

# Kulin Shah

Research Fellow, Microsoft Research India

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## EDUCATION

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**International Institute of Information Technology, Hyderabad**

B. Tech (Honours) in Computer Science and Engineering

August 2015 - July 2019

GPA: 9.01/10

## PUBLICATIONS

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1. **DEAN: Deep Explainable Abstain Network**  
Bhavya Kalra, **Kulin Shah**, Naresh Manwani  
Submitted to Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (**CVPR**), 2021.
2. **Rawlsian Fair Adaptation of Deep Learning Classifiers** [pdf]  
Chiranjib Bhattacharyya\*, Amit Deshpande\*, Pooja Gupta\*, **Kulin Shah\*** (\* - alphabetical order)  
Submitted to International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics (**AISTATS**), 2021.
3. **Learning and Generalization in Univariate Overparameterized Normalizing Flows** [pdf]  
**Kulin Shah**, Amit Deshpande, Navin Goyal  
Submitted to International Conference on Learning Representations (**ICLR**), 2021.
4. **Online Active Learning for Reject Option Classifier** [pdf]  
**Kulin Shah**, Naresh Manwani  
AAAI conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), 2020 (**Oral**).
5. **Sparse Reject Option Classifier using Successive Linear Programming** [pdf]  
**Kulin Shah**, Naresh Manwani  
AAAI conference on Artificial Intelligence (**AAAI**), 2019 (**Oral**) .
6. **PLUME: Polyhedral Learning Using Mixture of Experts** [pdf]  
**Kulin Shah**, PS Sastry, Naresh Manwani
7. **Ingredients for Happiness: Modeling constructs via semi-supervised content driven inductive transfer** [pdf]  
Bakhtiyar Syed, V. Indurthi, **Kulin Shah**, Manish Gupta and Vasudeva Varma  
**AAAI-19 Workshop** on Affective Content Analysis, AFFCON-19 (**Runner-up** for CL-Aff shared task).

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Research Fellow, Microsoft Research, India**

Aug 2019 - Current

- Mentor: [Dr. Navin Goyal](#) and [Dr. Amit Deshpande](#)
- Working on problems in generative models, representation learning, theory of deep learning.

**Research Intern, Microsoft Research, India**

May 2019 - July 2019

- Mentor: [Prof. Amit Deshpande](#) and [Dr. Chiranjib Bhattacharyya](#)
- Worked on problems related to fairness in machine learning.

**Research Intern, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore**

May 2018 - June 2018

- Mentor: [Prof. PS Sastry](#)
- Worked towards understanding architecture and training dynamics of Capsule Network.

**Undergraduate Researcher, Machine Learning Lab, IIIT Hyderabad**

May 2017 - May 2019

- Mentor: [Dr. Naresh Manwani](#)
- Worked on research problems related to reject option classification, online learning, multi-armed bandit, polyhedral learning, explainability.

## SELECTED RESEARCH PROJECTS

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- **Learning and Generalization in Univariate Overparameterized Normalizing Flows**

*Advisors:* [Dr. Navin Goyal](#) and [Dr. Amit Deshpande](#), Microsoft Research India Sep 2019-Present

- ◊ Normalizing Flow (NF) is a type of generative model. We provided training and generalization proof for univariate Normalizing Flow, modeled using an overparameterized neural network.
- ◊ We showed that a class of univariate NFs can learn any reasonable data distributions and provided evidence that overparameterization can hurt training for another class of NFs (Submitted in **ICLR**, 2021).

- **Online Active Learning for Reject Option Classifier**

*Advisor:* [Dr. Naresh Manwani](#), IIIT Hyderabad June 2018 - July 2019

- ◊ Reject Option Classifier (ROC) is a classifier with option of not to classify in one of the class, Usecases: High misclassification cost settings.
- ◊ Proposed an active learning algorithm for ROC and analyzed mistake bounds of the algorithm.
- ◊ Showed a limitation of proposed active learning algorithm and provided a new loss function and an active learning algorithm for ROC to overcome the limitation. Gave convergence guarantee of new active learning algorithm. Extensive experiments to show effectiveness of the algorithms (**Oral** presentation at **AAAI**, 2020).

- **Sparse Reject Option Classifier using Successive Linear Programming**

*Advisor:* [Dr. Naresh Manwani](#), IIIT Hyderabad July 2017 - July 2019

- ◊ Proposed an algorithm for learning ROC. Analyzed properties of loss function (classification calibration and excess risk bound) and proposed approach (generalization error bounds).
- ◊ Showed benefits of the proposed approach on several datasets. Showed sparseness of the learned classifier and robustness of the proposed approach against label noise (**Oral** presentation at **AAAI**, 2019) .

- **Rawlsian Fair Adaptation of Deep Learning Classifiers**

May 2019 - Present

*Advisors:* [Dr. Amit Deshpande](#), Microsoft Research India and [Dr. Chiranjib Bhattacharyya](#), IISc Bangalore

- ◊ Using philosopher Rawls' principles of justice, we proposed an objective to optimize to obtain an optimal fair classifier. To solve the objective, underlying data distribution is required.
- ◊ Proposed an efficient fair adaptation method. Showed importance of Rawlsian principles and effectiveness of adaptation technique through several experiments (Submitted in **AISTATS**, 2021).

## AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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- Awarded **Google, Microsoft Research** travel grant and **AAAI Student Scholarship** to attend **AAAI** 2019.
- Awarded **Research Award** for exceptional research work at IIIT Hyderabad.
- Received perfect **10 GPA** in Spring 2018 semester.
- Awarded **Dean's List** award for excellent academic performance in Spring 2016, Spring 2017 and Spring 2018 semesters.
- **34 rank** in India in online round of ACM ICPC, 2018 (Total 3000+ teams) and **53 rank** in Amritapuri regional of ACM ICPC, 2017 (Total top 260 teams from India).

## POSITIONS

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- **Subreviewer** of [IJCAI 2019](#), [IJCNN 2019](#), [ACM IKDD CoDS-COMAD 2019](#) conference.
- **Teaching Assistant** for Statistical Methods in AI (Spring'18), Linear Algebra (Spring'19) and Algorithms (Monsoon'17). Designed & graded assignments, evaluated exams, conducted tutorials and mentored projects.

## RELEVANT COURSES

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Artificial Intelligence	Statistical Methods in AI	Topics in Machine Learning
Optimization Methods	Introduction to Game Theory	Linear & Abstract Algebra
Probability & Complex numbers	Functional Analysis	Discrete Mathematics
Digital Signal Analysis and Applications	Computer Vision	Graphics