## Atish Agarwala

CONTACT Add INFORMATION Mo

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EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

PhD in Physics

September 2013 – September 2019

Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA

Bachelors degree in Physics and Math (Highest honors)

August 2009 - May 2013

Work Experience Google Research, Mountain View, CA

AI Resident

October 2019 – Present

Honours and Awards CEHG Fellow, 2018-2019

Stanford Bowes BioX Fellow, 2015-2018

William C. Elmore Prize, Swarthmore Physics Department, 2013

Finalist for 2013 Hertz Foundation Fellowship

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE Google Research, Mountain View, CA

AI Resident

October 2019 – Present

Derived theoretical guarantees for learning analytical functions with neural networks. Performed theoretical analysis of learning dynamics in classification problems and suggested architectural tweaks to improve network performance. Currently studying use of machine learning for protein design, using data-driven models to simulate entire protein design workflow and developing best-practices for data collection and model selection in collaboration with biotech industry partners.

## Stanford University, Stanford, CA

Graduate student

September 2013 - August 2019

Studied evolutionary dynamics with Daniel Fisher in Applied Physics. Research consists of a mixture of analytical and computational explorations of stochastic dynamics of evolutionary processes. Projects include studies of epistasis and ecological dynamics. Also analyzed data from laboratory evolution experiments in collaboration with Gavin Sherlock in Genetics and Dmitri Petrov in Biology.

Google Brain, Mountain View, CA

Research intern

June 2018 – August 2018

Studied early learning in neural networks using mean field theory. Developed a formalism to compute optimal learning rates after network initialization and demonstrated validity by training hundreds of thousands of networks.

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Okinawa, Japan

Summer Researcher

May 2012 – August 2013

Computationally investigated metamaterial device with potential applications in all-optical switching.

PROGRAMMING

Python, JAX, Tensorflow, Matlab, C++. Use UNIX/Linux and Google cloud compute.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS **A. Agarwala** et. al., "One Network Fits All? Modular versus Monolithic Task Formulations in Neural Networks." *To appear in ICLR 2021.* (2021).

**A. Agarwala** et. al., "Temperature check: theory and practice for training models with softmax-cross-entropy losses." arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.07344 (2020).

- **A. Agarwala** et. al., "Learning the gravitational force law and other analytic functions." arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.07724 (2020).
- M. T. Pearce, A. Agarwala, and D. S. Fisher, "Stabilization of extensive fine-scale diversity by ecologically driven spatiotemporal chaos." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2020).
- **A. Agarwala**, and D. S. Fisher, "Adaptive walks on high-dimensional fitness landscapes and seascapes with distance-dependent statistics." Theoretical Population Biology 130 (2019): 13-49.
- Y. Li, S. Venkataram, **A. Agarwala**, et. al., "Hidden complexity of adaptation under 'simple' serial-dilution conditions in yeast", Current Biology, Volume 28, Issue 4, 19 February 2018, Pages 515-525.e6
- S. Venkataram, B. Dunn, Y. Li, A. Agarwala, et. al., "Development of a Comprehensive Genotype-to-Fitness Map of Adaptation-Driving Mutations in Yeast", Cell, Volume 166, Issue 6, 1585 1596.e22