Hiba Ahsan

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University

JAN 2023 - CURRENT

Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Ph.D. in Computer Science

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

SEP 2019 - JAN 2023

College of Information and Computer Sciences

M.S. in Computer Science ¹

GPA: 3.94/4

Relevant Coursework: Machine Learning (ML), Neural Networks, Numerical Optimization, Probabilistic Graphical Models, Data Visualization, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Algorithms for Data Science

National Institute of Technology Karnataka

JUL 2011 - MAY 2015

B.Tech. in Information Technology

GPA: 9.17/10

Relevant Coursework: Data Structures & Algorithms, Operating Systems, Objected Oriented Programming, Database Management Systems, Linear Algebra, Probability & Graph Theory

EXPERIENCE

Netflix, Research Intern

MAY 2022 - AUG 2022,

MAY 2021 - AUG 2021

• Designed and conducted experiments to improve Netflix's relevance ranking system using knowledge graph embeddings.

LinkedIn, Machine Learning Intern

MAY 2020 - AUG 2020

- Created new user-engagement and notification-type based features for LinkedIn's notifications ranking system.
- Built pipelines for training models and computing features online on Apache Spark.

Microsoft, Bing Advertising, Research Engineer

OCT 2016 - JUL 2019

- Improved relevance of text ads shown on Bing search engine for user queries using ML and NLP.
- Analyzed poor query-ad matches and proposed computing categorical similarity of the pairs to catch arbitrary matches.
- Developed a low cost embedding to determine categorical similarity of query-ad pairs online using convolutional latent semantic modeling. Addition of similarity score to the existing relevance model as a feature improved ad quality by 1.7% (A/B Testing).
- Created a model to determine whether a tail query has a commercial intent or not. Controlled ad trigger based on this model improved ad quality by 4.34% (A/B Testing).

International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad, Research Intern

MAY 2014 - JUL 2014

- Automated the process of multi-labeling music based on instruments played using multi-label classification with an accuracy of 92.57% in Matlab.
- Proposed a feature augmentation technique using Non-Negative Matrix Factorization to improve classification.

Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru, Research Intern

MAY 2013 - JUL 2013

- Automated the process of classifying land cover into different classes (water, vegetation, barren land, built up areas) using machine learning techniques on images acquired by hyperspectral sensors with an accuracy of 87.23% in Matlab.
- Compared supervised approaches such as maximum likelihood estimation with unsupervised approaches such as k-means clustering and analyzed the impact of dimensionality reduction on classification accuracy.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Programming Languages Python, C, C#, Java Libraries PyTorch, TensorFlow Big Data Frameworks Apache Spark

¹Enrolled in M.S. program in Fall 2019, transferred to M.S./Ph.D. program in Spring 2021

HONORS & AWARDS

- Paul Utgoff Memorial Graduate Scholarship in Machine Learning, 2021.
- CICS Scholarship to attend Grace Hopper Celebration, 2020.
- Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS) Summer Research Fellowship, 2014.

PUBLICATIONS

- H. Ahsan, D.J. McInerney, J. Kim, C. Potter, G. Young, S. Amir, B.C. Wallace, Retrieving Evidence from EHRs with LLMs: Possibilities and Challenges. (arXiv preprint arXiv:2309.04550 2023 Under Review).
- A. Mitra, H. Ahsan, W. Li, W. Liu, R. Kerns, J. Tsai, W. Becker, D. Smelson, H. Yu, Risk Factors Associated With Nonfatal Opioid Overdose Leading to Intensive Care Unit Admission: A Cross-sectional Study. In *JMIR medical informatics 9.11 (2021): e32851.*
- H. Ahsan, E. Ohnuki, A. Mitra, H. Yu, MIMIC-SBDH: A Dataset for Social and Behavioral Determinants of Health. In *Machine Learning for Healthcare (MLHC) 2021*.
- H. Ahsan, N. Bhalla, D. Bhatt, K. Shah, Multi-Modal Image Captioning for the Visually Impaired. In NAACL Student Research Workshop (SRW) 2021.
- H. Ahsan and R. Agrawal, Approximating Categorical Similarity in Sponsored Search Relevance. In WSDM Workshop on Deep Matching in Practical Applications (DAPA) 2019.
- H. Ahsan, V. Kumar and C. V. Jawahar, Multi-label Annotation of Music. In *International Conference on Advances in Pattern Recognition 2015.*

TALKS

- H. Ahsan, S. Amir, B.C. Wallace, On the Difficulty of Disentangling Race in Representations of Clinical Notes. In CHIL "I Can't Believe It's Not Better" Lightning Talks 2023.
- H. Ahsan and S. Lamkhede, Improving Search Results Ranking Using a Knowledge Graph. In CIKM Workshop on Knowledge Injection in Neural Networks 2021.
- H. Ahsan and R. Agrawal, Neural Network Based Semantic Feature Approximator: Application in Category Match. In *Microsoft Machine Learning and Data Sciences Conference 2018*.

ACHIEVEMENTS

• Best Use of Google Cloud and Best User Experience Design, Hack(H)er413 FEB 2020 Created Snap-a-Book, a mobile application to automatically locate books of interest on bookshelves using the camera instead of browsing for them manually.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

• Treasurer, Grad Women in Computer Science, UMass Amherst Handled the finances of the student group organization.

SEP, 2021 - SEP, 2022

- Communications Team Member, Voices of Data Science (VoDS)

 Created publicity content and handled social media handles of VoDS, a platform to amplify the voices of data scientists, specifically those from underrepresented communities.
- Mentor, Microsoft Internship Program

 Guided two undergraduate students in developing an interactive tool to analyze customer complaints (filed in Microsoft's online customer forum) using NLP techniques.