Koustuv Sinha

CONTACT Information

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RESEARCH Interests Generative Language Models and Dialog Systems, Text Representation and Reasoning, Linguistics

EDUCATION

McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

PhD Candidate, School of Computer Science, September 2018 - present

• Advised by: Dr Joelle Pineau

MSc Thesis, School of Computer Science, September 2016 - August 2018

- Thesis: Hierarchical text classification of large-scale topics: a Neural approach
- Advised by: Dr Derek Ruths
- GPA: 3.94/4
- Courses: Applied Machine Learning (Comp 551, Fall 16), Network Science Seminar (Comp 767, Fall 16), Machine Learning (Comp 652, Winter 17), Cultural Analytics (LLCU 614, Winter 17), Neural Networks and NLP (LING 751, Fall 17), Reinforcement Learning (Comp 767, Winter 18)

Institute of Engineering & Management, West Bengal, India

B.Tech., Department of Computer Science & Engineering, August 2010 - May 2014

- Advised by Prof Ee-kian Wong
- Degree Grade Point Average (DGPA): 9.16 / 10
- Senior Project: MongoLive Browser Based utility library for Offline Synchronization with MongoDB
- Key Courses: Algorithms & Design, Natural Languages & Processing, Formal Languages & Automata Theory, Networking & Communication, Database Management Systems, Computer Architecture & Organization, Operating Systems, Discrete Mathematics & Probability

Jodhpur Park Boys School, West Bengal, India

Higher Secondary, July 2008 - May 2010

- Percentage Obtained: 84.6%
- Key Courses: Physics, Chemistry, Maths, Statistics

Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Narendrapur, West Bengal, India

Secondary, May 2002 - April 2008

- Percentage Obtained: 91.1%
- Key Courses : General Science & Computer Applications

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, Montreal, QC, Canada

Research Intern Summer 2018

McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

 $Research\ Associate,$ Dialog Group, $RL\ Lab$

June 2017 - present

Supervised by Dr. Joelle Pineau

Research Associate, Network Dynamics Lab September 2016 - August 2018 Supervised by Dr. Derek Ruths and collaboration

with David Jurgens

Research Associate, txtLab - NovelTM Project September 2016 - August 2017 Supervised by Dr. Andrew Piper

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India

Senior Project Associate

September 2015 - March 2016

Department of Computer Science & Engineering

Supervised by Dr. Arnab Bhattacharya & Dr. Koumudi Patil

- Google Transparency IIT Kanpur Initiative supported by Google to create a mobile platform in which users can interact with Government regarding public projects
- Lesen Android Application text reader for the blind, capable of reading aloud text from images, signages and posters. 2nd prize winner in Goldman Sachs Able Solutions competition

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

Teaching Assistant, COMP 652 Machine Learning

Fall 2018

Riashat Islam, Dr Audrey Durand

Teaching Assistant, COMP 551 Applied Machine Learning

Fall 2017,

Prof. Dr. Joelle Pineau, Dr Herke Van Hoof, Sarath Chandar,

Ryan Lowe Winter 2018

Teaching Assistant, COMP 102B Computers & Computing

Winter 2017

Prof. Dr. Derek Ruths

Teaching Assistant, COMP 189 Computers & Society

Prof. Dr. Derek Ruths

Fall 2016

Professional Experience Nomura Research Institute Financial Technologies India Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Associate Software Engineer

August 2014 - August 2015

- Developer Role : Front End Engineer
- Projects Developed :
 - \bullet R & D project involving implementation and feasibility study of UX technology shift from Flash based application to modern HTML5 & AngularJS
 - UX Upgradation of company product Finch, framework for financial application development, from old design to new responsive Mobile Friendly Material design

INVITED TALKS

• On the unreasonable complexity of detecting social interactions in literature, Digital Humanities (DH) 2017, July'17, McGill University, Montreal

PUBLICATIONS

- Koustuv Sinha, Yue Dong, Jackie Chi-kit Cheung and Derek Ruths; A Hierarchical Neural Attention-based Text Classifier, Empirical Methods of Natural language Processing (EMNLP), 2018
- Koustuv Sinha, Nicolas Angelard-Gontier, Peter Henderson, Prasanna Parthasarathy, Mike Noseworthy; Reasoning & Learning Lab Chatbot, NIPS 2017 Conversational Intelligence Challenge Finalist
- Peter Henderson, Koustuv Sinha, Nicolas Angelard-Gontier, Nan Rosemary Ke, Genevieve Fried, Ryan Lowe, Joelle Pineau; Ethical Challenges in Data-Driven Dialogue Systems, AAAI/ACM conference on Ethics and Safety, 2017

ACTIVITIES

- Student Volunteer, 11th International Conference on Web and Social Media, 2017, Montreal
- VP Social and Finance, Computer Science Graduate Society (CSGS), McGill University, Fall 2017 to present
- Hosted Nodeschool's inaugural IEM Kolkata Chapter in Institute of Engineering & Management, Kolkata, which is an international open sourced volunteer based JavaScript community, committed to teach JS in a hands-on coding workshop format.
- Taught and Mentored young middle school students of Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Narendrapur to introduce them to the world of programming in C and databases in MySQL, as a part of Alumni Association Inititative.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- Fonds Nature et Technologies Quebec (FRQNT) scholarship for Master level study in Computer Science, 2018
- Facebook ParlAI Grant for project proposal Multi-model dialog generation with Off-Policy Q Learning, Fall 2017
- Pierre Arbour Foundation Scholarship for Master level study in Computer Science & Engineering, 2017-18
- Sridharacharya Prize for Computer Excellency awarded due to consistent Highest Marks in Computer Science at Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya, Narendrapur, 2007

References Available on request.

More Information LinkedIn Profile

https://in.linkedin.com/in/koustuvsinha.

Github Profile

https://github.com/koustuvsinha.