

# Resume

## Dinura Dissanayake

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## EDUCATION

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**University of Peradeniya** Dec 2018 – Dec 2023  
*Bachelor of Science of Engineering (Hons) in Computer Engineering* **CGPA 3.75/4.00**  
• Bronze award at NBQSA 2023 in tertiary Student Projects in NBQSA 2023 (National ICT Awards)

## PUBLICATIONS

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- How Good are Foundation Models in Step-by-Step Embodied Reasoning? - [Submitted to ICRA 2026](#)**  
• **Dinura Dissanayake**, Ahmed Heakl, Omkar Thawakar, Noor Ahsan, Ritesh Thawkar, Ketan More, Jean Lahoud, Rao Anwer, Hisham Cholakkal, Ivan Laptev, Fahad Shahbaz Khan, Salman Khan
- All Languages Matter: Evaluating LLMs on Culturally Diverse 100 Languages - [CVPR 2025 Highlight](#)**  
• Ashmal Vayani, **Dinura Dissanayake**, Hasindri Watawana, Noor Ahsan, Omkar Thawakar, Aman Chadha, Hisham Cholakkal, Rao Muhammad Anwer, Michael Felsberg, Jorma Laaksonen, Thamar Solorio, Monojit Choudhury, Ivan Laptev, Mubarak Shah, Salman Khan, Fahad Khan
- LlamaV-o1: Rethinking Step-by-step Visual Reasoning in LLMs - [ACL 2025 Findings](#)**  
• Omkar Thawakar, **Dinura Dissanayake**, Ketan More, Ritesh Thawkar, Ahmed Heakl, Jean Lahoud, Rao Muhammad Anwer, Hisham Cholakkal, Ivan Laptev, Mubarak Shah, Fahad Shahbaz Khan, Salman Khan
- DriveLMM-o1: A Step-by-Step Reasoning Dataset and Large Multimodal Model for Driving Scenario Understanding - [IROS 2025 Oral Presentation](#)**  
• Ayesha Ishaq, Jean Lahoud, Ketan More, Omkar Thawakar, Ritesh Thawkar, **Dinura Dissanayake**, Noor Ahsan, Yuhao Li, Fahad Shahbaz Khan, Hisham Cholakkal, Ivan Laptev, Rao Muhammad Anwer, Salman Khan
- Multimodal Deep Convolutional Neural Network Pipeline for AI-Assisted Early Detection of Oral Cancer - [IEEE Access](#)**  
• GAI Devindi, **DMDR Dissanayake**, SN Liyanage, FBAH Francis, MBD Pavithya, NS Piyarathne, PVKS Hettiarachchi, RMSGK Rasnayaka, RD Jayasinghe, RG Ragel, I Nawinne
- A comprehensive dataset of annotated oral cavity images for diagnosis of oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders - [ScienceDirect Oral Oncology](#)**  
• NS Piyarathne, SN Liyanage, RMSGK Rasnayaka, PVKS Hettiarachchi, GAI Devindi, FBAH Francis, **DMDR Dissanayake**, RANS Ranasinghe, MBD Pavithya, IB Nawinne, RG Ragel, RD Jayasinghe
- A Culturally-diverse Multilingual Multimodal Video Benchmark & Model - [EMNLP 2025 - Main Conference](#)**  
• Bhuiyan Sanjid Shafique, Ashmal Vayani, Muhammad Maaz, Hanoona Abdul Rasheed, **Dinura Dissanayake**, Mohammed Irfan Kurpath, et al.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS

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- Unified Vision-Language Action Model (2025)**  
• Exploring reasoning trace integration with Embodied Vision datasets (OpenX, BridgeV2) to enhance interpretability and step-wise decision-making in embodied AI tasks.
- A Step-by-Step Reasoning Dataset and Large Multimodal Model for Driving Scenario Understanding (2025)**  
• Developed DriveLMM-o1, a benchmark and multimodal model to advance step-by-step visual reasoning for autonomous driving scenarios.  
• Accepted to IROS 2025 as an Oral Presentation
- Early Detection of Oral Cancer (2024)**  
• Research with a main focus of collecting an Oral Cavity dataset that is suitable for South Asian regions.  
• Present a multimodal deep convolutional model to predict oral cancer using image and metadata.

- Neural Network Pipeline for AI-Assisted Early Detection of Oral Cancer published in IEEE Access
- A comprehensive dataset of annotated oral cavity images for diagnosis of oral cancer and oral potentially malignant disorders accepted as a journal paper as Oral Oncology.

#### End-to-End Planning-Oriented Autonomous Driving (2023)

- Improve already existing trajectory-guided control prediction method.
- Introduced depth information to the end to end system using the same monocular camera and introduced Model Predictive Control to the system.

## EXPERIENCE

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### Mohamed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence

Apr 2024 – Present

#### Research Engineer

Sept 2025 – Present

- Supervisor: [Prof. Fahad Khan](#), [Dr. Salman Khan](#)
- Working on Multimodal reasoning, Cultural Understanding of Multimodal Models, and Embodied Vision

#### Research Associate

Apr 2024 – Aug 2025

- Supervisor: [Prof. Fahad Khan](#), [Dr. Salman Khan](#)
- Working on Multimodal reasoning, Cultural Understanding of Multimodal Models, and Embodied Vision

### WSO2

Dec 2022 – May 2023

#### Software Engineering Intern

- Creating a GraphQL API to streamline Salesforce and Stripe payments.

### Department of Computer Engineering, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Aug 2021 – Oct 2022

#### Teaching Assistant

- Embedded Systems (CO321), Data Structures and Algorithms (CO322), Programming and Networking (CO253), Programming Methodology (CO222)

## SELECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

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### Bronze Award NBQSA 2023 (National ICT Awards)

2023

- Won the bronze award at NBQSA 2023 in tertiary Student Projects (Technology) category

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place(Out of 100+ Teams) - ACES Coders V 9.0

2022

- Overnight inter-university coding competition organized by University of Peradeniya

### Top 300<sup>th</sup> World Among 6000+ Teams - IEEEXTREME 16.0

2022

- 8<sup>th</sup> place in the country.
- 24 hour competitive programming competition for university undergraduates worldwide.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Place(Out of 100+ Teams) - MINI HACKATHON - ICDS

2021

- Data Science Hackathon organized by the University of Colombo
- Developed a Bill checking mechanism using OCR.

### Bronze Medalist Sri Lankan Physics OLYMPIAD

2017

- Organized by the Institute of Physics, Sri Lanka

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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- Programming Languages: Python, MATLAB, Java, C++, ARM Assembly, Verilog-HDL
- ML Libraries: Pytorch, OpenCV, Scikit-learn, Keras
- FPGA designing and programming (C++)
- IoT:Node-RED, ESP32, MQTT

## CLUB ACTIVITIES/ LEADERSHIP

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### AIIESEC in University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

- Marketing Manager - Incoming Global Volunteer Sept 2021 - Feb 2022
- Business to Business Manager - Incoming Global Volunteer March 2021 - Aug 2021
- Team Leader - Incoming Global Volunteer Sept 2020 - Feb 2021

### Music Society of University of Peradeniya

- Member Coordinator Sept 2021 - Sept 2022