# Arijit Dasgupta

Research Interests: Embodied Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Reinforcement Learning, Machine Learning for Robotic Perception, Unmanned Aerial Systems, Computer & Machine Vision, Systems Integration, Mechanical Design, Developmental & Cognitive Psychology for Artificial Intelligence

#### EDUCATION

## National University of Singapore

Singapore

Bachelor of Engineering - Honours in Mechanical Engineering Aug 2018 - May 2022

Minor in Computer Science: University Scholars Programme

GPA: 4.87/5 (Highest Distinction), 16 A+ from 28 Courses completed

Selected Courses: Deep Learning for Robotics, Data Structures & Algorithms, Writing & Critical Thinking, Discrete Structures, Probability & Statistics, Quantum Computing, Machine Vision, Programming Methodology, Feedback Control Systems, Mechanical Systems Design, Small Aircraft & Unmanned Aerial Systems

#### National Junior College

Singapore

Singapore-Cambridge GCE Advanced Level - 7 Distinctions

Jan 2014 - Dec 2015

#### Research Experience

#### A\*STAR, Institute for Infocomm Research

Singapore

Embodied Artificial Intelligence & Robotics (under Dr Cheston Tan)

May 2021 - Present

- o Developing an Embodied AI simulator for developmental robotics. The focus is also on developing AI models to learn language & vision skills for interactive & embodied question answering.
- o The goal is to train an agent with automatically generated datasets of developmental psychological tests for assessing shape, colour, spatial and cognitive perceptions in children aged 2-6.

#### National University of Singapore

Singapore

Drone Vision & Control (under Dr Sutthiphong Srigrarom)

Feb 2021 - May 2021

- Designed and investigated multiple drone path planning methodologies for projectile interception with a depth camera. All tests were conducted in a Gazebo simulation with the control and software architecture embedded into the Robot Operating System (ROS).
- Trajectory predicted paths were found to be effective at predicting the ball path and intercepting it using a straight-line shortest path planner.

#### National University of Singapore

Singapore

Deep Reinforcement Learning (under Dr Guillaume Sartoretti)

Aug 2020 - April 2021

- Collaborated with a peer to investigate different artificially intelligent approaches to playing the board game Onitama beyond human-level. Real time agents using Minimax and Monte-Carlo Tree Search were first developed as competing agents to train a Deep Reinforcement Learning agent using DDPG.
- Tested numerous neural network structures to learn valid moves and good moves simultaneously. A branched neural network was highly effective in learning valid board game moves.

#### **DSO** National Laboratories

Singapore

Machine Learning for Network Protocols (under Bugsy Teo and Dr Lim) June 2020 - Dec 2020

- Introduced a novel unsupervised deep learning approach to automated protocol reverse engineering. A variety of deep learning architectures were used to generate encoded semantic information of data packets for clustering into unknown protocols
- o Developed enigma, a software framework API written in Python to simplify the usability and flexibility of testing and conducting automatic reverse-engineered protocol analysis using multiple machine learning techniques from various domains.
- Investigated multiple unsupervised machine learning techniques as baselines for comparison against the deep learning approach

#### Temasek Laboratories, Centre for Aerodynamics & Propulsion

Singapore

Physics-Informed Machine Learning (under Dr Murali Damodaran)

Dec 2019 - Apr 2020

- Investigated the use of Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs) to predict fundamental fluid dynamics flow problems.
- Developed PINNs using Tensorflow that successfully predicted the viscous and incompressible flow around a 2D cylinder and the 2D cavity flow to a high degree of accuracy. It can predict the pressure and velocity fields for a given Reynolds number.

# A\*STAR, Institute of High Performance Computing

Singapore

Computational Fluid Dynamics (under Dr Harish Gopalan)

Feb 2018 - May 2018

- Investigated the Negative Magnus Effect on the flow past a rotating cylinder at different angular velocities using Reynold-averaged Navier Stokes (RANS) models in OpenFOAM.
- Studied the effect of varying the mesh motion methodologies, turbulence intensities and transitional RANS models in detecting the Negative Magnus Effect.
- Solo-presented the work during AIAA Scitech 2020 at Orlando, Florida.

# A\*STAR, Institute for Infocomm Research

Singapore

Information Retrieval & Speech Recognition (under Dr Lim Boon Pang) June 2014 - Dec 2014

- Developed & investigated an algorithm to improve song-title information retrieval via speech recognition in noisy conditions with different types of noises against text-based baselines.
- This work successfully made it to the finals of the Singapore Science & Engineering Fair, with a Merit award.

# **PUBLICATIONS**

- Dasgupta, A., Yan, Y., Ong, C., Teo, B. & Lim, A. (2021). Exploring Unsupervised Learning Methods for Automated Protocol Analysis. Submitted to the IEEE International Conference on Network Protocols 2021.
- Dasgupta, A., Gopalan, H., & Chandar, D. (2020). Investigation of Flow Past Rotating Cylinder using Transitional RANS models for different Mesh Motion Methodologies. In AIAA Scitech 2020 Forum (p. 1587).

#### Industrial Experience

# A\*STAR, Advanced Remanufacturing and Technology Centre

Singapore

Robotics Software Development

May 2018 - Aug 2018

- Developed an Autonomous Ground Vehicle (AGV) fleet controller using Robotic Operating System (ROS) C++, in the Gazebo simulation environment.
- The AGV fleet controller allows the control of single/multiple AGV(s) transport orders, similar to a virtual fleet manager for mobile industrial robots, through an easy-to-use User Interface (UI).

#### Singapore Armed Forces, 23rd Battalion Singapore Artillery

Singapore

Rocket System Operator

Apr 2016 - Feb 2018

- Operationally trained in operating and driving the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) manufactured by Lockheed Martin and eight other military vehicles.
- Involved in the maintenance, navigational and firing operations of the rocket system & contributed to Exercise Forging Sabre 2017 in Arizona, USA. Acquired a myriad of soft-skills including leadership, perseverance, effective communication, conflict resolution, critical observation and teamwork.

# PROJECTS

- Flapping-Wing Micro-Aerial Vehicle (Deep Reinforcement Learning & Flapping Wing Flight): Modified the design of a state-of-the-art Flapping-Wing Micro-Aerial Vehicle (FW-MAV). Contributed to the design, manufacturing and assembly process. Developed a setup to train the FW-MAV to learn to fly using deep reinforcement learning in a controlled environment with infrared cameras. The software was built in ROS with C++ & Python. (May '21)
- Teaching a simulated Spider Robot to Walk using AI (Deep Reinforcement Learning): Created a CAD model of a Spider Robot using SolidWorks and put it into a PyBullet simulation environment in collaboration with a peer as part of a course project. Successfully made the robot walk in a straight line using DDPG despite having a high number of configurable joints. Topped the entire cohort among graduate students despite being a third-year undergraduate. (Nov '20)

- University Rover Challenge 2020 (Mechanical Design & Electronics): Designed, manufactured and assembled a 6-wheel rocker-bogic rover as part of the NUS Mars Rover Team. Specially in charge of the mobility system of the rover in terms of Computer-Aided Design, team-strategy, welding liaison & manufacturing. Competition was cancelled in lieu of COVID-19. (Apr '20)
- AIAA Design Build Fly Competition 2019 (Aerospace Design): Designed, manufactured and assembled an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) as part of the NUS UAV Team 2019. In charge of Computer-Aided Design, flight theoretical calculations, team strategy & management, manufacturing, electronics & soldering, assembling and logistics handling. Represented NUS for the competition in Arizona, USA. (Apr '19)

### Honors and Awards

- $\bullet$  A\*STAR Undergraduate Scholarship 2018 to 2022
- University Scholars Programme Senior Honour Roll 2020
- Defence Science & Technology Agency Brainhack (AI) Finalist 2020
- NUS Faculty of Engineering Dean's List  $\times$  2 2019 & 2020
- University Scholars Programme Honour Roll 2019
- Young Defence Scientists Programme Academic Award (Physics) 2016
- $\bullet$  Singapore Indian Development Association Excellence Award  $\times$  2 2014 & 2016
- NTU-IEEE Science Symposium Overall Champion 2015
- Distinction for the NJC Science Research Programme 2015

# TECHNICAL & SOFT SKILLS

- Languages: Python, C/C++, MATLAB, R, Bash, LaTeX
- Frameworks: ROS, Scikit, TensorFlow, Keras, PyTorch, GIT, SolidWorks (CSWA Accredited)
- Soft Skills: Science Research, Communication, Leadership, Resource Management, Team Player, Problem-solving, Conflict-Resolution

# Volunteering Experience

# Ministry of Health Office for Healthcare Transformation

Singapore

Bengali Translator for COVID-19 Patients

Apr 2020 - Nov 2020

- Provided emergency Bengali translation services to COVID-19 patients during Singapore's migrant worker COVID outbreak via an on-call service in shifts.
- Translated for over 15 patients & front-line doctors at the National Centre for Infectious Diseases

# Healthserve - NGO for Migrant Workers

Singapore

Bengali Translator for Migrant Workers

Apr 2020 - June 2020

• Surveyed Bengali migrant workers on their emotional health & translated COVID-19 related information posters for Bengali migrant workers living in dormitories.