# ANIKET DIDOLKAR

### $\underline{Website} \diamond \underline{GitHub} \diamond \underline{Google} \ \underline{Scholar} \diamond \underline{adidolkar123@gmail.com}$

#### **EDUCATION**

• University of Montreal

August 2021 - August 2023

Master of Science in Computer Science DIRO

CGPA: 4.2/4.3

- Supervised by Professor Yoshua Bengio and Professor Michael Mozer.

• Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal

August 2016 - June 2020

Bachelor of Technology

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

CGPA: 9.19/10.0

- Awarded a gold medal from the director for excellent academic performance in the 3rd semester.

#### CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

• Temporal Latent Bottleneck: Synthesis of Fast and Slow Processing Mechanisms in Sequence Learning [pdf]

Neurips 2022

Aniket Didolkar, Kshitij Gupta, Anirudh Goyal, Alex Lamb, Nan Rosemary Ke, Yoshua Bengio

• Coordination Among Neural Modules Through a Shared Global Workspace [pdf] ICLR 2022 (Oral)

Anirudh Goyal, **Aniket Didolkar**, Alex Lamb, Kartikeya Badola, Nan Rosemary Ke, Nasim Rahaman, Jonathan Binas, Charles Blundell, Michael Mozer, Yoshua Bengio

• Neural Production Systems [pdf]

Neurips 2021

**Aniket Didolkar\***, Anirudh Goyal\*, Nan Rosemary Ke, , Charles Blundell, Philippe Beaudoin, Nicolas Heess, Michael Mozer, Yoshua Bengio

• Systematic Evaluation of Causal Discovery in Visual Model Based RL [pdf]

Neurips 2021: Datasets and Benchmarks Track

Nan Rosemary Ke\*, **Aniket Didolkar**\*, Sarthak Mittal, Anirudh Goyal, Guillaume Lajoie, Stefan Bauer, Danilo Rezende, Yoshua Bengio, Michael Mozer, Christopher Pal

- SpeechMix Augmenting Deep Sound Recognition using Hidden Space Interpolations [pdf][code] Conference of the International Speech Communication Association INTERSPEECH 2020
  Amit Jindal\*, Narayanan Elavathur Ranganatha\*, Aniket Didolkar\*, Arijit Ghosh Chowdhury\*, Ramit Sawhney, Rajiv Ratn Shah, Di Jin.
- Augmenting NLP models using Latent Feature Interpolations [pdf]

  International Conference on Computational Linguistics COLING 2020

  Amit Jindal\*, Aniket Didolkar\*, Arijit Ghosh Chowdhury\*, Di Jin, Ramit Sawhney, Rajiv Ratn Shah.
- Beyond Hostile Linguistic Cues: The Gravity of Online Milieu for Hate Speech Detection in Arabic [pdf]

  Proceedings of the 30th ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media ACM-HyperText 2019

  Aniket Didolkar, Arijit Ghosh Chowdhury, Ramit Sawhney, Rajiv Ratn Shah.
- ARHNet-Leveraging Community Interaction for Detection of Religious Hate Speech in Arabic [pdf]

  Proceedings of the 57th Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Student Research Workshop ACLSRW 2019

Aniket Didolkar, Arijit Ghosh Chowdhury, Ramit Sawhney, Rajiv Ratn Shah.

• [Re] h-detach: Modifying the LSTM Gradient Towards Better Optimization [pdf] [code]
Volume 4 Issue 2 of the ReScience Journal (Paper accepted as part of the ICLR reproducibility challenge 2019)
Aniket Didolkar

### WORKSHOP PUBLICATIONS

 $\bullet$  Agent-Controller Representations: Principled Offline RL with Rich Exogenous Information NeurIPS 2022 - Offline RL Workshop

Riashat Islam, Manan Tomar, Alex Lamb, Hongyu Zang, Yonathan Efroni, Dipendra Misra, **Aniket Didolkar**, Xin Li, Harm van Seijen, Remi Tachet des Combes, John Langford

- Guaranteed Discovery of Controllable Latent States with Multi-Step Inverse Models [pdf]
  Alex Lamb, Riashat Islam, Yonathan Efroni, Aniket Didolkar, Dipendra Misra, Dylan Foster, Lekan Molu, Rajan Chari, Akshay Krishnamurthy, John Langford
- CNT (Conditioning on Noisy Targets): A new Algorithm for Leveraging Top-Down Feedback [pdf] Alexia Jolicoeur-Martineau, Alex Lamb, Vikas Verma, Aniket Didolkar

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

• Microsoft Research

Aug 2022-Present

Research Intern

Advisor - Alex Lamb

Working on factorization of knowledge in reinforcement learning.

#### • MILA - Quebec AI Institute, Montreal

Aug 2021-Present

Graduate Student Researcher

Advisors - Yoshua Bengio and Michael Mozer

- Working on various areas of deep learning research. Work published at Neurips 2022.

### • MILA - Quebec AI Institute, Montreal

Aug 2020-Aug 2021

Research Intern

Advisors - Anirudh Goyal and Yoshua Bengio

Worked on modular deep learning models. Work published at Neurips 2021 and ICLR 2022.

### • Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Jan 2020 - July 2020

Research Intern

Advisors - Aditya Gopalan and Himanshu Tyagi

- Built a data analytics and visualization platform from scratch for monitoring and analyzing the pollution levels in the city of Bangalore, India.
- Implemented various regressive prediction algorithms using machine learning as a part of the platform to predict the concentration of hazardous pollutants in the atmosphere.

## • Google Summer of Code [Final Report]

May 2019 - August 2019

Student Developer

- Built support for various recurrent neural networks (LSTM, GRU, Vanilla RNN) in C++ for <u>ChainerX</u>. Utilized CUDA and CUDNN for the corresponding GPU-compatible implementations of these models.

### • MIDAS Lab, IIIT Delhi

April 2019 - Aug 2020

Research Intern

Advisor - Rajiv Ratn Shah

- Designed a method for profiling hate-speech on Twitter by utilizing information about the community to which a
  user belonged on Twitter along with the text of the tweet. Work published at ACL (Student Research Workshop)
  2019.
- Introduced a novel data augmentation technique for NLP and Speech in which new training examples can be created
  on the fly by interpolating pre-existing examples in the feature space. Work published at Coling 2020.

• Ubisoft

May 2019 - July 2019

Automation Intern

- Created a novel algorithm for detecting UI bugs in video games using deep learning techniques like semantic segmentation and depth estimation which achieved an accuracy of 85% and eliminated the need for manual detection of bugs.
- Project Manas(AI/Robotics team at Manipal Insititue of Technology)

Feb 2018 - Feb 2019

AI Researcher

- Implemented deep reinforcement learning algorithms such as DQN, PPO, and A3C on small scale robotic agents and various games.

• Symbl.ai

June 2018 - July 2018

Data Science Intern

 Studied the behavior and performance of various language models such as LSTMs and Transformers for detecting action-items in meeting transcripts.

#### **PROJECTS**

- Implementation of the paper Recurrent Independent Mechanisms [code] [50+ stars]
  - Implemented the model presented in the paper Recurrent Independent Mechanisms (RIMs). Reproduced the results for the MNIST task in the paper. Also implemented proximal policy optimization (PPO) using the proposed model and tested it on the gym-minigrid environment.
  - Successfully demonstrated that RIMs generalize better to distribution shifts than LSTMs.
- Implemented domain randomization for AI Habitat [code]
  - Dived into the large AI Habitat codebase to implement domain randomization from scratch so that it could be used to train RL models like PPO.

# **ACHIEVEMENTS**

- $\bullet$  Awarded the Neurips 2022 scholar award to attend Neurips in New Orleans.
- Awarded a 1500 CAD to visit the AI Week organized by The University of Alberta.
- Awarded a 4000 CAD by The University of Montreal and The Quebec Ministry of Higher Education.
- Awarded a full scholarship to pursue my masters at The University of Montreal.
- Awarded the ACM SIGWEB SIGSTAP Travel Grant to present my paper at ACM Hypertext 2019 at Germany.