Bhavana Akkiraju *PhD Scholar*

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Research Interest

- Speech LLM's
- Spoken Language Translation(SLT)
- Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)

Professional Experience

Research Intern, *IIIT Hyderabad* 06/2023 – 12/2023 | Hyderabad, India

Senior Software Engineer, *Brillio Technologies* 2022 – 2023 | Hyderabad, India

Software Engineer, *Capgemini* 2020 – 2022 | Hyderabad, India

Education

PhD Scholar, *IIIT Hyderabad* 2024 – present | Hyderabad, India

M.Tech, *B V Raju Institute of Technology* 2020 – 2022 | Narsapur, India

B.Tech, *B V Raju Institute of Technology* 2016 – 2020 | Narsapur, India

Skills

Speech and language technologies
Automatic speech recognition (ASR), language modeling, generative AI

Frameworks and libraries
PyTorch, Hugging Face, Angular, Fairseq, Kaldi

Programming languages
Python, Java, Typescript

Tools and platform
Git, Weights and Biases, Conda

Publications

Towards Unified Processing of Perso-Arabic Scripts for ASR, *AbjadNLP*
https://aclanthology.org/2025.abjadnlp-1.3/ 🔗

Parspeech: Leveraging unlabeled data for perso-arabic speech recognition., *Interspeech 2025*
Under Review

End-to-end speech translation for low-resource languages using weakly labeled data,
Interspeech 2025
Under Review

Academic and Research Projects

- Participated in the IWSLT 2025 Challenge under the Low-Resource Track for Speech-to-Text Translation.
- Worked as a Research Project Associate on the project "Exploring Transfer Learning and Cross-Lingual Adaptation for Low-Resource ASR" at CAIR, Bangalore. Completed in February,2025
- Designed and implemented a data preprocessing pipeline for Perso-Arabic languages, ensuring compatibility
- Built an "ASR Chatbot using RAG" as a part of Academic project

Achievements and Certifications

- Served as a student volunteer at International Conference on Acoustics, Speech, and Signal Processing 2025.
- Awarded a Merit Certificate for outstanding performance in the PG-Certification Program in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, organized by TalentSprint in association with IIIT Hyderabad.
- Advanced to the Quarterfinals in the DST & Texas Instruments India Innovation Challenge Design Contest 2018, anchored by IIM Bangalore, for the project AvertClasp.
- Received the Best Intern Award during an internship conducted by ExpertsHub in the IoT domain(2018).
- Earned a Merit Certificate for successfully completing a product prototype during OMG2K17, a one-month Product Entrepreneur Boot Camp.