

Abhishek Venkataraman

SENIOR ROBOTICS ENGINEER

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Experience

May Mobility

Ann Arbor, Michigan

SENIOR ROBOTICS ENGINEER

Jun 2018 - Present

- Architecture lead for interaction with Vulnerable Road Users (VRU)- designed feature from classification to vehicle behavior, team of 3
- Developed end to end semantic classification pipeline for object tracking starting from image acquisition, data association to temporal fusion
- Spearheaded optimizations for policy rollouts for multi-policy decision-making, enabling 3X speed up of behavior prediction
- Scaled the autonomy stack to work across multiple platforms including Polaris GEM, Lexus, Sienna delivering equivalent ride quality
- Product lead, responsible for software development and deployment for classification of traffic lights with vehicle camera
- Actively mentoring members of Autonomy and AutoOps, created on-boarding process for new hires, setting them up for success
- Developed tools for multiple teams including DevOps, Tech support: Camera Calibrator, Traffic Light Mapper, Health Monitor, Introspection

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

May 2017 - Apr 2018

- Kinematically-informed Interactive perception [Link], enables robots to classify objects by building 3D models through observations from a RGBD camera while manipulating the object. Method was validated on Toyota's HSR Robot
- SPARE [Link], extendable articulated object RGBD dataset. Method could randomize configurations on Gazebo and provide simulated observation from multiples viewpoints. Implemented DNN (Conv3D/Conv+LSTM, FC) to count links and estimate link lengths on Tensorflow

GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR, MATHEMATICS FOR ROBOTICS, (WITH PROF. JESSY W. GRIZZLE)

Sep 2017 - Dec 2017

- Covered topics in linear algebra including, vector spaces, orthogonal basis, SVD, QR Factorization, BLUE, MVE and Kalman Filters

GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR, ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPUTER VISION (WITH PROF. JASON J. CORSO)

Jan 2017 - Apr 2017

- Covered pictorial structures, graphical models, CNN, GAN, RNN, LSTM, auto-encoders. Created weekly in-class and programming assignments

Ather Energy Pvt. Ltd.

Bangalore, India

SENIOR ENGINEER, ELECTRONICS INTEGRATION

Jul 2015 - Jul 2016

- Headed a team of 6, responsible for designing electrical (signal and power) interface between all subsystems, waterproof housings for vehicle dashboard and power distribution unit
- Performed system level DFMEA and incorporated hardware changes to accommodate on-board diagnostics

Schlumberger Asia Services Ltd.

Mumbai, India

SENIOR FIELD ENGINEER, WIRELINE

Jul 2012 - May 2015

- Lead Engineer for ONGC offshore wireline operations; carried out over 80 logging jobs as the engineer in charge
- Planned and executed many high profile (\$400K revenue/job) operations in offshore oil rigs, lasting over 150 hours while keeping quality and safety as priority, taking critical decisions while operating with limited connectivity to base
- Worked in culturally diverse teams with varied nationality, heading teams consisting up to 8 crew members

Education

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

MASTER'S IN ROBOTICS (GPA: 3.96 / 4.0)

2016 - 2018

Indian Institute of Technology Madras

Chennai, India

B.TECH IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND M.TECH IN PRODUCT DESIGN

2007 - 2012

Academic Projects

Robotics Systems Laboratory

Jan 2017 - Apr 2017

- Arm Lab: Implemented forward and inverse kinematics of a 6 DoF arm to manipulate blocks. Used Kinect for detection and 3D position estimate
- Flight Lab: Implemented position controller for drone with input from OptiTrack. Performed position hold, waypoint navigation and pick/place.

Digitization of a Chess game using a moving camera

Sep 2016 - Dec 2016

- Isolated chess board from background by detecting ArUco markers and applying 2D homographic transformations
- Identified moves using template matching, distance based clustering, color clustering and color histograms

Skills

Language/ Framework

C++, C, Python, MATLAB, Tensor-flow, OpenCV, HTML/CSS/Javascript, bash, ROS, Gazebo, Pytorch

Tools

git, gdb, valgrind, heaptrack, vtune, tensorrt, Jira, AWS, linux

Courses

Computer Vision, Mobile Robotics (SLAM), Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence

Hardware/Platform

Autonomous Vehciles, RGB/RGBD Cameras, Lidars, Nvidia Jetson, Arduino, GPS, IMU, Personal Robots (Fetch, HSR)