Kshitij Goyal

GitHub | Personal webpage

PhD Researcher in Machine Learning

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Experience

PhD Researcher @ DTAI lab, KU Leuven

Oct' 2018- present

Topic: Machine Learning for Verifiable Artificial Intelligence; Advisor: Prof. Hendrik Blockeel

- Learning Models that Provably Satisfy Domain Constraints
- Developed a new framework and an optimisation approach to learn models that can **certify domain constraints** (e.g., safety constraints, fairness constraints) for **all possible predictions**.
- Proposed a constraint propagation technique to propagate domain constraints through a neural network.
- Proposed multiple **novel evaluation metrics** to accurately measure constraint satisfaction of the learned models.
- Automatic Playlist Generation for a Music Streaming Service (awarded the best paper at BNAIC'22)
- Developed an approach to **automatically identify** dynamic public playlist given **only positive examples**.
- Proposed a clustering based method to **identify** new public playlists from user data, leading to an identification of more than **50** new playlists previously not identified by the music experts.
- Identifying Feature Interaction Constraints to Improve Predictive Performance in Tree Based Models
 - Conceptualised an approach to use the **feature interactions** from the data, calculated using **mutual information**, as constraints in the existing XGBoost framework.
 - Interaction Constraints led to an average **improvement of 5%** in the performance for various regression problems.

Business Analyst - Zynga Games, Bangalore, India

April - Sep' 2017

• Analysed key performance metrics for multiple mobile games to **provide insights** for business strategies in addition to developing an **in-house tool** to perform A/B tests on newly rolled updates.

Business Analyst - Accenture Management Consulting, Bangalore, India

June 2014 - Mar' 2017

- As part of a team, developed **fraud detection techniques** for a reliability management system for an automotive giant to **reduce post-sale expenses**. Proposed approach resulted in a projected **reduction** in warranty spend by **\$249** over the course of 4 years.
- Optimised stock levels at central warehouses across multiple locations for a European telecom giant. **Improved** the total stock value by **9%** by proposing a **rebalancing solution** between different warehouses.

Data Analyst Intern - Media iQ Digital, Bangalore, India

May - July 2013

• Developed forecasting models to predict digital impressions won by an airline carrier for a given bid.

Education

MSc in Artificial Intelligence, KU Leuven (graduated magna cum laude) Sep'2017 - Sep'2018 Master thesis: Proposed and implemented a variant of the classic RankNet approach of ranking documents which personalises the results based on user profiles.

MSc (Integrated) in Mathematics and Scientific Computing, IIT Kanpur, India June 2009 - May 2014 Master thesis: Analysis of middle censored data under a shifted exponential distribution

Skills

General: Machine Learning · Constrained Optimisation · Satisfiability and Logic · Deep Learning · Data Mining

Programming: Python · SQL · R · Java

Libraries: PyTorch · NumPy · Scikit-learn · Pandas · XGBoost · Altair · z3py · Scoop

Languages: English (Full Professional Proficiency) · Hindi (Native)

Publications

1. Feature Interactions in XGBoost. (pdf)

AIMLAI-ECML 2019

K. Goyal, S. Dumancic, H Blockeel

2. SaDe: Learning Models that Provably Satisfy Domain Constraints. (pdf)

ECML 2022

K. Goyal, S. Dumancic, H Blockeel

3. Automatic Generation of Product Concepts from Positive Examples. (pdf)

BNAIC 2022

K. Goyal, W. Meert, H. Blockeel, E. V. Wolputte, K. Vanderstraeten, W. Pijpops, K. Jaspers

4. DeepSaDe: Provably Satisfying Domain Constraints in Neural Networks.

K. Goyal, S. Dumancic, H Blockeel

(In submission)

Leadership & Awards

•	Teaching assistant for three courses: taught exercise sessions and prepared assignments	2018 - 2022
•	Thesis advisor to 5 students: projects in areas of personalised search, music streaming, game theory &	
	constrained learning	2018 - 2022
•	Department representative for the thesis administration for MSc Computer Science at KU Leuven	2019 - 2022
•	Research paper reviewer for ECML'19 and ECML'22	
•	Received the best paper award at BNAIC'22	
•	Awarded 2nd prize at the KU Leuven Datathon	2017-2018
•	Participated in the DeepLearn Summer School, Gran Canaria	2022
•	Awarded the prestigious INSPIRE scholarship by the government of India for undergraduate studies	2009-2014