

Lavanya Ashokkumar

Postdoctoral Research Associate

https://polarice.geo.arizona.edu/people.html lashokkumar@email.arizona.edu lashokkumar.info

Address: Room 523, Gould Simpson building, Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona, 1040 E. 4th Street Tucson, AZ 85721, USA

Academic qualifications

Nov 2012 – Jun 2017

PhD - Glaciology and Remote sensingDepartment of Geography, Swansea University UK
Thesis: Understanding long-term glacier dynamics in the Himalayas using remote sensing. Advisors: Prof Adrian Luckman, Prof Bernd Kulessa.

Master of Science - Remote sensing

2010 - 2012

Department of Civil Engineering, Anna University, Chennai, India Thesis: Improved band selection and fusion of hyperspectral image.

Advisor: Prof Sanjeevi Shanmugam. CGPA: 9/10

Bachelor's in engineering (Geo-Informatics)

2003 - 2007

Department of Civil Engineering, Anna University, Chennai, India Thesis: Location based services: An open source approach for GIS

Advisor: Prof Thirumalaivasan. CGPA: 8.5/10

Publications – In progress

- Ashokkumar, Lavanya and Harig, Christopher (2021). Global glacier mass loss rates under CMIP6 climate scenarios. (In progress)
- Ashokkumar, Lavanya., Harig, Chris and Holt, Jack (2021). Assessing the future mass loss rates from tidewater glaciers in Alaska using laser altimetry. AGU Earth surface. (*In progress*).
- Yuvaraj, Divya., Jayachandran, Krish and Ashokkumar, Lavanya (2021). Performance of Sentinel-2A for classification. (*In progress*)

Publications

- 7. **Ashokkumar, L.**, Luckman, A, Harig, C., Kulessa, B, Bevan, S and Greene, C (2021). Contrasting patterns of dynamic response to climate, inferred from 145 glaciers in the Himalayas. Journal of Glaciology. (Accepted - in review).
- 6. **Ashokkumar**, Lavanya and Harig, Christopher (2020). 21st century estimates of mass loss rates from glaciers in the Gulf of Alaska and Canadian Archipelago using a GRACE constrained glacier model. The Cryosphere. https://www.the-cryospherediscuss.net/tc-2019-325 (revise and submit).
- 5. Ashokkumar, Lavanya (2017). PhD thesis. Recent variability in Himalayan glacier dynamics using remote sensing. Swansea University, UK.
- 4. Ashokkumar, L., & Shanmugam, S. (2014). Hyperspectral band selection and classification of Hyperion image of Bhitarkanika mangrove ecosystem, eastern India. Proceedings Volume 9239, Remote Sensing for Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Hydrology XVI; 923914. https://doi.org/10.1117/12.2067483

- 3. Lavanya, A., & Sanjeevi, S. (2013). An improved band selection technique for hyperspectral data using factor analysis. Journal of the Indian Society of Remote Sensing, 41(2), 199-211. http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12524-012-0214-7
- 2. Suresh Kumar R., **Lavanya A.**, Vani K. and Sanjeevi S. (2012). Fusion based approach for automatic lunar-crater detection. Acta Futura: Journal of Advanced Concepts, 5, 163–172. http://dx.doi.org/10.2420/AF05.2012.163
- 1. Tamililakkiya, V, Vani K, **Lavanya A**, Anto M, (2011). Linear and non-linear feature extraction algorithms for lunar images. Signal & Image Processing. http://dx.doi.org/10.5121/sipij.2011.2414

Non-peer reviewed proceedings

- Ashokkumar (2021). Global estimates of sea-level rates from glaciers. Women in Data Science -Tucson, University of Arizona. April 2021. (Oral Invited).
- Ashokkumar (2021). Global estimates of glacier mass balance. Seminar series by the International Glaciological Society. March 2021. (Oral).
- Ashokkumar, Luckman, Harig, Kulessa and Bevan (2020). Contrasting response pattern between glacier dynamics and climate in the Himalayas. Northwest Glaciologists Meeting, University of Montana, Oct 2020. (Oral)
- Ashokkumar and Harig (2019). Regionally variable mass loss rates in Alaska and Canadian Archipelago under recent climate scenarios. Northwest Glaciologists Meeting, Oregon State University, Oct 2019. (Oral)
- **Ashokkumar** and Harig (2018). Regionally variable mass loss rates in Greenland estimated from GRACE and their link to observed and modelled climate. AGU Fall Meeting, Washington DC, Dec 10 14, 2018.
- **Ashokkumar**, Lavanya; Luckman, Adrian and Kulessa, Bernd (2015). Glacier dynamics in the Himalayas over the last four decades using satellite remote sensing. International Symposium on Glaciology in High-Mountain Asia. March 2015. (Oral)
- Lavanya Ashokkumar, Adrian Luckman and Bernd Kulessa (2014). Spatial and temporal dynamic change in Karakoram glaciers, IGS British branch meeting, Bristol, 2014.
- Lavanya Ashokkumar, Adrian Luckman and Bernd Kulessa (2013). Analysis of glacier velocities across Karakoram Himalayas over the past decade using Landsat 7–8, IGS British branch meeting 2013, Loughborough UK.
- Lavanya.A, Sanjeevi.S and Vani. K. (2012). "Dimensionality Reduction of lunar hyperspectral data using Band Index and separability measures". Proceedings of National Symposium on Signal and Image Processing. Gandhigram Rural University. (Oral)
- Lavanya, A., Sanjeevi, S. and Vani, K. (2011). Hyperspectral Data Mining A Feature Selection Technique for Mineral Abundance Mapping on the Lunar Surface. AI in Space: Intelligence beyond planet earth, IJCAI 2011, Spain.
- Suresh Kumar, R., Lavanya, A., Vani, K. and Sanjeevi, S. (2011). Texture Based Automatic Lunar-crater Detection and Mapping in Chandrayaan 1, Image Data. AI in Space; Intelligence beyond planet earth, IJCAI 2011, Spain.
- Lavanya, A., & Suganya, B. (2006). "Hurricane Mapping and Damage Assessment". 9th International Conference and Exhibition on Geographical Information, Technology and Applications. Map India 2006, India (Oral).
- Lavanya, A., & Suganya, B. (2005). "Rehabilitation of wastelands in a drought prone area using remote sensing". *AGNI 2005*. Awarded the Best Student paper. Anna University, India. (Oral).

Work experience

Postdoctoral Research Associate

Mar 2018 – present

University of Arizona, Tucson AZ Modeling the mass balance of glaciers using GRACE satellite gravimetry.

Postdoctoral Researcher (Visitor status)

June 2017 – Feb 2018

Department of Geography, College of Science, Swansea University SA2 8P, UK Time series analysis of glacier surge mechanism using Sentinel-1 dataset.

Research Associate

Nov 2012 – May 2017

Swansea University SA2 8P, UK

Teaching assistant

Oct 2016 – Dec 2016

GEG236: The Earth from Space: Monitoring Global Environmental Change

GEG208: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

GEG111: Geographical Writing Skills and Personal Development Planning

GEG236: Approaches to Physical Geography – Talk about preparing for the undergrad dissertation

Lecturer June 2012 – Oct 2012

Sree Sastha Institute of Engineering and technology, Chennai, India

Courses taught: Basic civil engineering, engineering mechanics, computer programming and surveying laboratory.

Junior Research Fellow

2010 - 2011

Anna University, Chennai 600025, India

- Worked on the project titled 'Feature extraction of lunar features using multi-sensor image fusion approaches', funded by the **Space application centre (ISRO, India)**.
- Major task included algorithm development for image fusion for better spatial interpretability and extraction of lunar features
- Processing of hyperspectral image dataset.

Maternity break 2008 - 2009

Software developer

2007 - 2008

Cognizant technology solutions, Chennai, India

GIS Intern 2006 – 2007

Red planet consulting, Chennai, India

Developed a stand-alone mobile application using open source GIS application Efficient use of Dijkstra's algorithm to provide shortest path to the nearest hospital

Awards and grants

- Women in Data science Tucson, University of Arizona. April 2021. Third place.
- Postdoc speed talk competition, University of Arizona. First place. March 2020 (\$2000).
- Travel support by NASA and UW (\$1500) for ICESat-2 Cryospheric Science Hackweek, University of Washington, Seattle, July 2019.

- Chevening Scholarship for dissertation writing and support 2015 (\$10000)
- Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship for PhD in Remote sensing, Commonwealth commission at the UK and MHRD, India (2012–2016). Funding for 3.5 years. (\$2000 annually)
- Travel Grant (£750) by the International Glaciological society for the International Glaciological Symposium in High Mountain Asia, Nepal, March 2015.
- Travel Grant for Young Scientist (~ \$1000) awarded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India for the Conference 'AI in Space: Intelligence beyond planet earth', Spain, June 2011.
- Master Research funded by Indian space Research organization (ISRO-DOS), PLANEX
 for the project "Developing tools and techniques for lunar information extraction using
 multi-sensor image fusion". (Funding for 1 year).

Professional Membership

Member of Geological Society of America	2020
Member of American Geophysical Union	2018 – present
Member of International Glaciological Society, UK	2013 - 2017
Member of Indian Society of Remote Sensing	2011 - 2012

Science outreach, leadership and service

2020	SARSEF – Judge for Special Science category award for high school category, Tucson - invited ARCUS – Judge for Travel award for indigenous students.
2019 - present 2012 - 2017	Mentorship co-coordinator of Association of Women Geoscientists, Southern Arizona Chapter. Board member of USAPECS (US Association of Polar Early Career Scientists Board member of IARPC Early Career group SARSEF – High School category judge in Earth science. Sam Hughes Elementary School – Judge/ organizer for the selection of best science projects. PhD Commonwealth Scholar, Wales regional network member.
2006 - 2008	Member of Geoinformatics Engineer, Anna University.

Outreach grants and talk

- a. Commission of status of women, 2021 (\$1406) University of Arizona.
- b. E-zen grant award for outreach activities, 2020 (\$1500) Geological Society of America.
- c. Presentation, Science talks, active participation and member of Commonwealth Wales Regional Networks, UK (2012 2016).
- d. Talk on 'Mass balance and glacier velocities in the Himalayas', College of Science Lecture series, Swansea University. March 2016. (Oral)
- e. Talk on 'Tracking the dynamic nature of the Himalayan glaciers using Remote sensing' at Postgraduate Research Conference, Cardiff University, June 2014. (Oral)
- f. Seminar on 'Recent techniques in remote sensing and GIS' at B.S. Abdur Rahman Crescent University, Chennai (2012) (Invited).