

# Sayeed Shafayet Chowdhury

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## Education

### PURDUE UNIVERSITY

PHD IN MACHINE LEARNING,  
ADVISOR- PROF. KAUSHIK ROY

📅 2019-2024 📍 IN, USA

• CGPA 4.0/4.0

### BUET

B.SC. IN ELECTRICAL AND  
ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING

📅 2016 📍 Dhaka, Bangladesh

• CGPA 3.98/4.0, Rank 2/205

## Links

🐙 GitHub **Sayeed-github**

in LinkedIn **Sayeed-in**

## Research Interest

Machine Learning • Computer Vision •  
Data Science • Software Engineering

## Coursework

Machine Learning I and II, Deep  
Learning, Reinforcement Learning,  
Optimization, Probability and  
Random Signals, Digital Image  
Processing, Digital Video Processing,  
Linear Algebra, Algorithms and Data  
Structures, CMOS VLSI design,  
IC/MEMS Fabrication

## Skills

### PROGRAMMING

Python • C/C++ • Java • Verilog •  
Assembly • HTML/CSS • PHP

### MACHINE LEARNING (ML)

Pytorch • TensorFlow • Keras •  
OpenCV • AWS • Azure • Numpy •  
Scipy

### MISCELLANEOUS

Shell • ~~TEX~~ • Microsoft Office • Git •  
Adobe Illustrator • Photoshop •  
AutoCad • Cadence

## Awards

### TRACER RESEARCH GRANT

PURDUE & GEORGIA TECH (2024)

### TRAVEL GRANT FROM META

ECCV (2022)

### IEEE SIGNAL PROCESSING CUP

1st prize (2016) and 2nd prize (2015)

### BEST PAPER AWARD

IEEE R-10 HTC (2017) • ICECE (2016)

### DEAN'S LIST AWARD

BUET

Awarded at all terms of bachelors

## Experience

### GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, NRL, PURDUE

📅 Aug 2019 – Now

📍 IN, USA

- Developing brain-inspired Spiking Neural Networks for visual perception at low-power.
- Analyzing and improving the scene understanding capabilities of computer vision algorithms.

### ADVANCED ML ALGORITHM INTERN, ANALOG DEVICES INC.

📅 September 2023 – December 2023

📍 MA, USA

- Developed an algorithm for speech enhancement using bone conduction microphone (BCM) data.
- Proposed and implemented a speech enhancement approach using fusion of air conduction (AC) and BCM signals.

## Research Projects

### ULTRA LOW LATENCY SPIKING NEURAL NETWORKS (SNN)

- Proposed temporal pruning for low-power image recognition, Reinforcement learning (Atari) and event-based optical flow.
- Achieved 5X lower latency (just 1 timestep) and up to 100X higher energy-efficiency compared to previous state-of-the-art.

### DCT-BASED ENCODING FOR ENERGY-EFFICIENT SNNs

- Proposed DCT-based frequency domain encoding method for spiking neural networks to process sequential inputs.
- Achieved up to 10X lower latency and up to 2X higher energy-efficiency compared to prior state-of-the-art.

### UNDERSTANDING VISUAL SYNTAX WITH VISION TRANSFORMERS

- Reported a novel problem with Vision Transformers (ViTs) where they fail to capture image syntax.
- Proposed a masked auto-encoder based training with ViTs to capture syntactic anomalies in an explainable manner.

### UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECT OF LEAK IN SNNs

- Performed a frequency-domain analysis to understand the effect of the leak parameter in SNNs.
- Obtained SNNs with ~5% higher noise robustness and ~2X lower energy consumption by optimizing leak and threshold.

### SCENE UNDERSTANDING FROM VIDEOS

- Proposed a novel optimal transport based formulation for unsupervised procedure learning from videos.
- Developed an algorithm for temporal localization of key steps in surgical videos in collaboration with IU health.

## Publications

- S. S. Chowdhury, S. Chandra, and K. Roy, "Towards Syntactical Understanding of Images", Submitted to AAAI (2024).
- Y. Long, S. S. Chowdhury, K. Roy, "Segmented Recurrent Transformer: An Efficient Sequence-to-Sequence Model", EMNLP (2023).
- S. S. Chowdhury, N. Rathi, and K. Roy, "Towards Ultra Low Latency Spiking Neural Networks for Vision and Sequential Tasks Using Temporal Pruning", ECCV (2022).
- S. S. Chowdhury\*, I. Garg\*, and K. Roy, "DCT-SNN: Using DCT to Distribute Spatial Information over Time for Learning Low-Latency Spiking Neural Networks", ICCV (2021). (\*equal contribution).
- S. S. Chowdhury\*, C. Lee\*, and K. Roy, "Towards Understanding the Effect of Leak in Spiking Neural Networks", Neurocomputing (2021).
- S. S. Chowdhury, I. Garg, and K. Roy, "Spatio-Temporal Pruning and Quantization for Low-latency Spiking Neural Networks", IJCNN (2021).