Kurtis Evan David

Education

2015-2020 University of Texas at Austin,

Computer Science, Master of Science and Bachelor of Science.

Thesis Debiasing Convolutional Neural Networks via Meta Orthogonalization

Advisors Qiang Liu, Ruth C. Fong

2015-2019 University of Texas at Austin,

Mathematics, Bachelor of Science. Focus on Mathematical Sciences.

Experience

Dec 2021 - **Senior Research Scientist**, Protopia AI.

Present o Leading R&D efforts for secure inference and training of deep learning models.

Nov 2020 - Software Engineer, Machine Learning, Meta AI Applied Research.

Dec 2021 Responsible AI: Fairness & Inclusion

o Developed core functionality of Fairness measurement tools, including statistical computation and scalability

• Implemented privacy-first measurements, enabling large scale fairness measurements of ML models with respect to protected attributes. Read more here:

How Meta is working to assess fairness in relation to race in the U.S. across its products and systems

Supported applied research on Meta subsidiaries by developing necessary infrastructure

July 2020 - Al Research Intern, HRL LABORATORIES.

Oct 2020 o Focused on understanding adversarial attacks on convolutional neural networks

• Investigated novel defenses through pruning and Fourier analysis to target robust/nonrobust features.

Submitted patent for edge-device adversarial detection

May 2019 - **Software Engineering Intern**, INSTAGRAM.

Aug 2019 Instagram Sharing ML

Developed new Stories ranking models, balancing Direct and Stories metrics

o Implemented neural network pruning and tested the Lottery Ticket Hypothesis on production ranking models

May 2018 - **Software Engineering Intern**, FACEBOOK, INC.

Aug 2018 Facebook Monetization Ranking

Developed new features for feed ads ranking model through big data pipelines

• Implemented new pooling layers in neural network architectures using Caffe2

Research

Nov 2021 How Meta is working to assess fairness in relation to race in the U.S. across its products and systems,

Meta, Responsible AI et al.,

Whitepaper.

Nov 2020 Debiasing Convolutional Neural Networks via Meta Orthogonalization,

Kurtis Evan David, Qiang Liu, Ruth C. Fong,

NeuRIPS, 2020 Workshop on Algorithmic Fairness through the Lens of Causality and Interpretability.

June 2019 GANchors: Realistic Image Perturbations for Anchors Using Generative Models,

Kurtis Evan David, Harrison Keane, Jun Min Noh,

arXiv preprint.

Teaching

- Spring 2020 **EE460J Data Science Laboratory**, *Graduate Teaching Assistant*.
 - Fall 2019 **EE461P Data Science Principles**, *Graduate Teaching Assistant*.
- Spring 2019 **EE461P Data Science Principles**, *Undergraduate Teaching Assistant*.
- Spring 2018 CS429H Computer Organization and Architecture, Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.
- Spring 2017 Computational Intelligence in Design, Undergraduate Teaching Assistant.

Awards

2017-2019 Unrestricted Endowed Presidential Scholarship, UT Austin.

Nominated by the Mathematics Department for academic excellence.

Fall 2016 TAMUHack Quantlab Financial Prize, Texas A&M.

Created a Chrome extension dubbed SubSearcher that allows users to search through video audio.

Fall 2015 Albert A. Bennett Calculus Exam 2nd Place, UT Austin.

Open ended calculus exam consisting of 5 challenges. Graded by correctness and proof quality.

- 2015-2019 Houston Area Rodeo Scholarship, UT Austin.
 - 2015 Valedictorian, Klein Oak High School.

References

Qiang Liu,

Assistant Professor, Computer Science, UT Austin, Iqiang@cs.utexas.edu.

Sujay Sanghavi,

Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, UT Austin, sanghavi@mail.utexas.edu.

Jonathan Tannen,

Research Engineering Manager, Meta Al Applied Research, jonathan.tannen@gmail.com.

Ruth C. Fong,

Teaching Faculty Member, Computer Science, Princeton University, ruthfong@cs.princeton.edu.

Hadi Esmaeilzadeh,

CTO, Protopia AI
Associate Professor, UC San Diego,
Computer Science and Engineering,
hadi@eng.ucsd.edu.

Michael A. Warren,

Senior Research Staff Scientist, HRL Laboratories, maw@mawarren.net.