

# Akshit Tyagi

MS CS

Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst

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[akshittyagi.github.io](https://akshittyagi.github.io)

## EDUCATION

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SEPT '18 - PRESENT Master of Science in Computer Science from **Univ. of Massachusetts, Amherst**

MAY 2018 Bachelor of Technology from **Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi**  
Major: Electrical Engineering  
GPA: 8.5/10

MAY 2014 All India Secondary School Certificate Examination in SCIENCES  
**Delhi Public School, R.K. Puram**  
AGGREGATE PERCENTAGE: 97.0

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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MAY - JULY 2017 **Machine Learning Research Intern** at AMAZON  
*CoreML & Self-Serviced Performance Ads*

- Worked on designing, developing and deploying an auto-moderation system for book campaigns
- Designed a text based model to produce feature vectors for the given campaign from its custom text and description
- Developed an end-to-end training and testing pipeline for weekly training builds and live scoring of incoming campaigns
- Deployed this model to production for batch-level scoring of a set of incoming campaigns
- Achieved a 25% replacement of manual moderation by auto moderation while the dip in accuracy of less than 1%

MAY - JULY 2016 **Summer Engineering Intern** at NVIDIA  
*CPU Verification and Testing*

- Worked on handling undefined op-codes for an architectural simulator
- Developed a layer to handle instruction level access for the CPU and the execution of exception return
- Compared native performance with the simulator and improved upon the per-watt characteristics. Used QEMU to emulate an ARM environment for CPU architectural testing

## PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES AND FRAMEWORKS

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EXTENSIVE: PYTHON, C, C++, JAVA, PYTORCH, MATLAB, KERAS, TENSORFLOW, BASH  
INTERMEDIATE: CAFFE, MATHEMATICA, SKLEARN, GENSIM, CUDA, OPENMP  
BASIC: JAVASCRIPT, CSS, ANDROID STUDIO, MPI

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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UMASS LOWELL (SEPT'18 - PRESENT)	<b>Word Vectors and making them interpretable</b> Currently working with Anna Rogers on improving the already presented approach of training word-vectors with interpretable characteristics of a model. The word vectors are integrated with 21 such factors tested across 14 extrinsic and intrinsic tasks. This results in easy hyperparameter search and a hypothesis driven approach to learning word-vectors.
UMASS AMHERST (SEPT'18 - PRESENT)	<b>Getting better at Game Playing by transfer of skill</b> Working on transfer learning in the context of game playing. Transfer Learning has been used to learn policies from 10 of the 11 Atari games and use these as policy initialisers for the last game. Fit a generative model for the simulations of the first ten and then fine-tuned by Joint Training and Feature Extraction for the eleventh game. Current results show promising transfer of policy in the context of Atari games.
IIT DELHI (JAN'18 - MAY'18)	<b>Transfer Learning in Memory Networks for Question Answering</b> Worked on coming up with a technique to transfer knowledge between different domains of question answering, as mentioned in the Facebook bAbI dataset. End-to-End Memory Networks were used as the test-bench for transfer learning and as a learnable agent to answer questions in different domains. Model Initialization, Joint Training and Feature Extraction from the source to target domains gave significant improvements.
IIT DELHI (DEC'16 - MAR'17)	<b>Compressing Deep Neural Nets</b> Implemented the baseline paper for Squeezenet and used decorrelation in its parameters to reduce the overall number of parameters by thresholding. All the parameters below a certain threshold were approximated as zero
IIT DELHI (JAN'16 - FEB'16)	<b>Background Detection in a Video Stream</b> Developed a program to detect Background and Foreground pixels using the Background Subtraction technique (used Gaussian Mixture Models). Each pixel(three channel) was modeled as a mixture of Gaussians, the Gaussian(s) with the minimum variance were chosen to describe a background pixel.

## RELEVANT COURSES TAKEN

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COMPUTER SCIENCE	Data Structure and Algorithms, Parallel and Distributed Systems, Operating Systems, Natural Language Processing, Computer Architecture, Artificial Intelligence, Reinforcement Learning, Deep Neural Networks
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	Communication Engineering, Control Theory, Digital Logic and Electronics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning
MATHEMATICS	Probability and Stochastic Processes, Linear Algebra and Differential Equations, Calculus

## AWARDS, GRANTS & HONOURS

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Design & Innovation Summer Award(DISA)	IIT DELHI(2015)
Institute Award for being a student in the top 7% in the first year	IIT DELHI(2014-2015)
National Talent Search Examination 2010	NCERT(JULY 2010)
KVPY Fellowship 2012-13	DEPT. OF SCI. & TECH.(2013)
Indian National Chemistry Olympiad 2014, Top 50	HBCSE(FEB 2014)
Junior Science Talent Search Examination 2011, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Position	GOVT. OF DELHI(JULY 2011)