

Karan Samel

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<https://karans.github.io/>

My current research revolves around joining deep learning with symbolic reasoning to reduce the number of labels required. I am also interested in structured prediction methods, and ML in the domain of healthcare and drug discovery applications.

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

August 2019 - Present

Ph.D. in Machine Learning - Advisor: Prof. Le Song

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

August 2014 - May 2017

B.S in Computer Science, Applied Statistics - Graduated with Highest Distinction

EXPERIENCE

Georgia Institute of Technology: Research Assistant

August 2019 - Present

- Researching incorporating structure into multi-modal tasks, such as visual question answering, to reduce label and computation complexities. This is done through primarily neuro-symbolic methods.

IBM Research AI: Research Intern

June 2020 - August 2020

- Developed methods for complex time series events using deep learning and logical reasoning, primarily focusing on video data. Worked within the continuous AI team.

Astound: Data Scientist

July 2017 – June 2019

- Researched and engineered human-in-the-loop machine learning systems to improve data quality. Method developed is optimized to reduce human annotator feedback while maximizing the performance of deep learning models. Resulting paper accepted at KDD'18.
- Developed transfer learning methods to improve a deep learning model performance given limited data.

Undergraduate Researcher: Advertisement Real Time Bidding Predictions *August 2015 – May 2017*

- Tested various deep learning architectures to predict customer clicks on the iPinYou advertisement dataset. Achieved high prediction scores even with sparse positive click data.
- Utilized an external GPU setup to speed up convolutional network training by a factor of 80.

PUBLICATIONS

DePe: Differentiable End-to-end Program Executor for Sample and Computationally Efficient VQA

Karan Samel, Zelin Zhao, Kuan Wang, Robin Luo, Binghong Chen, Le Song
Under review at the *International Conference of Learning Representations (ICLR) 2021*

Abductive Visual Question Answering for Label Efficient Learning

Karan Samel, Binghong Chen, Le Song

Preprint 2020. [\[PDF\]](#)

Active Deep Learning to Tune Down the Noise in Labels

Karan Samel, Xu Miao

In *Proceedings of the 24th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining (KDD'18)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 685-694. [\[PDF\]](#)

Predicting Advertisement Clicks Using Deep Networks: Interpreting Deep Learning Models

Karan Samel, Xiao Wang, Qiang Liu

In *The Journal of Purdue Undergraduate Research*: Vol. 7, Article 8. [\[PDF\]](#)

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Georgia Tech President's Fellowship (2019 - 2023)
- NSF GRFP Honorable Mention: Relational Recursive Models for Trustable Medical Diagnoses (2019)
- KDD Startup Research Award (2018)
- NSF Mentoring Through Critical Transition Points in the Mathematical Sciences: Purdue Statistics Living Learning Community (Grant No. 1246818) (2016 - 2017)
- Purdue Presidential Scholarship (Awarded for 2014 - 2018)

PENDING PATENTS

A Method and System for Composite Event Estimation Through Temporal Logic (IBM, filing pending)

Karan Samel, Dharmashankar Subramanian

Framework for Building and Sharing Machine Learning Components (Astound.ai, filed 2020)

Xu Miao, Masayo Iida, Zhenjie Zhang, **Karan Samel**, Adil Mohammed, Baiji He, Ankit Arya, Naghi Prasad

Active Deep Learning to Reduce Noise in Labels (Astound.ai, filed 2019)

Karan Samel, Xu Miao, Zhenjie Zhang, Masayo Iida, Naghi Prasad