MANOJ ACHARYA

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Machine Learning (Deep Learning), Computer Vision, Object Detection, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Lifelong Learning, Vision and Language e.g. Visual Question Answering (VQA).

EDUCATION

2016 – now Ph.D., Imaging Science

Chester F. Carlson Center for Imaging Science Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY

Adviser: Christopher Kanan

2009 – 2013 B.E, Electronics and Communication Engineering

Institute of Engineering Lalitpur, Nepal

Project I: Image Processing Based "Ball and Beam" control system **Project II:** Real Time Nepali Sign Language Recognition using Neural

Network

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

- 1. REMIND Your Neural Network to Prevent Catastrophic Forgetting (In review)

 Tyler L. Hayes*, Kushal Kafle*, Robik Shrestha*, Manoj Acharya, Christopher Kanan
- 2. RITnet: Real-time Semantic Segmentation of the Eye for Gaze Tracking (ICCV 2019) [Winning Submission]

Aayush Chaudhary*, Rakshit Kothari*, **Manoj Acharya***, Shusil Dangi, Nitinraj Nair, Reynold Bailey, Christopher Kanan, Gabriel Diaz, Jeff B. Pelz.

- 3. VQD: visual query detection in natural scenes (NAACL 2019) *Manoj Acharya, Karan Jariwala, Christopher Kanan*
- 4. TallyQA: answering complex counting questions (AAAI 2019) [Spotlight presentation]

Manoj Acharya, Kushal Kafle, Christopher Kanan

Computer vision based hand gesture recognition for speech disabled persons.
 Journal of the Institute of Engineering, 2015
 Manoj Acharya, Diwakar Raj Pant

^{* =} Equal Contribution

TALKS AND POSTERS

- 1. "Robust, real-time Semantic Segmentation of the Eye for Gaze Tracking", Frameless Symposium 2019 (Talk)
- 2. "Know thy Enemy: Invasive Species Detection in High Resolution Imagery", WNYISPW 2019. (Poster)
- 3. On Unifying Deep Generative Models, Mathematics for Deep Learning Reading Group 2019. (Talk)
- 4. "TallyQA: Answering Complex Counting Questions", Vision and Language Session (Spotlight Talk)
- 5. "TallyQA: Answering Complex Counting Questions", Reasoning and Complex QA Workshop at AAAI 2019 (Poster + Talk)
- 6. "TallyQA: Answering Complex Counting Questions", ViGIL workshop at NeurIPS 2018 (Poster)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2013 – 2014 Researcher, PowerTech Nepal

Mentor: Surendra Mathema

Highlights: Developed inhouse display solutions to disseminate health related information for hospitals. Also helped in designing embedded systems for hospitals, micro-hydro projects and disaster

response units.

2015 – 2016 Software Developer, IT Expert

Highlights: Developed a dental assistant software in MATLAB for

planning and guiding tooth surgeries using 3D printing.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018 Teaching Assistant, Rochester Institute of Technology

Deep Learning for Computer Vision

2016 - 2017 Teaching Assistant, Rochester Institute of Technology

Image Processing and Computer Vision I Image Processing and Computer Vision II Lecturer, Thapathali Engineering College

Image processing and pattern recognition

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Conference Reviews:

Fall 2013

- Workshop on Shortcomings of Vision and language (SiVL) at ECCV 2018 and NAACL 2019
- EMNLP 2019
- NeurlPS 2019
- NeurIPS Reproducibility Challenge 2019
- Western New York Image and Signal Processing Workshop (WNYISPW) 2019
- AAAI 2020

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: English, Nepali (mother tongue), Hindi, Spanish (elementary).

Programming Languages: Python, C , C++, LATEX.

Deep/ML Toolboxes: MatConvNet, Scikit-Learn, Pytorch.

Web Development: HTML, CSS, JavaScript.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Won the Facebook OpenEds Challenge in Facebook AR/VR research workshop at ICCV 2019. (Cash prize + Travel scholarship)
- Travel grant to attend AAAI 2019 conference at Hawaii.
- Best Student Poster Award in the annual RIT graduate showcase.
- Second position in Ethical Hacking competition organized by LOCUS 2011.
- Four years of merit based scholarship for outstanding students at IOE, Pulchowk.