

Harshay Shah

- education** **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)** Champaign, IL
B.S. Computer Science and Statistics 2014-2019
GPA 3.97/4.00, [Summa Cum Laude](#) and Highest Departmental Distinction
- papers** *Modeling Choice via Robust Multinomial Logit model*
Harshay Shah, Kiran Thekumparampil, and Sewoong Oh. In preparation.
- Number of Connected Components in a Graph: Estimation via Counting Patterns*
Ashish Khetan, **Harshay Shah**, and Sewoong Oh. [arXiv:1812.00139](#), 2018.
Submitted to IEEE Transactions on Signal and Information Processing over Networks
- Growing Attributed Networks through Local Processes*
Harshay Shah, Suhansanu Kumar, and Hari Sundaram. [arXiv:1712.10195](#), 2019.
Proceedings of the World Wide Web Conference (WWW 2019)
- experience** **Microsoft Research** Bangalore, India
Research Fellow July 2019 - Present
Working with Dr. [Praneeth Netrapalli](#) and Dr. [Prateek Jain](#) in the Machine Learning and Optimization group to understand the relationship between large-batch training and generalization in deep neural networks.
- Koyejo Lab at UIUC** Champaign, IL
Undergraduate Researcher July 2018 - May 2019
Generalized the Kronecker Graph Model (KPGM) to infer the multi-scale topology of structural brain networks and derived distributional graph properties as functions of model parameters and network resolution. Advised by Dr. [Sanmi Koyejo](#).
- Coordinated Science Laboratory at UIUC** Champaign, IL
Undergraduate Researcher May 2017 - June 2018
Augmented the Multinomial Logit model to robustly learn latent user-item preferences from partially corrupted pairwise comparisons and established minimax-optimal sample complexity of the proposed estimator. Advised by Dr. [Sewoong Oh](#).
- Crowd Dynamics Lab at UIUC** Champaign, IL
Undergraduate Researcher July 2016 - May 2018
Developed an interpretable and resource-constrained network growth model that unifies multiple link formation phenomena to accurately preserve global structural properties of large-scale attributed information networks. Advised by Dr. [Hari Sundaram](#).
- Akuna Capital** Chicago, IL
Software Engineering Intern May 2015 - July 2015
Collaborated with the trading infrastructure team to develop internal tools in Python and C++ to update financial instruments across databases and harness data for unit testing.

awards [CRA Outstanding Undergraduate Researcher](#) (Honorable Mention), 2019
Among 77 students in US & Canada recognized for research potential in computer science

[C.W. Gear Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award](#), 2019
One of two UIUC seniors selected for demonstrated interest in computer science research

[UIUC Undergraduate Conference Travel Grant](#), 2019
Received travel funds to present my work at the [World Wide Web \(WWW\) conference](#)

[IMC Trading Scholarship](#), 2018
Merit-based scholarship awarded to two Computer Science students at UIUC

[ICCP James N. Snyder Memorial Award](#), 2018
One of three UIUC juniors selected for academic merit & interest in software engineering

projects [Escaping saddle points in non-convex optimization problems](#)
Literature survey and analysis of gradient-based methods that escape strict saddle points

[Semantic reddit graph](#)
User-friendly graph-based interface to explore semantically similar Subreddits

[Topical phrase mining](#)
Tools to evaluate topical phrases extracted from graph-based topic modeling algorithms

coursework Nonlinear Optimization, Mathematical Statistics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning,
Algorithms, Statistical Computing, Numerical Methods, Network Analysis, Data Structures

