

# Abhinav Java

Research Fellow, Microsoft Research

📧 [java-abhinav07.github.io](https://github.com/java-abhinav07)

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🎓 [Google Scholar](#)

## Education

Delhi Technological University, India

B.Tech. in Computer Engineering

> Research Excellence Award 2022.

08/2018 – 07/2022

## Experience

Microsoft Research, India

Research Fellow with [Amit Sharma](#), [Nagarajan Natarajan](#), [Srivathsan Koundinyan](#)

08/2024 – Present

University of Virginia, Remote

Visiting Researcher with [Chirag Agarwal](#)

03/2024 – 03/2025

Adobe Research, India

Research Associate I, II with [Balaji Krishnamurthy](#)

08/2022 – 08/2024

Adobe Research, India

Research Intern with [Balaji Krishnamurthy](#)

05/2021 – 08/2021

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Remote

Collaborator with [Ayush Chopra](#), [Ramesh Raskar](#)

03/2021 – 10/2022

## Publications

\* denotes joint first authorship

- [1] **Characterizing Deep Research: A Benchmark and Formal Definition** 📄🔗  
[Abhinav Java](#)\*, [Ashmit Khandelwal](#)\*, [Sukruta Midigeshi](#)\*, [Aaron Halfaker](#), [Amit Deshpande](#), [Navin Goyal](#), [Ankur Gupta](#), [Nagarajan Natarajan](#), [Amit Sharma](#)  
*NeurIPS 2025 workshop on Scaling Environments for Agents* [ SEA@NeurIPS '25 ]
- [2] **FrugalRAG: Learning to reason and retrieve for multi-hop QA** 📄🔗  
[Abhinav Java](#), [Srivathsan Koundinyan](#), [Nagarajan Natarajan](#), [Amit Sharma](#)  
*NeurIPS 2025 Workshop on Efficient Reasoning* [ ER@NeurIPS '25 ]
- [3] **Towards Operationalizing Right to Data Protection** 📄🔗  
[Abhinav Java](#)\*, [Simra Shahid](#)\*, [Chirag Agarwal](#)  
*North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics* [ NAACL (Main) '25, MLDPR@ICLR 2025 ]
- [4] **ReEdit: Multimodal Exemplar-Based Image Editing** 📄🔗  
[Ashutosh Srivastava](#)\*, [Tarun Ram](#)\*, [Abhinav Java](#)\*, [Avadhoot Jadav](#), [Silky Singh](#), [Surgan Jandial](#), [Balaji Krishnamurthy](#)  
*Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision* [ WACV '25, AI4VA@ECCV '24 ]
- [5] **All Should Be Equal in the Eyes of LMs: Counterfactually Aware Fair Text Generation** 📄🔗  
[Pragyan Banerjee](#)\*, [Abhinav Java](#)\*, [Surgan Jandial](#)\*, [Simra Shahid](#)\*, [Shaz Furniturewala](#), [Balaji Krishnamurthy](#), [Sumit Bhatia](#)  
*Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence* [ AAAI '24 ]
- [6] **Thinking fair and slow: On the efficacy of structured prompts for debiasing language models** 📄🔗  
[Shaz Furniturewala](#), [Surgan Jandial](#), [Abhinav Java](#), [Pragyan Banerjee](#), [Simra Shahid](#), [Sumit Bhatia](#), [Kokil Jaidka](#)  
*Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing* [ EMNLP (Main) '24 ]
- [7] **One Shot Doc Snippet Detection: Powering Search in Document beyond Text** 📄  
[Abhinav Java](#), [Shripad Deshmukh](#), [Milan Agarwal](#), [Surgan Jandial](#), [Mausoom Sarkar](#), [Balaji Krishnamurthy](#)  
*Winter Conference on Applications of Computer Vision* [ WACV '23 ]
- [8] **Learning to Censor by Noisy Sampling** 📄🔗  
[Ayush Chopra](#), [Abhinav Java](#), [Abhishek Singh](#), [Vivek Sharma](#), [Ramesh Raskar](#)  
*European Conference on Computer Vision* [ ECCV '22 ]

## Patents

- > Personalized form error correction propagation (US Patent 12394236) 📄 2025/08/19
- > One Shot Doc Snippet Detection (US Patent 20250005048A1) 📄 2025/01/02
- > Form structure similarity detection (US Patent 12124497B1) 📄 2024/10/22
- > Systems and methods for data augmentation (US Patent 20240119122A1) 📄 2024/04/11

## Featured Projects and Collaborations

### Efficient Multi-Hop Reasoning for Retrieval Augmented Generation

w/ [Amit Sharma](#), [Nagarajan Natarajan](#), [Srivathsan Koundinyan](#)

08/2024 – Present

Microsoft Research

- > Led the development of a project to create efficiently adaptable and low-latency RAG system with SLMs.
- > Proposed FrugalRAG: by learning efficient use of test-time compute using reinforcement learning
- > Achieved SoTA recall with 100x ↓ examples, 2x ↓ latency. [ES-FoMo@ICML'25, ER@NeurIPS'25]

### Rethinking Taskonomy in the era of Large Vision Language Models

w/ [Vineeth N Balasubramanian](#)

04/2025 - Present

Microsoft Research

- > Proposed the first systematic framework to study transferability of perception tasks in Vision-Language Models (VLMs).
- > Introduced a novel metric to quantify cross-task influence in VLM finetuning. [NeurIPS UniReps@NeurIPS'25]
- > Revealed actionable insights – beneficial task cliques and transfer trends for effective finetuning strategies.

### A Model Agnostic Approach to Create Unlearnable Text Datasets

w/ [Chirag Agarwal](#)

03/2024 – 03/2025

University of Virginia

- > Developed the first model-agnostic, efficient unlearnable text data generation framework for user data privacy.
- > Proposed RegText: a mechanism to perturb sensitive datasets using information-theoretic insights. [NAACL'25]
- > Demonstrated that finetuning large models like GPT-4o on our datasets drops their performance below zero-shot level!

### Protecting Private Information in 3D Point Clouds for Perception Tasks

w/ [Ayush Chopra](#), [Ramesh Raskar](#)

03/2021 – 10/2022

Camera Culture, MIT Media Lab

- > Designed an approach to simplify the release of sensitive point cloud data with privacy protection (e.g. medical scans).
- > Implemented CBNS: an end-to-end differentiable sampler and a novel loss to protect point clouds from adversaries.
- > Demonstrated improved privacy-utility tradeoffs with CBNS on perception tasks on 3D face datasets. [ECCV'22]

### Rethinking Neural Networks with Benford's Law


w/ [Yannic Kilcher](#)

04/2021 – 10/2021

Independent

- > Co-developed a metric, Model Enthalpy (MLH), that measures the closeness of NN parameters to Benford's Law.
- > Developed a method for early-stopping w/o validation sets on shallow NNs using MLH. [ML4PS@NeurIPS'21]

## Leadership, Invited Talks, and Service

Fireside Chat on Deep Research, Plutos Dev. *Speaker* 


Fall 2025

AI Summer School, Delhi Technological University. *Career Talk*

Summer 2025

Oral Talk, AAAI. *On the Efficacy of Prompting for Debiasing LLMs*

Winter 2024

Pre-placement Talk, Delhi Technological University. *Adobe Hiring* 

Summer 2024

Team UAS-DTU, Delhi Technological University. *Vice Captain, Software & Airframes Technician*

2019 - 2020

- > Secured a funding of \$1M from Adani Group for building Drone Swarm for disaster relief.

- > Won the best communication architecture prize of INR 250K in IAF National Competition. [Media]

Reviewer: ICLR '26, CVPR '25, KDD '24, CVPR'24, U&ME@ECCV'24, WACV'23, ML4PS@NeurIPS'22, ECCV'22

## Honors and Awards

**NeurIPS Scholar Award, 2025** Awarded funding for travel to NeurIPS 2025 to present my work.

**AAAI Oral Talk, 2024** Selected for an invited talk at AAAI 2024, Student Abstract Track.

**Research Excellence Award, 2022** Awarded for undergraduate research during undergrad (1 in approx 2000).

**Semester Merit Award, 2021** For securing *University Rank 1* in the 5th Semester (1 in approx 2000).

**Joint Entrance Exams, 2018** Secured 99.35 percentile in Main and 97.5 percentile in Advanced (Top 1–2% in 1.2 million).

**National Talent Search Exam, 2017** Qualified Stage 1 (Top 1–2% in 1.2 million).

## Select Coursework

- > **Mathematics:** Discrete Math, Linear Algebra, Probability & Statistics, Modeling and Simulation.
- > **Machine Learning:** Pattern Recognition, Computer Vision, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing, CS231n-Stanford (MOOC), Reinforcement Learning, Big Data Analytics
- > **Computer Science:** Object Oriented Programming, Data Structures, Algorithms, Software Engineering, Database Management Systems, Operating Systems, Computer Networks