

# Pratheeksha Nair



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## ABOUT ME

PhD student of Computer Science at McGill University under the guidance of [Prof. Yue Li](#). Interested in pursuing research in **AI** and **ML** with applications to healthcare.

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Degree	University	Specialization	Year	Total
PhD	McGill University	Computer Science	2019-present	/4.0
Integrated Master's	IIIT Bangalore	Computer Science Engineering	2014-2019	3.6/4.0
High School	Indian School Certificate	Mathematics and Science	2014	95.6/100.0

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Pratheeksha Nair**, Anup Deshmukh, Shrisha Rao, [A Scalable Clustering Algorithm for Serendipity in Recommender Systems](#), *In the Workshop Proceedings of the 18th IEEE International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM 2018)*
- Rameshwar Pratap, **Pratheeksha Nair**, Anup Deshmukh, Tarun Dutt, [Fast and Provable Concept Decompositions in Large Text Corpus](#), *In the Proceedings of Machine Learning Research (ACML 2018)*

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

**Languages** (C++, Python), **Tools** (LaTeX, Matlab), **Libraries** (Keras, Pytorch)

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- **Exploring Validity in Machine Generated Drugs - Master's thesis at IIIT Bangalore**  
(Guide: [Prof. Dinesh Babu](#), Aug'18 - present)  
This work looks at generation of valid SMILES representation of molecules as a problem of semantic and syntactic sequence generation. These molecules are manifested as drugs with certain desired properties.
- **Method Summarization from Code - Internship at IBM Research AI Lab, India**  
(Guide: [Rahul A R](#), May'18 - Aug'18)  
This work involves using sequence to sequence deep models to solve problems prevalent in Software Engineering. One particular use-case is the automatic generation of comments from code.
- **Scaling up Simhash**  
(Guide: [Dr R Pratap](#), Jan'18 - May'18) - Currently under review at a top tier AI conference  
Proposed a dimensionality reduction sketching algorithm - simsketch - which maintains an estimate of the cosine similarity between original real valued vectors.

## ACADEMIC PROJECTS

- **Word Embeddings for Medical Domain** (Guide: [Prof. G S Raghavan](#), Aug'18 - Dec'18)  
Worked on generating word embeddings specifically for medical terms making use of hierarchical ontologies in medicine.
- **Refreshable Braille Reader on Arduino Teensie** (Guide: [Prof. Sujit Kumar](#), Aug'18 - Dec'18)  
Worked on a text-to-Braille converter that runs on microcontrollers like Arduino.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Dean's Merit List (IIIT-B)**  
Recognized for my academic excellence by graduating with 3.6/4.0 GPA
- **GHCI '18 Student Scholar**  
Scholarship to attend India's largest gathering of women technologists produced by AnitaB.org and ACM India.
- **World Rank 7 (HackerRank Women's Cup 2015)**  
7<sup>th</sup> rank out of 1000+ participants in the world. 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the country. Featured in a [YourStory article](#).
- **World Rank 23/1500 (Adobe CODHERS Codesprint 2016)** – 21<sup>st</sup> place in India
- **World Rank 49/2500 (Women's CodeSprint 2016)** – 19<sup>th</sup> place in India

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Teaching Assistant for Programming Languages course (2019)
- Teaching Assistant for ML 101 course (2018)
- Curator at TEDx IIITB (2018)
- Mentor at the Student Mentoring Program of IIITB (2017-2018)
- Active member of the Dance Club of IIITB (2016-2019)