Isht Dwivedi

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Education

Columbia University — New York, USA
M.S. in Computer Science, Specialization: Machine Learning, GPA: 3.94/4.00 — *Aug 2017 – Dec 2018*

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati — Guwahati, India
B. Tech., Major: Electronics and Electrical Engg., Minor: Computer Science, GPA: 8.36/10 — *Jul 2012 – Jun 2016*

Publications

Isht Dwivedi, Srikanth Malla, Behzad Dariush, Chiho Choi. "*SSP: Single Shot Future Trajectory Prediction*", International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems **(IROS) 2020**. Link to paper.

Isht Dwivedi*, Athmanarayanan Narayanan*, Behzad Dariush. "*Dynamic Traffic Scene Classification with Space-Time Coherence*", International Conference on Robotics and Automation **(ICRA) 2019**. Link to paper.

Iddo Drori, **Isht Dwivedi**, Pranav Shrestha, Jeffrey Wan, Yueqi Wang, Yunchu He, Anthony Mazza, Hugh Krogh-Freeman, Dimitri Leggas, Kendal Sandridge, Linyong Nan, Kaveri Thakoor, Chinmay Joshi, Sonam Goenka, Chen Keasar, Itsik Pe'er. "*High-Quality Protein Q8 Secondary Structure Prediction by Diverse Neural Network Architectures*", **NeurIPS 2018 Workshop** on Machine Learning for Molecules and Materials. Link to paper.

Ravi Kiran, **Isht Dwivedi**, Abhijat Biswas, Sahil Manocha, V. Babu. "*SketchParse: Towards Rich Descriptions for Poorly Drawn Sketches Using Multi-Task Deep Networks*", ACM Multimedia **(ACM MM) 2017**. Link to paper.

Isht Dwivedi, Swapnil Gupta, V. Venugopal, S. Sundaram. "*Online Writer Identification using Sparse Coding and Histogram based Descriptors*", Oral at International Conference on Frontiers in Handwriting Recognition **(ICFHR, oral) 2016**. Link to paper.

* denotes equal contributions

Work Experience

Honda Research Institute USA — Feb 2019 – Present
Research Engineer — *Mountain View, USA*

- Improved road place classification (see intern project below) performance by redesigning neural network architecture and adding semantic segmentation as auxiliary task. F-score improved from 28% to 40%.
- Road scene understanding with emphasis on unstructured events like construction zones. Bird's Eye View semantic segmentation map is directly predicted from perspective view video stream captured using a front-facing camera mounted on a car. Used COLMAP to create colored 3D point clouds from video snippets which were annotated to synthesize ground truth (Paper to be submitted).
- Future trajectory prediction for all agents in a scene in a single shot in constant time. Single shot nature of this work makes it faster than other works in crowded situations (published at **IROS 2020**). Single shot nature achieved by predicting composite fields from neural network. Non-Local interaction block used to capture interactions between agents. Semantic segmentation features used to make semantically aware predictions.

Honda Research Institute USA — May 2018 – Aug 2018
Research Intern, Dr. Behzad Dariush — *Mountain View, USA*

- Worked on road place and condition classification for videos obtained from a front facing camera mounted on a car. Place classification includes classification of road scenes, road surface conditions, road weather and road type (paper published in **ICRA 2019**). Two stage neural network used – first stage selects candidate video snippet from long video, second stage classifies the snippet.

Active Interpretation of Disparate Alternatives (AIDA) Project — Jan – May 2018
Research credit with Prof. Shih-Fu Chang, Columbia University — *New York City, USA*

- Worked on the AIDA project with Prof. Shih-Fu Chang in the DVMM lab.
- My work involved discovering relevant visual concepts from a given scenario (body of text). Using the discovered visual concepts, I experimented with different methods to create a weakly supervised object detection method for these visual concepts using the Open Images dataset.

Indian Institute of Science, Video Analytics Lab — Aug 2016 – May 2017
Research Intern, Prof. Venkatesh Babu — *Bangalore, India*

- Hierarchical CNN used for semantic segmentation of hand drawn sketches with pose estimation as auxiliary task.
- Fully automatic, works without class information on over 11 classes including cat, car, bird, bicycle and airplane.
- Sketches not required for training: Sketchification process used to convert natural photos to sketch like images.
- Published at **ACMMM 2017**.

Ecole Polytechnique, Laboratoire Leprince-Ringuet May 2015 – Jul 2015
Summer Intern, Prof. Vincent Boudry *Paris, France*

- High energy particles decay in a particle detector generating new particles in a graph like pattern (shower). Designed and implemented an approach to reconstruct vertices of this graph.
- Written in C++, using PCA and Arbor Particle Flow Algorithm, experiments done on Monte Carlo simulations.

Research Projects

Automatic Image Colorization Oct – Dec 2017
Deep Learning Course Project *New York City, USA*

- Automatic Image Colorization of greyscale images using a CNN trained on Places365 dataset.
- Modified MSE loss using attention in images to improve colorization, classification used as an auxiliary task.

Online writer identification Sept – May 2016
Bachelor Thesis Project *Guwahati, India*

- Improvement of 10% obtained over state-of-the-art results for the IAM On-Line Handwriting Database when using only online features at the text-line level.
- Developed novel histogram-based features to represent handwriting characteristics of a writer.
- Codebook developed using sparse coding. Modified Tf-Idf approach used to create document descriptor. One vs. all SVM model used as classifier. Paper (oral) published at **ICFHR 2016**.

Snake Robot with passive wheels and active joints [Video of robot] Jan – Apr 2015
Design Course Project *Guwahati, India*

- Designed and developed a wirelessly controlled snake robot with passive wheels and active joint modules. Motion of robot specifically designed to imitate that of a snake.
- Zigbee protocol used for wireless communication and Arduino Mega 2560 used for control of servo motors.

Patents

US Patent 16374205, "Scene classification", Athmanarayanan Lakshmi Narayanan, **Isht Dwivedi**, Behzad Dariush

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, CS 4995: Deep Learning, Columbia University, Spring 2018
Instructor: Prof. Sameer Maskey

Teaching Assistant, CS 4995: Deep Learning, Columbia University, Fall 2018
Instructor: Prof. Iddo Drori

Relevant Coursework

Graduate level courses: Deep Learning, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, Unsupervised Methods of Learning, Bayesian Models for Machine Learning, Visual Interfaces to Computers, Advanced machine learning for personalization

Undergraduate courses: Computer Vision, Image Processing, Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning, Probability and Random Processes, Digital Signal Processing, Linear Algebra and Real Analysis, Differential Equations and Multi-variable Calculus, Speech Technology

Fellowships

CA Fellow in Spring 2019 semester which allowed for full tuition waiver.

Technical Skills

Programming Languages: Python, C/C++, MATLAB
Tools and Technologies: Pytorch, Tensorflow, Colmap, Caffe