Jwala Dhamala

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Research Interests

Deep learning, Machine learning, Natural language understanding, Generative models, Fair, interpretable and robust models, Healthcare applications.

Education

Ph.D. in Computing and Information Sciences 2014 - 2020 GPA: 3.93/4.00

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY, US

Advisor: Dr. Linwei Wang

B.E. in Computer Engineering

2008 - 2012 Pulchowk Campus, Tribhuvan University, Nepal with Distinction

Experience

Research Scientist

Alexa AI - Natural Language Understanding

Cambridge, MA, US

Research Assistant 2014 - 2019

Computational Biomedicine Lab

Rochester Institute of Technology, NY, US

Research focus: Machine/deep learning approaches to integrate measurements with physics-based simulations for probabilistic personalization of the simulation models. Experience with machine learning methods like Gaussian processes, Bayesian optimization and MCMC; and deep learning methods like variational auto-encoders (VAE) and geometric deep learning.

Research Intern 2018

Philips Healthcare, Cambridge, MA, US

Research focus: Unsupervised representation learning and similarity assessment of multi-variate time-series physiological signals. Experience with RNNs, LSTMs and approximate nearest neighbor methods.

Software Engineer

2012 - 2014

2019 - Present

Business Intelligence Department

Logic Information Systems, Nepal

Focus: Worked and lead projects on ETL for data warehousing and statistical data analysis for business intelligence dashboards. Designed and conducted training sessions for interns.

Research Intern 2012

Business Intelligence Department

Logic Information Systems, Nepal

Research Focus: Data mining and data visualization. Experience with clustering, market basket analysis and multilayered perception.

Journal Articles Embedding High-dimensional Bayesian Optimization via Generative Modeling: Parameter Personalization of Cardiac Electrophysiological Models J. Dhamala, H. J. Arevalo, J. Sapp, M. Horáček, K. C. Wu, N. A. Trayanova & L. Wang Medical Image Analysis (MedIA), 2020, invited

Quantifying the Uncertainty in Model Parameters using Gaussian Process-based Markov Chain Monte Carlo in Cardiac Electrophysiology

J. Dhamala, H. J. Arevalo, J. Sapp, M. Horáček, K. C. Wu, N. A. Trayanova & L. Wang Medical Image Analysis (MedIA), 2018

Multivariate Time-series Similarity Assessment via Unsupervised Representation Learning and Stratified Locality Sensitive Hashing: Application to Early Acute

Hypotensive Episode Detection

J. Dhamala, E. Azuh, A. Al-Dujaili, J. Rubin & U. M. O'Reilly IEEE Sensors Letters, 2018

Spatially Adaptive Multi-scale Optimization for Local Parameter Estimation in Cardiacelectrophysiology

J. Dhamala, H. J. Arevalo, J. Sapp, M. Horáček, K. C. Wu, N. A. Trayanova & L. Wang IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging (IEEE TMI), 2017

Conference Articles

BOLD: Dataset and Metrics for Measuring Biases in Open-Ended Language Gen-

J. Dhamala*, T. Sun*, V. Kumar, S. Krishna, Y. Pruksachatkun, K. Chang & R. Gupta ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT), 2021

Learning Geometry-Dependent and Physics-Based Inverse Image Reconstruction X. Jiang, S. Ghimire, J. Dhamala, Z. Li, P. K. Gyawali & L. Wang Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2020

Bayesian Optimization on Large Graphs via a Graph Convolutional Generative Model: Application in Cardiac Model Personalization

J. Dhamala, S. Ghimire, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2019 early acceptance (selection rate $\sim 15\%$), finalist for young scientist award

Improving Generalization of Deep Networks for Inverse Reconstruction of Image

S. Ghimire, P. K. Gyawali, J. Dhamala, J. L. Sapp, J. L., Horáček, M., and Wang, L. Information Processing in Medical Imaging (IPMI), 2019 oral presentation

High-dimensional Bayesian Optimization of Personalized Cardiac Model Parameters via an Embedded Generative Model

J. Dhamala, S. Ghimire, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2018 oral presentation, finalist for young scientist award (selection rate $\sim 1\%$)

Generative Modeling and Inverse Imaging of Cardiac Transmembrane Potential S. Ghimire, J. Dhamala, P. K. Gyawali, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2018

Quantifying the Uncertainty in Model Parameters using Gaussian Process-based Markov Chain Monte Carlo: an Application to Cardiac Electrophysiological Mod-

J. Dhamala, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang Information Processing in Medical Imaging (IPMI), 2017 acceptance rate $\sim 30\%$

Overcoming Barriers to Quantification and Comparison of Electrocardiographic Imaging Methods: a Community-based Approach

S. Ghimire, J. Dhamala, J. Coll-Font, J. D. Tate, M. S. Guillem, D. H. Brooks, R. S. MacLeod & L. Wang

Computing in Cardiology (CinC), 2017

The Consortium for Electrocardiographic Imaging

J. Coll-Font, J. Dhamala, D. Potyagaylo, W. H. Schulze, J. D. Tate, M. S. Guillem, P. Van Dam, O. Dossel, D. H. Brooks & R. S. Macleod Computing in Cardiology (CinC), 2016

Spatially-adaptive Multi-scale Optimization for Local Parameter Estimation: Application in Cardiac Electrophysiological Models

J. Dhamala, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang

Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), 2016

early acceptance, selection rate $\sim 10\%$

Technical Skills

Languages: Python, MATLAB

Deep Learning Framework: PyTorch Misc: Bash scripting, LATEX typesetting, Git

Basic familiarity: R, Java, C, C++, HTML, PHP, MySQL

Workshop Articles

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Efficient Neural Architecture Search for Sentence-Pair Tasks

A. MacLaughlin, **J. Dhamala**, A. Kumar, S. Venkatapathy, R. Venkatesan & R. Gupta Workshop on Insights from Negative Results in NLP, EMNLP, 2021

High-dimensional Bayesian Optimization of Personalized Cardiac Model Parameters via an Embedded Generative Model

J. Dhamala, S. Ghimire, J. L. Sapp, B. M. Horáček & L. Wang Women in Machine Learning (WiML), 2018

Multivariate Time-series Similarity Assessment via Unsupervised Representation Learning and Stratified Locality Sensitive Hashing: Application to Early Acute Hypotensive Episode Detection

J. Dhamala, E. Azuh, A. Al-Dujaili, J. Rubin, and U. M. O'Reilly. NeurIPS Machine Learning in Healthcare (NeurIPS ML4H), 2018

Scholarships & awards

Travel Grant, NeurIPS Machine learning for Health Workshop (ML4H)	2018
Travel Grant, Woman in Machine Learning (WiML)	2018
Travel Grant, MICCAI	2016, 2018
IPMI Scholarship for Junior Scientists, IPMI	2017
GCCIS Student Grant, Rochester Institute of Technology	2017
Graduate Student Travel Award, Rochester Institute of Technology	2015
Women in Engineering Scholarship, University Grants	
Commission, Nepal	2010-2011
The College Fellowship Scholarship, Granted 8/8 semesters	
based on academic merit, Tribhuvan University	2008-2012
Golden Jubilee Scholarship, Government of India	2008-2012
Full-tuition waiver, Based on the performance on a countrywide	
university entrance examination, Institute of Engineering,	
Tribhuvan University	2008-2012
Mahatma Gandhi Scholarship, Government of India	2006-2007

Professional activities

Reviewing

Conference: MICCAI	2017-2021
Workshop: Woman in Machine Learning (WiML)	2018
Journal: IEEE Sensors Letters	2018
Journal: Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics	2018
Journal: Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence	2021

Organization

Workshop on Measures and Best Practices for Responsible AI	2021
ACM SIGKDD Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining	

TrustNLP: Workshop on Trustworthy Natural Language Processing 2021 North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)

Pre-orientation program 2017

Woman in Computing, Rochester Institute of Technology

Workshop on Premature Ventricular Contractions Localization 2016, 2017 Computing in Cardiology, Consortium of Electrocardiographic Imaging

LOCUS - Technological Festival

2012

Institute of Engineering, Pulchowk Campus

Invited talks

Applications of Deep Learning to Multi-scale Physics-based Simulators

National Workshop on Machine Learning and Data Science, 2020 Kathmandu, Nepal (Online Event)

Model Personalization and Uncertainty Quantification in Cardiac Electrophysiological Models

Ph.D. Colloquium Series, 2018 College of Computing and Information Sciences, Rochester Institute of Technology Rochester, NY, US

Personalization and Uncertainty Quantification in Cardiac Electrophysiological Models

Signal Processing Imaging Reasoning and Learning (SPIRAL) Seminar, 2018 Northeastern University, Boston, MA, US