved in extending the work to reconstruct humans with loose clothing using multi-view images as self-supervision

Research Assistant - Five Fingers Innovative Solutions, Hyderabad, India

Aug '18 - Dec '18

- Developed a software to detect and track 3D medical equipment models in a live camera stream.
- Used feature-less silhouette-based methods to enable robust and efficient tracking.
- Application involves tracking medical inventory in hospitals during surgical operations.

Teaching Assistant - IIIT-H

Aug '19 - May '21

- Courses Computer Vision, Computer Systems Organisation, Data & Applications.
- Involves preparing tutorial sessions, creating problem sets and grading assignments for 250+ students.

PUBLICATIONS

• PeeledHuman: Robust Shape Representation for Textured 3D Human Body Reconstruction, Sagar Sai Jinka, Rohan Chacko, Avinash Sharma, P.J. Narayanan, International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV), 2020 [Project Page] [Arxiv Link]

Projects

3D Scene Reconstruction from accidental motion [Link]

OpenCV, Python/C++

- Developed a method to utilize camera shake occurring in captured videos to reconstruct a 3D scene.
- Implemented various algorithms such as Kanade-Lucas-Tomasi tracking, SfM, CRFs for energy minimization.

Transparent election fund monitoring using blockchain [Link]

Azure, Solidity, Web3.js, Django

- Developed a blockchain application to tackle illegitimate sources of political party funding and improve overall transparency of the funding process during elections.
- Created a new cryptocurrency to be used for receiving and sending funds to political parties that can be verifiably tracked from source to receiver.
- Won second place nationally and a 2 Lakh Rupee cash prize for the Microsoft India CodeFunDo 2019 hackathon.

Image Reflection removal using ghosting cues [Link]

Matlab

- Implemented the CVPR 2015 paper by applying the concept of ghosted reflections using a double-impulse convolution kernel on a single input image.
- Applied a Gaussian mixture model prior over image patches to regularise the optimization and performed half-quadratic regularization to find the optimal value for removing reflections.

Mobile ad-hoc networks for disaster relief [Link]

Java, Django

- Developed an application that creates a wireless ad-hoc network using mobile phones to communicate relief efforts during natural disasters.
- Each mobile phone in the ad-hoc network sends its GPS co-ordinates to every other mobile device in the network using bluetooth/WiFi hotspots. This allows for faster detection and rescue of people in dangerous areas during natural calamities.
- Won first runner-up for the Microsoft India CodeFunDo 2018 hackathon.

Tic-Tac-Toe AI Bot [Link]

Python

• Developed an agent that plays a variant of tic-tac-toe using minimax algorithm with alpha-beta pruning and a heuristic function to find the optimal move.

Honors and Achievements

- Selected for **Dean's List** for academic excellence. Awarded to top 5% of the batch
- Second place nationally in Microsoft India CodeFunDo 2019 hackathon
- 19th position globally for BountyCon 2019 (cybersecurity competition). Organized by Google and Facebook
- 16th position nationally for InCTF 2019 (cybersecurity competition) organized by Amrita university, India
- Second place (university-level) in Microsoft India CodeFunDo 2018 hackathon
- Winner of Sharjah (United Arab Emirates) Sustainability Award 2015 for creating a novel surveillance system to protect the biodiversity hotspots in U.A.E. Awarded by the Sharjah government
- Won the prestigious Sharjah (United Arab Emirates) Award 2015 for overall excellence in curricular and extra-curricular activities. Awarded by the Ruler of Sharjah, U.A.E, to students who have excelled in academic and extra-curricular activities
- One of 90 Global Finalists for the Google Science Fair 2014. Created an accident detection and location system which automatically sends GPS location of a vehicle in an accident to emergency rescue services [YouTube Link]
- Won the prestigious Sheikh Hamdan Award 2014 for overall excellence in curricular and extra-curricular
 activities. Awarded by the Finance Minister of United Arab Emirates to the top performing students of the country.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, C, C++, MATLAB, SQL, Bash, JavaScript, HTML, CSS

ML/CV Libraries: PyTorch, Tensorflow, OpenCV, scikit-learn

Miscellaneous: Blender, Meshlab, OpenGL, Open3D, Numpy, Pandas, Django, IAT_FX, Git

Relevant Courses

Computer Vision, Statistical Methods in AI, Digital Image Processing, Artificial Intelligence, Data Structures & Algorithms, Graphics, Probabilistic Graphical Models, Optimisation Methods, Graph Theory

Extra-Curriculars

- Core member of the the Cyber-Security Club of IIIT-Hyderabad
- Core member of the Art Society of IIIT-Hyderabad