# **BHAV ASHOK**

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# **EDUCATION**

**Carnegie Mellon University**, Pittsburgh, PA Dec 2017

Masters in Computer Vision, Robotics institute

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX May 2016

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Bachelor of Science in Math

# **RESEARCH**

Network to Network Compression via Policy Gradient Reinforcement Learning

May 2017

GPA: 4.17/4.00

- Introduced a novel model compression paradigm which operates on architectural space instead of weight space
- Achieved state-of-the-art model compression, enabling more efficient runtime and memory usage in real world systems
- Under review for ICLR 2018, Available on ArXiv, advised by Prof. Kris Kitani

#### Activity recognition using prediction

Aug 2017

- Conducting research on creating a better feature space for the task of activity recognition by incorporating an auxiliary task of feature prediction
- Planning to submit to ECCV 2018, advised by Prof. Abhinav Gupta

# **EXPERIENCE**

#### TexteDB, Text Analytics database

Aug 2014 - Aug 2016

# Founder/Developer

- Wrote a database that offers various text analytics APIs and efficient storage in C++
- Performed market research and business development alongside Mike Tulkoff

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Jan 2015 - Jun 2015

### Student Researcher, Computer Vision Research Center

- · Working on egocentric activity recognition under supervision of center director Dr. J.K. Aggarwal
- Worked on RGB-D Alignment, hand gesture recognition and performed data collection.

SUTD (MIT Collaboration), Singapore

Dec 2014 - Jan 2015

# Visiting Student Researcher, Computer Vision Department

- Researched state-of-the-art methods to improve homography estimation in Image Based Localization
- Improved performance by 30% by implementing Multiple Structures estimation and LoRansac
- · Worked under supervision of Dr. Ngai Man Cheung

# Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA

May 2014 - Sept 2014

# Software Engineering Intern, Wireless Technologies

- Designed algorithms and optimizations for Indoor Positioning team in C++
- Created multiple tools to visualize and quantify measured data
- Worked extensively with data measured from Gyroscope, Accelerometer and Magnetometer

#### CognitiveScale, Startup, Austin, TX

Dec 2013 - May 2014 & Sept 2014 - Jan 2015

### Software Engineering Intern, Platform Team

- Built a scalable real-time Geo Density indexer using Redis, capable of indexing 10 million points/sec
- Built a de-centralized repository to curate Computational Agents
- Implemented various scheduling algorithms in core platform

# InfoTrie Financial Solutions, Singapore

Jun 2013 - Aug 2013

#### **Summer Startup Intern**

- Designed and developed scalable modules to gather and analyze large unstructured data in R
- Utilized data processing and text mining techniques for sentiment analysis and standardization of large datasets
- Collaborated with a team to develop and execute stock backtesting algorithms to optimize profit

#### **PROJECTS**

### Generative Adversarial Fooling of Neural Networks

May 2017

- Created an end-to-end trainable Generative Adversarial Network to generate images that fool a target Convolutional Neural Network
- Won best project in 16-824

#### Rendering Synthetic Objects into Legacy Videos

May 2017

- User provides a fixed camera video with a single annotated frame
- Allows the user to then augment video with synthetic objects
- Resulting in a realistic video that respects real world optics and kinetics
- Extends previous work done to videos instead of still images

# Improving Video Segmentation Using Region Proposals and FCNs

- Created a superior video segmentation algorithm by combining DeepMask object segmentation and Clockwork-FCN semantic segmentation
- Built and trained networks in Caffe

### Better stochastic gradient descent

Nov 2016

- Created a novel variant of stochastic gradient descent that consistently outperformed all current gradient descent variants tested on the MNIST and CIFAR-10 datasets
- Improved rate of convergence and produced a better testing accuracy, with the tradeoff of slightly increased computation. However, still converges faster after normalizing for computation.

# Project Atlas, Computer Vision class final project

Aug 2014

- Led a team of 3 other students and myself in building a virtual reality project
- Immersive real time interaction with a virtual globe which zooms in to StreetView
- Used Unity3D, Kinect, Vuforia and the StreetView API

#### Freshman Research Initiative, The University of Texas at Austin

Spring 2012 & Spring 2013

- Built a spaghetti sauce generator and database of over 1000 recipes in C++ and MySQL
- Made spaghetti for class using recipe produced by generator during final presentation

# High Performance Computing Quest, A\*Star Research Institutes Singapore

June 2011

- Designed a scalable Drug Discovery algorithm in C++ and won Bronze award
- Optimized program using parallel programming techniques and OpenMP to produce best time in competition

# **LEADERSHIP**

#### Computer Vision Club (www.cmuvision.com)

Aug 2016

- Founder and President of CMU's first Computer Vision club
- Organized club-specific events from Facebook Oculus, Google, Apple, Magic Leap and Nvidia

# **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

**Programming Languages:** Proficient in Python, C++, Java, Matlab, JavaScript, R

**Development Tools:** Proficient in Pytorch, Tensorflow, Torch, Caffe, OpenCV

Github: www.github.com/anubhavashok

#### COURSES

Computer Vision (16-720, taught by Prof. Srinivasa Narasimhan)	A+
Machine Learning (10-601, taught by Prof. Nina Balcan)	Α+
Visual Learning and Recognition (16-824, taught by Prof. Abhinav Gupta)	A+
Physics Based Methods in Vision (16-823, taught by Prof. Srinivasa Narasimhan)	Α
Math Fundamentals for Robotics (16-811, taught by Prof. Michael Erdmann)	Α