Akshit Srivastava

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EDUCATION

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

B. Tech., Metallurgical Engineering and Material Science

2018 - 2022

EXPERIENCE

Mars Rover Team

IIT Bombay

Software Engineer

Sept '18 - Mar '20

- Obstacle Detection: Detected obstacles in the trajectory via clustering of points in laser-scan map generated by Kinect v2, YDLidar sensor. Worked on UTM cost-grid based path update algorithms, involving satellite data parsing for altitude profile and increasing cost of terrain where the obstacle is detected.
- Path Planning: Investigated path planning algorithms like A*, Dijkstras for autonomous operation of rover over the cost maps generated. Simulated an algorithm for obstacle avoidance based on cost profiles and gradients.

RSales Arm Mumbai

NLP Intern

Dec '19 - Jan '20

- o Deployed a seq2seq model based chatbot by developing a backend using Flask connected to MySQL database
- o Involved in Recurrent Neural Network architecture design, data pre-processing, training and implementation
- $\circ \ \ Devised \ a \ combination \ of \ \textbf{GloVe}, \ \textbf{fastText} \ \ and \ \ word2vec \ \ word \ embeddings \ to \ extract \ intents \ \& \ entities$

KEY PROJECTS

Rare-Earth Free Magnets for Brushless Electric motors

IIT Bombay

Guide: Prof. N. Venkataramani

Autumn '20

- Undertook a rigorous literary review on the forementioned topic for research purposes, the link to which is here.
- Drafted a 20-page report after analysing over **25 research papers** to compare 5 non-RE materials on basis of the Density of States, crystal structures, X-Ray Diffraction Spectra for usage as Permanent Magnets

Intelligent Feedback System

IIT Bombay

Guide: Prof. Chandan Dasgupta

Summer '20

- o Implemented Improvable models as scaffolds for promoting productive engagement in an engineering design activity
- Ideated and designed the working and architecture of the complete system to be deployed on Heroku
- o Developed the backend using Django Channels for asynchronous socket communication using a **Redis** layer
- Developed the frontend using ReactJS, used Django REST API for integration with backend

GradUmate

IIT Bombay

Entrepreneurship Cell

Autumn '19

- o Conceptualized a location-based social networking app as a deliverable for a Business Model Competition
- o Developed the backend in Flask with a PostgreSQL DB, frontend in Angular, used Google API to fetch location
- o Deployed the application on Amazon Web Services using Docker containers on a Kubernetes cluster

Predominance Area Diagram Generator

IIT Bombay

Course Project - Prof. Nurni N. Viswanathan

Autumn'20

- o Created a program to generate the P-A-D for Zn-S-O system at any temperature input by user
- o Derived equilibrium constant taking 5 reactions into account, determining stable phase at specific partial pressure

High Temperature Applications of SuperAlloys

Course Project - Prof. Nagamani Jaya Balila

IIT Bombay
Autumn'20

- o Completed a literature survey to draft a report on High Temperature applications of Nickel-based superalloys
- o Evaluated their properties for applications in Turbochargers, Cryogenic Engines, and Turbines

Unreasonable Effectiveness of RNNs

IIT Bombay

Seasons of Code - Web and Coding Club

Summer '19

- Used Tensorflow to implement Bi-directional LSTM architecture trained on song lyrics for text generation
- Used PyTorch to implement a Vanilla RNN model that rates movie reviews from worst to excellent
- Used Keras to build a CNN based OCR trained on MNIST dataset to identify digits with 99% test accuracy
- Experimented with Random Forest, SVM, Decision Tree among other ML models to solve the **Titanic problem**

Analysis of Thermo Couples

IIT Bombay

Course Project - Prof. Parag Bhargava

Mar'19

- Successfully built a functioning thermocouple with the constraint of using only easily available materials.
- Measured the **Voltage** generated as a result of application of heat to the thermocouple.
- Investigated the relationship between the performance of the thermocouple and material used, by repeating the experiment with a multitude of different materials and in the process of doing so, improved the model each time.

Hobby Projects

• Text-to-Image Synthesiser

Spring '20

- o Implemented StackGAN architecture in PyTorch which learns to map semantic text space to RGB image space
- o Applied various data augmentation techniques including distortions, random noise, and random rotations

• Sudoku Solver Spring '19

- o Developed using the **OpenCV** Python library to extract, solve, and print the solution on any captured image
- Experimented with Harris Corner detection, probabilistic Hough Line transformation, for detecting the bounding boxes. Identified digits using the Tesseract OCR and solved the puzzle using Backtracking.

• Facial Emotion Detection

Autumn '19

- Used OpenCV and Tkinter to implement Voila Jones Algorithm to detect bounding box of human face
- Used PCA for dimensionality reduction with a CNN based model for detecting seven human facial expressions

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming: Python, C++, Javascript, Java, ROS, Bash, MATLAB/Octave
- Development: Django, Flask, Angular, ReactJS, Docker, Kubernetes, Flutter, Android Studio
- Softwares/Tools: Vim, Tensorflow, PyTorch, Git, MatplotLib, LATEX, Jupyter, Arduino, OpenCV

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Awarded Silver medal in Coding Hackathon in 8th Inter-IIT Tech Meet (2019)
- Awarded Institute Technical Special Mention for contribution to tech activities in the institute (2020)
- Mars Rover Team stood First in the system review stage of Indian Rover Challenge (2019)
- Secured 99.8 percentile among 1.05 million candidates in Joint Entrance Examination (Main) (2018)
- Awarded the National Talent Search Examination scholarship by NCERT, Government of India (2015)
- Awarded the **Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana** scholarship, aimed at encouraging students to take up research careers, funded by Government of India (2016)

Positions of Responsibility

Manager

IIT Bombay

Apr '20 - Present

- Web and Coding Club
 - Leading a team of **9 sophomores** to cultivate and sustain a hobbyist coding culture in the institute
 Planned and executed **Online Courses** on Python. Web Development & Machine Learning engaging **1**
 - Planned and executed **Online Courses** on Python, Web Development & Machine Learning engaging **1000**+ learners during the coronavirus pandemic. Oversaw the logistics for doubt solving and assignment evaluation.
 - Reorganised and supervising DevCom for steady progress of institute-level projects affecting 10,000+ students

Project Guide

IIT Bombay

Reading Projects on GANs

Apr'20 - Jun'20

- Mentored 10+ students under an initiative by Web and Coding club for a project to understand GANs
- $\circ \ \ \text{Introduced } \textbf{PyTorch}, \textbf{CovNets}, \ \text{helped attempt } \textbf{Kaggle} \ \text{competitions}, \ \text{implemented GANs using PyTorch}$

Relevant Courses

- Material Science: Material & Technology, Thermodynamics, Structure of Materials, Mechanics of Materials, Transport Phenomena, Kinetics of Processes, Phase Transformations, Mechanical Behaviour of Materials
- Computer Science: Computer Programming & Utilization, Algorithms & Complexity
- Mathematics: Calculus, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Numerical Analysis