# Vishvak Murahari

vishvakmurahari.com

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, USA

Masters of Science in Computer Science (Specialization: Machine Learning)

Aug 2018 - Present

GPA: 4.0/4.0

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, USA

Bachelors of Science in Computer Science (Specialization: Artificial Intelligence and Devices)

Aug 2015 - May 2018

GPA: 3.96/4.0 (Highest Honors)

Research Interests

Natural Language Processing, Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Computer Vision

Publications

Large-scale Pretraining for Visual Dialog: A Simple State-of-the-Art Baseline [Paper] [Code]

Vishvak Murahari, Dhruv Batra, Devi Parikh, Abhishek Das

arxiv preprint

Improving Generative Visual Dialog by Answering Diverse Questions [Paper] [Code] [Poster]

Vishvak Murahari, Prithivijit Chattopadhyay, Dhruy Batra, Devi Parikh, Abhishek Das

Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) 2019

On attention models for human activity recognition [Paper]

Vishvak Murahari, Thomas Ploetz

International Symposium on Wearable Computers (ISWC) 2018

## AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Awarded Faculty Honors by Georgia Tech for 5 out of 6 semesters in my undergraduate degree.
- Represented India at the World Robotics Olympiad in 2013 and 2014.
- Selected for the prestigious NTSE scholarship offered by the Govt. of India
- Awarded 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the Indian Robotic Olympiad, 2014 and placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Indian Robotic Olympiad, 2013.

Work Experience

MICROSOFT Redmond, WA

Engineering Intern

May 2019 - July 2019

- Built data-driven models to do query re-formulation and improve email search relevance in Outlook 365.
- Built ML models to detect and update irrelevant user search queries.

MICROSOFT Redmond, WA

Engineering Intern

May 2018 - July 2018

- Built a real-time ML architecture to recommend game suggestions to Xbox users. Preliminary results show significant improvement in engagement.
- Developed Gradient Boosted Tree Models to learn user engagement behavior on the Xbox Console given user behavior history over multiple days and weeks.
- Designed objective evaluation metrics to gauge user engagement.

MICROSOFT Redmond, WA

Engineering Intern

May 2017 - July 2017

- Designed a low latency system in C# to process privacy requests from Windows users to delete sensitive personal data.
- Designed a delete processor to back a highly scalable privacy dashboard for all Windows 10 users.
- Developed an algorithm to predict server running costs for teams at Microsoft.

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PEGA Atlanta, GA

Engineering Intern May 2016 - July 2016

• Automated daily business processes by creating bot agents to automatically navigate business applications.

- Developed a bot creation framework in C# for PEGA clients to accelerate creation of task-specific bots.
- Designed an intuitive user interface for analysts to interact with and deploy bots with ease.

#### Teaching

### Introduction to Robotics and Perception

Atlanta, GA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2018,2019; Spring 2018,2019

- Advised more than 300 students on robotic planning, control and localization.
- Collaborated with co-TAs to create projects on robot localization.

## Introduction to Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Atlanta, GA

 $Teaching\ Assistant$ 

Fall 2017, Spring 2017

Guided more than 300 students on AI projects ranging from probabilistic inference to Neural Networks,
Optimization and Reinforcement Leaning.

## Computing for Engineers

Atlanta, GA

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2016, Spring 2016

- Advised more than 1000 students on MATLAB projects introducing the fundamentals of computing.
- Taught a 90 minute weekly recitation and collaborated with co-TAs to create weekly assignments.

## Selected Projects

## Real-time Gesture Recognition on Wearables

- Designed a novel machine learning pipeline for real time gesture recognition on off-the-shelf devices.
- Deployed the system on Google Glass and optimized performance in everyday settings.

# How much should you rent your home for? A recommendation tool for renting Airbnbs

• Devised Machine Learning approaches to model Airbnb prices by leveraging both Airbnb and Zillow listings and created interactive map-based visualizations of average prices across the United States.

## **Everybody Dance Now**

• Implementation of Chan et. al (ICCV 19)

## Autonomous Robotics: Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC)

• Developed an intelligent algorithm for an autonomous robot to detect waypoints in a multi-terrain outdoor environment for IGVC, an inter-collegiate robotics competition.

#### SkinScan: A simple skin cancer detection approach with Deep Learning

• Designed a skin cancer detection approach by finetuning GoogLeNet on datasets containing images of cancerous patches of skin.

### SERVICE ROLES AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

## Challenge Organization Visual Dialog Challenge

Workshop Organization

CVPR 2020

Visual Question Answering and Dialog Workshop

CVPR 2020

#### SKILLS

- Languages: Python, C, C++, C#, Java, MATLAB
- Frameworks: PyTorch, NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, Open CV
- DevOps: Amazon Web Services, Google Cloud
- Version Control: Git
- Mobile Applications: Android

### Selected Coursework

- Mathematical Foundations of ML Deep Learning NLP Machine Learning Adaptive Control and RL
- ML Theory Computer Vision Algorithms Data and Visual Analytics Systems and Networks