

# ROBIK SHRESTHA

✉ robikshrestha@gmail.com

☎ (585)-766-5549

🌐 robikshrestha.com

🐙 <https://github.com/erobic>

in [linkedin.com/in/robikshrestha](https://www.linkedin.com/in/robikshrestha)

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Artificial Intelligence, Deep Learning, Bias and Fairness, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Vision & Language and Lifelong Machine Learning

## EDUCATION

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Aug 2017 - CURRENT	Ph.D. in IMAGING SCIENCE Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY <b>Advisor:</b> Dr. Christopher Kanan   <b>Research Group:</b> kLab
OCT 2008 - DEC 2012	B.E. in COMPUTER ENGINEERING Institute of Engineering, Tribhuvan University, Nepal Full Merit-Based Scholarship, Obtained 1st rank <b>Relevant Courses:</b> Image Processing and Pattern Recognition, Artificial Intelligence

## WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2017 - (expected: Spring 2023)	<b>Ph.D. Student/Graduate Research Assistant</b> <i>kLab, Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, RIT</i> <b>Highlights:</b> As a Ph.D. student, I have 8+ publications on vision and multimodal (vision+language) models. My current research focuses on improving the bias-resistance of deep learning systems through concept grounding and multiple hypothesis generation
2021	<b>Research Intern</b> <i>Adobe Inc (Remote)</i> <b>Highlights:</b> Focused on improving vision and language embeddings to encode <i>fine-grained concepts</i> . Experimented with <i>contrastive learning methods</i> under algebraic constraints to learn richer concept representations. Also, worked on collecting <i>hard negative image-caption pairs</i> to test object, attribute, relation sensitivity. <b>Mentors:</b> Dr. Kushal Kafle, Dr. Scott Cohen, Dr. Zhe Lin

Spring 2018	<b>TEACHING ASSISTANT</b> <i>Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science, RIT</i> <b>Highlights:</b> Collaborated with the course instructor Dr. Guoyu Lu to teach and assess graduate students for the course of <i>MultiView Geometry</i> .
2018 - 2019	<b>RESEARCH ASSISTANT</b> <i>ITEL Laboratories, Florida (in collaboration with RIT)</i> <b>Highlights:</b> Built a floor material classification system to handle loss claims. Mitigated reliance on <i>dataset biases</i> , improved <i>model calibration</i> and worked on <i>out-of-distribution detection</i> to enable semi-automated processing of the claims.
2014 - 2016	<b>LEAD DEVELOPER</b> <i>Viveka Health LLC, Nepal</i> <b>Highlights:</b> Worked on a fraud detection engine for U.S. health insurance claims that saved \$1M+ for 25K+ lives through various employers and payers. Developed a rules engine system to process insurance claims to identify areas of <i>fraud, waste and abuse</i> .
2012 - 2014	<b>SOFTWARE ENGINEER</b> <i>Yomari Incorporated, Nepal</i> <b>Highlights:</b> Developed business intelligence solutions for Nepal Telecom and international retailers. Involved in data warehousing and data mining projects.

## PUBLICATIONS

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ECCV (Oral) (2022)	<b>Robik Shrestha</b> , Kushal Kafle, Christopher Kanan. "OccamNets: Mitigating Dataset Bias by Favoring Simpler Hypotheses." <i>European Conference on Computer Vision (2022)</i>
WACV (2022)	<b>Robik Shrestha</b> , Kushal Kafle, Christopher Kanan. "An investigation of critical issues in bias mitigation techniques." <i>IEEE/CVF Winter Conference of Applications on Computer Vision (2022)</i>
Frontiers (2022)	Usman Mahmood, <b>Robik Shrestha</b> et al. "Detecting Spurious Correlations With Sanity Tests for Artificial Intelligence Guided Radiology Systems." <i>Frontiers in Digital Health (2022)</i>
NeurIPS (2020)	Damien Teney, Kushal Kafle, <b>Robik Shrestha</b> et al. "On the Value of Out-of-Distribution Testing: An Example of Goodhart's Law." <i>Neural Information Processing Systems (2020)</i>
ECCV (2020)	Tyler Hayes*, Kushal Kafle*, <b>Robik Shrestha*</b> , Manoj Acharya and Christopher Kanan. "REMIND Your Neural Network to Prevent Catastrophic

	Forgetting." <i>European Conference on Computer Vision</i> (2020). (* = equal contributions)
ACL (2020)	<b>Robik Shrestha</b> , Kushal Kafle, and Christopher Kanan. "A negative case analysis of visual grounding methods for VQA." <i>Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics</i> (2020).
WACV (2020)	Kushal Kafle, <b>Robik Shrestha</b> , and Christopher Kanan "Answering questions about data visualizations using efficient bimodal fusion." <i>The IEEE Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision</i> (2020).
CVPR (2019)	<b>Robik Shrestha</b> , Kushal Kafle, and Christopher Kanan. "Answer them all! toward universal visual question answering models." <i>Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition</i> (2019).
Frontiers (2019)	Kushal Kafle, <b>Robik Shrestha</b> , and Christopher Kanan. "Challenges and prospects in vision and language research." <i>Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence</i> (2019).

## INVITED TALKS AND GUEST LECTURES

Fall 2021	<b>"Dataset Bias in Vision and Language Tasks: Problems and Potential Solutions"</b> for Center for Human Aware AI (CHAI) Rochester, NY
2020 and 2021	<b>"An Introduction to Bias Mitigation Techniques"</b> for the Deep Learning course taught by Dr. Christopher Kanan Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Programming (Proficient):** Python
- **Frameworks/Tools:** PyTorch, Pytorch-Lightning, Numpy, Scipy, Scikit-Learn, Pandas, MTurk
- **Others:** Tensorflow, Shell Scripting, AWS, Matlab, C/C++/Java, Javascript, D3.js, Git, LaTeX

## REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

• Neural Information Processing System (NeurIPS)	<b>2022</b>
• IEEE/CVF Winter Conference of Applications on Computer Vision (WACV)	<b>2021</b>
• Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)	<b>2019/20</b>
• Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)	<b>2019/20</b>

- European Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL) **2020**
- IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology (ICSVT) **2020**
- Natural Language Engineering (NLE) **2019**