

# Kshiteesh Hegde

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📁 [hegde.ai](https://github.com/hegde.ai)

## Current Position

July 2018 – **Western Digital**, *Core Analytics Team*, San Jose, CA.  
Present Principal Engineer, Data Engineering

## Education

2013 – 2018 **Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute**, Troy, NY.  
PhD – Computer Science  
2011 – 2013 **University of Minnesota**, Minneapolis, MN.  
MS – Computer Science  
2007 – 2011 **Visvesvaraya Technological University**, Mysuru, India.  
BEng – Electronics & Communication

## Experience

Summer 2017 **Pacific Northwest National Laboratory**, Richland, WA.  
PhD Intern – Data Science  
Summer 2015 **US Army Research Laboratory**, Adelphi, MD.  
Visiting Student Researcher  
2013 – 2018 **Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute**, Troy, NY.  
Graduate Research/Teaching Assistant  
2012 – 2013 **University of Minnesota**, Minneapolis, MN.  
Graduate Research Assistant

## Publications

- 2024 *Cause and Effect: Can Large Language Models Truly Understand Causality?*  
S. Ashwani, **K. Hegde**, N. R. Mannuru, M. Jindal, D. S. Sengar, K. C. R. Kathala,  
D. Banga, V. Jain, A. Chadha  
AAAI Fall Symposium – AI Trustworthiness & Risk Assessment for Challenged Contexts
- 2019 *The Intrinsic Scale of Networks is Small*  
M. Magdon-Ismail and **K. Hegde**  
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM)
- 2019 *Network Lens: Node Classification in Topologically Heterogeneous Networks*  
**K. Hegde** and M. Magdon-Ismail  
arXiv preprint arXiv:1901.09681
- 2018 *Network Signatures from Image Representation of Adjacency Matrices: Deep/Transfer Learning for Subgraph Classification*  
**K. Hegde**, M. Magdon-Ismail, R. Ramanathan and B. Thapa  
KDD – International Workshop on Mining and Learning with Graphs

- 2018 *Separating Terrorist-Like Topological Signatures Embedded in Benign Networks*  
**K. Hegde** and M. Magdon-Ismail  
 IEEE Military Communications Conference (MILCOM)
- 2016 *Recommendations for Streaming Data*  
 K. Subbian, C. Aggarwal and **K. Hegde**  
 ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)
- 2016 *Clustering, Prominence and Social Network Analysis on Incomplete Networks*  
**K. Hegde**, M. Magdon-Ismail, B. Szymanski and K. Kuzmin  
 International Workshop on Complex Networks and their Applications

## Service

- 2024 *Session Chair*, ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)
- 2024 *Session Chair*, SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM)
- 2023 *Session Chair*, IEEE Military Communications Conference (MILCOM)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)
- 2023 *Area Chair*, International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, ACM Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, IEEE International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN)
- 2023 *Reviewer*, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing
- 2023 *Reviewer*, Artificial Intelligence for the Earth Systems (AIES)
- 2022 *Reviewer*, IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing
- 2017 *Reviewer*, IEEE Transactions on Computational Social Systems
- 2012 *Student Volunteer*, IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA)

## Invited Talks & Presentations

- Nov 2024 *Cause and Effect: Can Large Language Models Truly Understand Causality?*  
 AAAI Fall Symposium – AI Trustworthiness & Risk Assessment for Challenged Contexts  
 Arlington, VA
- Aug 2019 *The Intrinsic Scale of Networks is Small* (Virtual) ([YouTube](#))  
 Advances in Social Network Analysis and Mining (ASONAM)  
 Vancouver, BC
- Oct 2018 *Separating Terrorist-Like Topological Signatures Embedded in Benign Networks*  
 IEEE Military Communications Conference (MILCOM)  
 Los Angeles, CA
- Aug 2018 *Network Signatures from Image Representation of Adjacency Matrices: Deep/Transfer Learning for Subgraph Classification* (Virtual)  
 International Workshop on Mining and Learning with Graphs (MLG) at KDD  
 London, UK

Oct 2016 *Recommendations for Streaming Data* – Poster  
ACM International Conference on Information and Knowledge Management (CIKM)  
Indianapolis, IN

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## Awards

- 2017 Best Business Insights, Rensselaer Institute for Data Exploration and Applications (IDEA) Datathon, **K. Hegde**, M. Tsikhanovich, G. Samuel and A. Choudhury
- 2016 Special Interest Group on Information Retrieval (SIGIR) Student Travel Grant (CIKM)
- 2015 Rotational Program US Army Research Laboratory (ARL)
- 2015 Appreciation for Service to the Computer Science Department
- 2015 3rd place, Rensselaer Institute for Data Exploration and Applications (IDEA) Datathon, **K. Hegde** and H. Weideman

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## Teaching

- Fall 2013 *Teaching Assistant*, CSCI 6965 Introduction to Computational Finance
- Fall 2014 *Teaching Assistant and Recitation Instructor*, CSCI 2200 Foundations of Computer Science

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## Varsity

- 2013-2015 *Team Captain*, Table Tennis, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – Troy, NY
- 2012 *Team Member*, Table Tennis, University of Minnesota – Minneapolis, MN

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## Research Interests

Machine Learning, Recommender Systems, Network Science, Social Network Analysis, Neural Networks, Natural Language Processing, Large Language Models