# VISWESH N

Macmillan Colony, Nanganallur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

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#### Education

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur	April 2024
Major: B.Tech. Electrical Engineering   Specialization: Artificial Intelligence and Applications	GPA - 9.07
Chettinad Vidyashram	2020
CBSE Class XII , PCM $+$ Computer Science	98.2%
Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School	2018
CBSE Class X	94.8%

#### Research Interests

Robotics | Reinforcement Learning | Motion Planning | Perception | Optimal Control | Automation

# Publications

Review of "From Goals, Waypoints & Paths To Long Term Human Trajectory Forecasting" ReScience C 2022 | Link

**Authors** :, Abhishek Shukla\*, Sourya Roy\*, Yogesh Chawla\*, Avi Amalanshu\*, Shubhendu Pandey\*, Rudransh Agrawal\*, Aditya Uppal\*, **Viswesh N\***, et.al [Accepted]

\* - equal contribution

# Experience

# University of California, Berkeley

California, USA

Research Intern | Mechanical Systems Control Lab

- Oct 2022 Present
- Working on implementing Fictious Co play, a method to improve Human-AI coordination in multi agent benchmarks
- Reproduced the results of the overcooked-ai work aimed to demonstrate behaviour cloning in Human AI coordination

#### Indian Institute of Science Bangalore

Bangalore, India

Research Intern | Stochastic Robotics Lab

Apr 2022 - Present

- Working on a novel endfoot trajectory generation method for stone stepping in robotic quadruped locomotion
- Benchmarked the Soft Actor Critic algorithm on the Stochlite quadruped in Isaac Gym to achieve a reward of over 350
- Worked on the ROS framework, Gazebo and RViz visualization of the Stochlite quadruped to implement off policy ARS

# Drive Analytics

Chennai, India

Deep Learning and Computer Vision Intern | [Certificate]

Dec 2021 - Feb 2022

- Developed an end-to-end pipeline for the detection of basketballs using YOLOv5 in real-time to obtain an mAP of 80%
- Generated a dataset using tracking algorithms and benchmarked several object detection algorithms on the same

## Autonomous Ground Vehicle Research Group

IIT Kharagpur

 $Undergraduate \ Researcher \mid [Certificate]$ 

May 2021 - Present

- Benchmarked basic planning and and path tracking algorithms such as Stanley, Pure pursuit for traversal on turtlebot3
- Implemented and tested various CNN architectures including ENet, UNet, VGGNet and AlexNet on standard datasets
- Inducted a team of freshmen after rigorous task rounds; guiding the trajectory prediction and control systems module

## **Projects**

# Perception and Control of a mobile robot

September 2022 - Present

Intelligent Ground Vehicle Challenge 2023 | Guide: Dr. Debashish Chakravarty

- Designing a perception and control pipeline for the autonomous navigation and tracking of GPS waypoints
- Implemented a PID controller for precise speed control with a velocity-steer profile to be integrated with a path tracker

# Reinforcement Learning for bipedal walking | [Presentation] [Paper] [Video] August 2022 - October 2022

- Implemented the Proximal Policy Optimization algorithm on the BipedalWalker-v environment on OpenAI Gym
- Performed hyperparameter search and implemented generalized advantage estimation to achieve average reward of 386

# Reproduction of a trajectory prediction architecture

October 2021 – February 2022

Machine Learning Reproducibity Challenge 2022 | Guide: Dr. Debashish Chakravarty

• Reproduced the results of a paper based on Y Net, a trajectory prediction architecture for pedestrians

- Performed ablation studies, hyperparameter search and preprocessed raw InD, ETH/UCY and SDD datasets
- Proposed a novel transfer learning experiment that improved on state of the art methods to achieve an ADE of 4.59

# Localization and Mapping of an Autonomous Racing car | [Github]

July 2021 - August 2021

Indy Autonomous Challenge 2021 | Guide: Dr. Debashish Chakravarty

- Used PointCloud and Odometry data from Carla Simulator and generated PCD files of the map in Open3D
- Implemented KD-tree search algorithm to obtain the local map of the autonomous racing vehicle to optimize ICP
- Implemented ICP Algorithm to localize the vehicle and achieved an improvement of 20cm over Odometry data

## Unmanned Rover for Astronaut Assistance

May 2021 - December 2021

University Rover Challenge 2022 | Guide: Dr. Debashish Chakravarty

- Developed the ROS2 packages to implement the Ackermann steering drive system for an unmanned rover
- Performed static and dynamic simulations of the rover to optimise for load carrying, gradeability and handling.

# Hand Gesture controlled bot | [Github] [Presentation] [Video]

June 2021 – July 2021

- Used Mediapipe to translate over 6 hand gestures into translation and rotational actuations of a two-wheeled robot
- Benchmarked on hardware successfully to achieve translation, rotation clawing of objects for industrial manipulation

#### Technical Skills

Languages and Frameworks: C, C++, Python, MATLAB, Git, ROS, ROS2, RViz, Gazebo

Libraries: Eigen, PyTorch, Numpy, ,TensorFlow, OpenCV, matplotlib, pandas, Arduino, Open3D, PCL, wandb

CAD/CAE: Simulink, TinaTI, LTSpice, Proteus, Solidworks, AutoCAD, Circuit Maker

Simulations: Gazebo, CARLA, OpenAI Gym, NVIDIA Isaac Gym Others: LaTex,

# Relevant Coursework

Software: Deep Learning, Convolutional Neural Networks, Recurrent Neural Networks, Programming and Data Structures, Artificial Intelligence, Reinforcement Learning

Mechatronics: Signals and Systems, Basic Engineering Mechanics, Analog Electronic circuits, Digital Electronic circuits, Control Systems Engineering, Digital Signal Processing

Robotics: Programming for Robotics- ROS, Autonomous Robotics

Mathematics: Advanced calculus, Linear Algebra, Numerical analysis, Probability and Statistics, Stochastic Processes

# Teaching Experience

## Mechatronics and Deep Learning Mentor

IIT Kharagpur

Autonomous Ground Vehicle Research Group

May 2022 - Present

• Mentoring a team of 18 freshmen on introductory robotics work in the domain of computer vision and control systems

# Autonomous Robotics Mentor

IIT Kharagpur

IEEE Winter Workshop | [Certificate]

April 2022

• Mentored 160+ first year students in robotics by teaching them about ROS, RViz, Gazebo and Arduino basics

## Achievements

- Ranked in the top 10% in major in the department of Electrical Engineering among 200+ undergraduate students
- Participated in Google Hash Code 2021 | [Certificate]
- Ranked among the top 0.19% out of over 1.3 million candidates in the Joint Entrance Examinations 2020
- Ranked among the top bracket of students in the National Standard Examination in Physics 2019
- Received Subject topper awards in Computer Science in AISSCE examinations 2020, scoring 99%
- Secured Rank 1 in the Computer Science stream in Grade 11, scoring 94%
- Received cash prizes of upto 20,000 INR for Mathematics contests throughout high school

#### Extracurriculars

- Member at English Dramatics Society, IIT Kharagpur
- Member at Debating Society, IIT Kharagpur
- Member of the Football team and Athletics team at Meghnad Saha hall, IIT Kharagpur
- Recipient of the Black Belt in Isshinryu Karate
- Participated and won Several quizzes; Finalist in the Landmark Independence Day Quiz
- Particapted and won several prizes in Model United Nations conferences, including the prestigious Chennai Model United Nations hosted by the American International School, Chennai; active member of football team at School
- Volunteer and National Service Scheme, IIT Kharagpur (2020 2022)