Ameet Deshpande | CS15B001



Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai

Undergraduate Study

ProgramInstitutionCGPABranch RankBachelor of Technology (2015-2019)Indian Institute of Technology Madras9.75/102/61Computer Science and EngineeringChennai

Key Projects

Neural Question-Answering Framework for Plots: FigureNet

Prof. Mitesh M. Khapra Dec 2017–Aug 2018

Accepted at Humanizing AI Workshop, IJCAI 2018

- Created a novel architecture comprising depth-wise, 1-D convolutions and LSTMs for question-answering on scientific plots
- Achieved state-of-the-art accuracy (83.95%) on FigureQA Dataset (Maluuba-Microsoft), bettering Relational Networks (Google DeepMind) by 8.53% and reducing the training time by 93% with 75% lesser computational resources
- Co-authored a paper which was accepted and presented at Humanizing Al Workshop, IJCAI 2018, Stockholm, Sweden

Information Retrieval using Generative Adversarial Networks

Under Review as a conference paper at ICLR 2019

Prof. Mitesh M. Khapra Aug 2018–Present

- Identified issues with the policy gradient formulation in IRGAN, an adversarial framework for Information Retrieval
- Theoretically corroborated the issues with baseline term and explained the problematic loss functions using the same
- Proposed the use of co-training and achieved better or equal performance in 60% lesser time on all three tasks in IRGAN
- Primary author of a technical paper which is under review as a conference paper at ICLR 2019, New Orleans

Leveraging Ontological Knowledge for Neural Language Models

Under Review at Young Researchers' Symposium, CoDS-COMAD 2019

Prof. Sutanu Chakraborti Mar 2018–May 2018

- Achieved higher performance (5%) and faster convergence (35%) in Word2Vec by using WordNet for weight-initialization
- Performed domain-transfer of vectors with the RCM model and WordNet Domain, and portrayed enhanced semantic similarity
- Proposed HRCM model and H-Ordinal Constraints for hierarchy aware vectors which can settle the data-knowledge trade-off

Prioritized Hindsight Experience Replay: Learning from crucial mistakes arXiv Article

Prof. Balaraman Ravindran Jan 2018–May 2018

- Augmented Hindsight Experience Replay (HER) with various versions of Rank-Based Prioritized Experience Replay (PER)
- Created an efficient **open source** implementation of Rank-Based PER which reduced running time by 90% for large buffer sizes
- Proposed the use of linearly attenuated goal sampling which yielded faster convergence when compared to uniform sampling
- Authored an arXiv article documenting both useful and failed modifications of P-HER, for easier extensions in the future

Professional Experience

Microsoft India (R&D) Pvt Ltd.

Hyderabad

Software Engineering Intern

May 2018-July 2018

- Migrated the core component of Microsoft Azure's Real Time VM Replication service used for Business continuity and disaster recovery (BCDR) to Azure Service Fabric, a Microservices framework, to enable faster scale-in and scale-out
- De-coupled the core component by creating consistent and exclusive storage structures which helped improve parallelization
- Reduced CPU usage by 57% after hosting the service and achieved close to production performance

Wipro Limited Bengaluru

Summer Intern

May 2017-July 2017

- Used Hierarchical Classification (HC) to organize documents, achieving higher accuracies than flat classification approaches
- Proposed the use of novel **Evaluation Metrics** for HC which helped gain deeper insights into how **different models** performed
- Performed **Term Clustering** based on the corpus and **WordNet** similarities to **induce hierarchies** in a semi-supervised setting
- Authored an organization-wide POV-Paper highlighting the technical and business aspects of Hierarchical Classification

Godot Media Bengaluru

Product Development Intern

December 2016

- Developed an algorithm—to refine and improve content recommendation routines for articles—which went into production
- Performed topic modeling and introduced features pertaining to trends and source credibility for improved recommendation

Selected Course Projects

Inducing Hierarchy in Options Framework by using Imitation Learning

Prof. Balaraman Ravindran Aug 2018-Present

- Proposed the use of a generative approach to learn options on various reinforcement learning environments
- Developed a proof-of-concept for integrating MLSH and option discovery to directly optimize for transfer learning
- Created and collated a set of evaluation metrics to fill the dearth of methods for comparing hierarchies learned using options

GPU Assisted Scheduling

Prof. D. Janakiram

Sept 2017-Nov 2017

- Used K-Means and Genetic algorithms to dynamically determine hardware parameters crucial for the OS Load Balancer
- The parameters determined using the GPU enable optimal resource allocation and load balancing in Multi-core machines
- Increased throughput by following a schedule to minimize the number of invocations of the GPU load balancer

Minijava Compiler

Prof. V. Krishna Nandivada

Mar 2018-May 2018

- Realized an optimizing compiler for MiniJava (a subset of Java) by implementing and combining the Type Checker, IR Generator, Register Allocator and MIPS Code generator using Flex, Bison, JTB and JavaCC

Scholastic Achievements

- Awarded the Huawei (MCM) scholarship for securing Branch Rank 2 among 61 students (B.Tech+Dual Degree) of CSE
- o All India Rank 122 in JEE (Advanced) 2015, taken by 13 lakh students (99.99 percentile) and first rank in Karnataka
- o Won a Silver Medal in the International Chemistry Olympiad 2015, Azerbaijan (representing India) contested by 80 countries
- o All India Rank 18 in KVPY 2014, taken by 2 lakh students; awarded NTSE Scholarship by N.C.E.R.T in 2013 o All India Rank - 160 in Round 1 of ACM-ICPC International Collegiate Programming Contest 2016
- Received the government's McM scholarship for being among the top 10 out of 850 students admitted to IIT Madras in 2015

Talks and Presentations

Deep Learning Master Class

September 2018

Conducted classes covering basics of Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Optimization, Regularization, CNNs, Word Vectors, RNNs and Encoder-Decoder Models for an audience of 90 people comprising Undergraduate and Post-Graduate students [Slides]

A Laplacian Framework for Option Discovery in Reinforcement Learning

October 2018

Presented usefulness of Proto-Value Functions and the paper's laplacian framework for finding useful options [Slides]

Dataless Classification April 2018

Presented the idea of using semantic information in label names and how this idea dovetails with co-training [Slides]

Efficiency of information search in children

October 2018

Presented a cognitive approach to explaining how children and adults search for information equally efficiently [Slides]

Relevant Courses

- Reinforcement Learning
- Deep Learning
- Natural Language Processing
- Topics in Reinforcement Learning
- Principles of Machine Learning
- Automata Theory

- Computational Models of Cognition
- Computational Neuroscience
- Philosophy of Mind

Positions of Responsibility

Sponsorship,

- o Managed content pertaining to Saarang 2017; garnered 2.25 lakh likes on Facebook, increasing it by 90k
- Saarang 2017 o Part of the Sponsorship team that raised 1.6 Cr INR, highest by any student run college festival in India

Data Analytics,

- o Single-Handedly managed the Data Analytics event of the Computer Science technical festival
- Exebit 2018
- o Designed the problem statements for the screening round and Kaggle hosted fraud detection challenge

Mentor, Saathi, 2018

o Mentoring a group of 8 freshmen to assist them in academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities

Extra-curricular activities

Sports

- o Part of Inter-College IIT Madras 'B' team for Football two years in a row; Hostel football captain (17'-18')
- o 3 silvers in Cycling-Race, 2 silvers in Road-Race and a bronze in football Inter-Hostel Sports

Sci-tech

- o Part of the Hostel team which finished 1st in Inter Hostel Technical Meet (TechSoc) 2017 and 3rd in 2016
- o Finished Second out of 500 teams in Mimamsa 2017, an All India Science Quiz held by IISER Pune