GAURAV TADKAPALLY

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EDUCATION

University of Southern California — California, United States
Master of Science in Computer Science: 3.7/4.0 — June 2023 - December 2024

- **Coursework**: Analysis of Algorithms, Applied Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning
- Served as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for the graduate course Applied Machine Learning for Natural Language Processing (ITP 459)

Vellore Institute of Technology — Andhra Pradesh, India
Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering: 8.94/10 — May 2019 - May 2023

EXPERIENCE

Pitney Bowes — Connecticut, United States
Data Science Intern — June 2024-August 2024

- Designed an agentic feedback loop with fine-tuned CodeLlama and GPT-4o, using JaCoCo code coverage tool to iteratively optimize test suites and increase code coverage by 15% **(Demo)**
- Implemented optimized LLM decoding strategies (Speculative Decoding), accelerating inference by 3x, and Abstract Syntax Tree (AST)-based retrieval for precise code context
- Implemented Direct Preference Optimization (DPO) and 4-bit QLoRA quantization, improving model's code generation accuracy

MUKHAM — Andhra Pradesh, India
Machine Learning Engineer Intern — October 2022-May 2023

- Optimized facial recognition model for edge deployment (mobile application), leveraging **knowledge distillation**, **Post-training Quantization (8-bit quantization) and Automatic Mixed Precision**, decreasing model size by 75%
- Designed a Presentation Attack Detection system (facial spoof detection) utilizing the Lucas Kanade algorithm for motion analysis, achieving a 80% success rate in identifying spoofed faces

MUKHAM Pvt Ltd — Andhra Pradesh, India
Research Assistant — October 2022 - May 2023

- Developed a UAV-based wildfire detection algorithm utilizing the EfficientNetB0 architecture, incorporating **Neural Architecture Search (NAS)** for model optimization, resulting in a 98% precision rate
- Engineered smart glasses with a Continual Object Detection model (Incremental Learning) for visually impaired, leading 78% navigational accuracy

SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

Languages: Python, Java, R, JavaScript
ML Stack: PyTorch, Tensorflow, HuggingFace, LangChain, Keras, OpenCV, Scikit-learn, Pandas, NumPy, Matplotlib
Tools & Technologies: AWS (Cloud Practitioner), Azure (AI Fundamentals), MySQL, MongoDB, Selenium

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

AK15: Agentic Kubernetes Middleware (Github)

- Devised an LLM-powered middleware that automates Kubernetes cluster read queries, achieving a 93% reduction in contextual token usage through intelligent function calling and agentic context retrieval
- Implemented 15 specialized API functions enabling the LLM to perform human-like, context-aware interactions with Kubernetes, optimizing and reducing API costs by leveraging targeted data retrieval strategies

GlancyAI: Consumer Product Research Assistant (Github)

- Developed an AI agent using GPT-4 and Agentic Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG), with a vector database for optimized query retrieval, automating the extraction of data from web sources and YouTube transcripts
- Integrated summarization module condenses extensive online information into concise insights, streamlining the product recommendation process and significantly reducing user research time

Original Vision Transformer Implementation from Scratch (Github)

- Implemented ViT components including MultiheadAttention, Image Patch Embedding, and MLP layers, achieving a one-to-one parameter match (86 million) with the original proposed model

PUBLICATIONS

- Sethuraman, S. C., Reddy Tadkapally, G. et al. **Simplymime: A dynamic gesture recognition and authentication system for smart remote control**. IEEE Sensors Journal (2024). https://doi.org/10.1109/JSEN.2024.3487070
- Sethuraman, Sibi C., Gaurav Reddy Tadkapally, et al. ***iDrone: IoT-Enabled Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for Detecting Wildfires Using Convolutional Neural Networks***. Springer Nature Computer Science (2022). https://doi.org/10.1007/s42979-022-01160-7