Gautham Krishna Gudur

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

I am interested in building resource-efficient, data-centric, and human-centric machine learning systems.

Focus Areas: Ubiquitous Computing, Human Activity Recognition, Cross-modal Learning (inertial, acoustic, and physiological sensing), Generative AI, Foundation models/LLMs, Continual Learning, Active Learning, Federated Learning, Limited Supervision

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Aug 2023 - Present

Ph.D., Electrical and Computer Engineering, **GPA**: 3.83/4.00

Advisor: Prof. Edison Thomaz

Anna University (SSN College of Engineering), Chennai, India

2013 - 2017

B.Tech., Information Technology

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin - Graduate Research Assistant

Austin, TX

Advisor: Prof. Edison Thomaz

Aug 2023 - Present

- Designing data-efficient continual learning methods to alleviate catastrophic forgetting. Introduced dataset distillation as an alternative strategy to active learning, reducing user labeling efforts by up to 3000x for audio sensing tasks.
- Developed multi-modal acoustic-motion feature alignment approaches to enhance human activity recognition.
- Proposed SVFT (Singular Vector guided Fine-Tuning) a Pareto-dominant PEFT technique [Mentor: Prof. Sujay Sanghavi].
- Leveraging efficient sample selection techniques for LLM training and fine-tuning.

Independent Research

Dec 2018 - Present

- Analyzed the effect of calibration on prioritizing important samples during training [Mentor: Prof Emtiyaz Khan, RIKEN].
- Designed zero-shot federated learning frameworks to handle new heterogeneous classes and models for audio sensing.
- Worked on Bayesian active learning for on-device human activity recognition (HAR) and wearable sensing tasks.

Ericsson R&D, Global AI Accelerator (GAIA) - Data Scientist III

Mentors: Dr. Shrihari Vasudevan, M J Prasath

Chennai, India

Feb 2019 – Apr 2023

- Worked on ML for network intelligence and telecom resulting in multiple publications, patents, and deployed products.
- Contributed to 3GPP standardization for federated learning and multi-vendor model sharing; defined and positioned Ericsson's Al-Native design principles. Created spatiotemporal models for indoor building connectivity prediction with <5% error; improved mobility prediction of user devices in 5G Network Data Analytics Function (NWDAF).
- Developed E-ADF an end-to-end unsupervised anomaly detection framework with data-efficient Bayesian model selection and dynamic threshold optimization with >60% reduction in data points.
- Created E-LangHub (Ericsson NLP Hub) with telco-rich data and SOTA models. Improved AIB (Automated Intelligent Knowledge Base) for customer symptoms using LLMs and active learning; worked on telco-specific language translation.
- Deployed an object detection system for infrastructure failures at cell sites, reducing field technician hours by over 20.

SmartCardia (EPFL) - Machine Learning Engineer

Chennai, India

Mentor: Dr. Srinivasan Murali

May 2018 - Nov 2018

• Implemented gradient-boosted ensembles and LSTM models for regression and classification on imbalanced time-series clinical data; extracted features from biomarkers such as sleep apnea, troponin, blood pressure, and hemoglobin.

Solarillion Foundation - Research Assistant

Chennai, India

Mentor: Vineeth Vijayaraghavan

Feb 2016 – May 2018

- Led the development of HARNet deep ensemble models for activity recognition with on-device incremental learning.
- Designed dynamic gesture recognition models with efficient feature engineering on a low-cost Raspberry Pi Zero (\$5).
- Deployed a movie occupancy predictor for a top Indian multiplex chain using tree-based models and branched LSTMs.

SSN College of Engineering - Undergraduate Student Researcher

Mentors: Prof. Bhalaji N, Prof. Srinivasan R

Chennai, India

Feb 2015 – Mar 2017

- Developed a vision-based intelligent bus stop recognition system using CNNs; employed data augmentation and active learning strategies to ensure scalability and adaptability in dynamic Indian environments, achieving ~96% accuracy.
- Led an HCI research project Neurocinematics, to classify real-time cognitive responses of film viewers using EEG data.
- Evaluated routing protocol performance metrics on a Contiki testbed to select the optimal mote for two IoT scenarios.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS [Conference/Journal/Workshop]

* denotes equal contribution and joint lead authorship

- [Citations: 215, h-index: 9, i-index: 9]
- Dawei Liang*, Yufei Shen*, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>*, E Thomaz. AMA-HAR: Improving Motion-based Human Activity Recognition with Acoustic Alignment [*Under Submission*].
- Gautham Krishna Gudur, E Thomaz. Dataset Distillation for Audio Classification: A Data-Efficient Alternative to Active Learning, NeurlPS 2024 ENLSP workshop.
- V Lingam*, A Tejaswi*, A Vavre*, A Shetty*, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>*, J Ghosh, A Dimakis, E Choi, A Bojchevski, S Sanghavi. SVFT: Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning with Singular Vectors, NeurIPS 2024.
 Abridged versions: NeurIPS 2024 FITML workshop; ICML 2024 WANT [Oral Presentation] and ES-FoMo workshops.
- G Tata*, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>*, G Chennupati, ME Khan. <u>Can Calibration Improve Sample Prioritization?</u>, <u>NeurIPS</u>
 2022 <u>HILL</u> and <u>HITY</u> workshops.
- Gautham Krishna Gudur, R Raaghul, K Adithya, S Vasudevan. Data-Efficient Automatic Model Selection in Unsupervised Anomaly Detection, IEEE ICMLA 2022.
- Gautham Krishna Gudur, SK Perepu. Zero-Shot Federated Learning with New Classes for Audio, INTERSPEECH 2021.
 Abridged version: ICLR 2021 DPML and HAET workshops.
- <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>, SK Perepu. Resource-Constrained Federated Learning with Heterogeneous Labels and Models for Human Activity Recognition, IJCAI-PRICAI 2020 – DL-HAR and NeurIPS 2020 – MLMH workshops.
- A Ragav*, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>*. Bayesian Active Learning for Wearable Stress and Affect Detection, **NeurIPS 2020 –** MLMH workshop.
- <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>, BS Balaji, SK Perepu. Resource-Constrained Federated Learning with Heterogeneous Labels and Models, **KDD 2020 AloT** workshop.
- S Venkataramani, A Ramesh, SS Sundar, AK Jain, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>, V Vijayaraghavan. A Dynamically Adaptive Movie Occupancy Forecasting System with Feature Optimization, **IEEE ICDM 2019 LMID** workshop.
- Gautham Krishna Gudur, A Ramesh, R Srinivasan. A Vision-based Deep On-Device Intelligent Bus Stop Recognition System, ACM UbiComp 2019 PURBA workshop.
- <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>, P Sundaramoorthy, V Umaashankar. ActiveHARNet: Towards On-Device Deep Bayesian Active Learning for Human Activity Recognition, **ACM MobiSys 2019 EMDL** workshop.
- P Sundaramoorthy, <u>Gautham Krishna Gudur</u>, MR Moorthy, RN Bhandari, V Vijayaraghavan. HARNet: Towards On-Device Incremental Learning using Deep Ensembles on Constrained Devices, **ACM MobiSys 2018 – EMDL** workshop.
- <u>Gautham Krishna G</u>, KS Nathan, BY Kumar, AA Prabhu, A Kannan, V Vijayaraghavan. A Generic Multi-modal Dynamic Gesture Recognition System Using Machine Learning, **IEEE FICC 2018**.

PATENTS

- Federated Learning using Heterogeneous Labels, WO2022013879A1.
- Distributed Machine Learning with New Labels using Heterogeneous Label Distribution, WO2022162677A1.
- Method and Apparatus for Approach Recommendation with Threshold Optimization in Unsupervised Anomaly Detection, WO2023166515A1.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages & Tools: Python, C++, HTML/CSS, Bash, SQL, JavaScript, Git, LaTeX, GCP, Docker, Arduino, Raspberry Pi **Libraries & Frameworks:** PyTorch, TensorFlow, Hugging Face, Keras, Numpy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, OpenCV, PySpark

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Graduate Ph.D. Fellowship from Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin
- Top 1 percentile in HackerRank Algorithms Domain Problem Solving (Advanced)
- Full financial registration grants to attend ICLR 2021, NeurIPS 2020, OxML 2020
- Our project "AIB" won Ericsson's Top Performance Competition 2020 in the Operational Excellence category
- Undergraduate research grant of INR 25,000 from SSN College of Engineering
- Winner of the GermEval Shared Task 1 Challenge (Subtask (a)), KONVENS 2019 in post-evaluation phase
- Certification of Merit for Grade A1 in all subjects in AISSE (CBSE 10th boards)

SUMMER SCHOOLS

- 5th Summer School on Artificial Intelligence 2021, IIIT Hyderabad (Virtual)
- Eastern European Machine Learning Summer Schools both EEML 2020 and EEML 2021 (Virtual)
 Presented ActiveHARNet (EEML '20); zero-shot federated learning and task-independent continual learning (EEML '21)
- Oxford Machine Learning Summer School, OxML 2020 (Virtual)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **Program Committee/Reviewer:** ICASSP 2025, ICML 2024 ES-FoMo workshop, ICLR 2021 DPML workshop, NeurIPS ML4H 2020 and ML4H 2019 workshops, KONVENS 2019 GermEval
- Mentored 11+ students in embedded ML assignments and research projects at Solarillion Foundation (Feb '17 May '18).
- Technical Reviewer of the book titled "Hands-On Meta Learning With Python"
- Event Organizer of "Data Nuggets" an inter-collegiate Data Science contest, Invente 2016, SSN College of Engineering
- Mentor at IEEE B.Tech. Student Branch Python Programming for Underrepresented

POSTERS AND EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

- Adaptive Federated Learning in Conceptually Drifting Environments, Applied Machine Learning Course Project.
- Heterogeneous Zero-Shot Federated Learning with New Classes for On-Device Audio Classification, MobiUK 2021.
- Bayesian Active Learning for Wearable and Mobile Health, NeurlPS Europe meetup on Bayesian Deep Learning (BDL 2020).
- Handling Real-time Unlabeled Data in Activity Recognition using Deep Bayesian Active Learning and Data Programming,
 MobiUK 2019, University of Oxford.
- Neurocinematics: The Intelligent Review System, 3rd International Conference on Cognition, Brain and Computation (CBC 2015), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Gandhinagar.

SELECTED TALKS

- Machine Learning and Ubiquitous Computing SSN College of Engineering (2022)
- Heterogeneous Zero-Shot Federated Learning with New Classes for On-Device Audio Classification MobiUK 2021
- Telecom-Specific Language Translation using GCP Ericsson/Google Cloud Day (2021)
- Resource-Constrained Machine Learning for Ubiquitous Computing Applications Flipped by GAIUS (2020)

MOOCS AND TECHNICAL COURSEWORK

- Relevant Coursework: Advanced Computer Vision, Generative Models in Machine Learning, Applied Machine Learning, Human Signals: Sensing/Analytics, Spoken Language Technologies, Statistical Methods I
- HackerRank | Problem Solving Advanced, Intermediate, Basic
- University of Washington | Coursera Machine Learning Specialization (4 courses) –
 A Case Study Approach, Regression, Classification, Clustering & Retrieval
- NRU HSE | Coursera Bayesian Methods for Machine Learning
- Stanford University | Coursera Machine Learning
- UC San Diego | Coursera Algorithmic Toolbox, Data Structures
- John Hopkins University | Coursera R Programming
- Stanford University CS231n