

Nikhil Shah



Education

Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

Bachelor of Technology, Computer Science

Candlewick Public School, Jaipur

High Secondary Examination

Tagore Public School, Jhunjhunu

Secondary Examination

CGPA: 8.85/10 *Jul' 17 – Present*

Aggregate: 91.8%

Apr' 15 – May'17 CGPA: 10/10

Apr'14 – Mar' 15

Research Interests

Machine Learning

Computer Vision

Natural Language Processing

Robotics

Research Experience

Visual Information Processing Lab, IIT Kharagpur

Advisor: Prof. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay

May'19 – Present

[Github]

Design and implementation of algorithms for visual object tracking tasks

- Implemented deep learning based state of the art methods including SiamRPN and SiamMask for visual object tracking
- Devised a new look-ahead approach for processing information from upcoming frames, when tested on KCF, it improves the estimated average overlap (EAO) by more than 5%
- Currently working on integrating the aforementioned approach with a convolutional feature extractor, a region proposal network and a verification network to achieve better results in long term tracking *Research Areas:* Computer Vision, Machine Learning

Center for Artificial Intelligence, IIT Kharagpur

Aug'19 - Present

Advisor: Prof. Sudeshna Sarkar

Context based question answering NLP model

- Developed a bidirectional auto encoder based model which uses the information extracted from context with out of reference knowledge to get the softmax probabilities over all the possible answers to a question
- Extracted the edges based relations from commonsense corporas like ConceptNet and NELL
- Working on making commonsense inclusive word vectors using the relations extracted like ConceptNet Numberbatch Research Areas: Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning

Projects

Kinship Relationship Prediction

May'19 - Jul'19

Kaggle Challenge

[Github]

Predicting if two persons share kinship relationship based solely on the images of their faces

- Developed a Siamese convolutional neural network based model for feature extraction and a dense layer on top of it for binary classification
- Tuned the hyperparameters to achieve more than 85% accuracy on the Face in the Wild dataset *Frameworks/Libraries Used:* TensorFlow, Keras, Pandas

Here I Am, Virtual Assistant *Advisor:* Prof. Sudip Mishra

Feb'19 - Apr'19

[Github]

Task Manager: Term project for the course Software Engineering

- Developed a web application which can be used for scheduling tasks and event reminder along with calendar integrated file management
- Integrated Google custom search API to serve the purpose of web search with filtered recommendations. Languages/Tools Used: HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Java Servlets, MySQL

Intra-University software development competition

[Github]

Optimized information retrieval using query processing specific to legal documents

- Developed a search engine to retrieve relevant information from a database of more than 53000 case reports
- Created four different pipelines to process phrasal as well as natural language queries
- Extracted key information from the original documents and created a new database to improve the search results' accuracy and speed

Language/Tools Used: Python, Flask, Elasticsearch, MongoDB, React

Skills

	Python • C/C++ • Java • JavaScript
Libraries/Frameworks	TensorFlow • PyTorch • OpenCV • Keras
Web/Development	HTML • CSS • Django • Android
Tools	Git • Shell • Unix • Markdown • №TEX • Android Studio

Relevant Courses

Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition		Deep Learning Specialization	Machine Learning
Probability and Statistics	Discrete Structures	Algorithms 1 (L) & 2*	Compiler Design (L)*
Software Engineering (L)	Switching Circuits (L)	Cryptography*	Computer Architecture (L)*

(*marked courses are still ongoing, 'L' marked course have a laboratory component with them)

Awards and Achievements

Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) – Advanced Among top 0.12% of the 0.2 million candidates, ranking 259	2017
Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) – Mains Among top 0.07% of the 1.2 million candidates, ranking 732	2017
National Standard Examination in Astronomy (NSEA) Among top 1% of more than 6000 candidates	2016

Positions of Responsibility

Azad Hall of Residence, IIT Kharagpur

Jul'18 – Apr'19

Secretory Techonology

As the secretory of technology, I was responsible for the participation of the hall team in the Technology General Championship, IIT Kharagpur. Our team won the overall Silver medal with Gold in Hardware Modelling, Silver in OpenSoft and Bronze in Data Analytics.

Space and Technology Society, IIT Kharagpur

Jul'17 - Jun'19

Associate Member, FQTQ

I have organized telescope sessions, workshops on Astrophysics and Astronomy and several other related events for the students of IIT Kharagpur and also for the National Students Space Challenge. I also contributed several articles on Astrophysics and Astronomy to the annual magazine Moonwalk of SpATS.

Extra-Curricular Activities

National Service Scheme, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Jul'17 - Apr'19

Volunteer Member

I organized multiple book distribution, cloth distribution campaigns to help the people of Poriapara village, Kharagpur. I also participated in the data collection for the water and sanitation facilities survey in the nearby villages of Kharagpur.

Sports General Championship, IIT Kharagpur

Jan'18 - Feb'19

Basketball Player

Secured third position among more than 20 teams in both 2018 and 2019 Sports General Championship, IIT Kharagpur