

Nand Dalal

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Research Experience

- Oct 2019–Present **Senior Machine Learning Engineer**, *Nines*, Palo Alto, CA.
- Oct 2018–Oct 2019 **Machine Learning Engineer**, *Nines*, Palo Alto, CA.
Startup applying machine learning to improve radiology.
<https://www.ninesradiology.com/>
- Built image classification models for detecting emergent conditions on CT head scans (currently undergoing FDA review).
 - Developed method to leverage NLP on doctor reports to study generalization properties of image-based models, reducing amount of labeled data required for validation.
 - Conducted experiments to test the effect of different labeling strategies on inter-rater reliability and model performance.
 - Developed framework to track experiments and infrastructure to perform hyperparameter tuning.
 - Developed evaluation framework used to compute performance metrics, tune thresholds, and iteratively debug/improve classification and detection models.
 - Developed serving framework used to run ensembles of PyTorch image classification models in production.
- Feb 2017–Sept 2018 **Senior Research Engineer**, *Clarifai*, San Francisco, CA.
- Feb 2016–Feb 2017 **Research Engineer**, *Clarifai*, New York, NY.
Startup building a machine learning platform for a variety of computer vision applications.
<https://www.clarifai.com/>
- Improved Clarifai's general model (which predicts over 11k concepts) thus improving downstream services which use its embeddings (for transfer learning and visual search).
 - Worked on transfer learning service allowing users to rapidly train image classification models on their own labeled datasets.
 - Developed solutions for customers across many verticals (ear disease classification, aerial imagery detection, fashion snap and search).
 - Developed and maintained research toolkit used to train and serve computer vision models.
 - Transitioned entire company from an internal neural network toolkit to TensorFlow.
 - Scaled training infrastructure from single gpu to multi-gpu/node training.
 - Extended serving infrastructure to run in multiple environments (cloud, on-premise, and mobile).
- Aug 2014–Dec 2015 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*.
Deep Learning research advised by Professor Honglak Lee.
<https://web.eecs.umich.edu/~honglak/>
- Applied convolutional autoencoders to non-linear electromagnetic inverse scattering, improving reconstructions and reducing runtimes of through-the-wall imaging.
 - Model improvements: experimented with adaptive learning rates and multi-task learning methods in order to scale up algorithm to harder datasets.
 - System improvements: integrated matconvnet for GPU acceleration in matlab then ported code to Theano for further speedups.
 - This work was presented as an abstract at IEEE AP-S/URSI 2016 in Puerto Rico.
 - Worked through Professor Lee's advanced tutorials on deep learning algorithms.

- Sept 2015–Dec 2015 **Research Assistant**, *University of Michigan*.
Graph Mining research advised by Professor Danai Koutra.
<https://web.eecs.umich.edu/~dkoutra/>
- Worked on parallelizing and scaling up VoG, a graph summarization algorithm developed by Professor Koutra.
 - Ported over core components of VoG from original matlab codebase to python in order to leverage better libraries for multiprocessing.
 - Profiled and benchmarked algorithm in order to find bottlenecks and then proposed new parallelizable subgraph generation subroutines.
 - Examined the performance of these new methods by running experiments on multiple large graphs and comparing runtime, compression rate, and structure distribution.
- Jan 2015–May 2015 **Corporate R&D Intern**, *Qualcomm Research*, San Diego, CA.
Deep Learning Research Team
- Developed a neural network framework for the Adreno GPU.
 - Implemented core neural network internals from scratch in OpenCL.
 - Profiled and benchmarked OpenCL kernels in order to incrementally improve runtime and increase utilization.
 - Worked directly with the GPU architecture team to understand how to improve performance based on the hardware.
 - Presented this work at an internal GPU conference and later integrated into Qualcomm's heterogeneous neural processing engine, SNPE.
- May 2013–Aug 2013 **Data Science Intern**, *Bookshout*.
Bookshout is a social and group e-reading platform.
<https://bookshout.com/>
- Developed a collaborative filtering based recommendation engine for suggesting books to users.
- Jun 2011–Aug 2012 **Research Assistant**, *University of Texas at Dallas*.
High school capstone project advised by Professor David Lary at the Center for Space Sciences.
<https://davidlary.info/>
- Used neural networks to cross-calibrate HNO_3 observations from multiple satellites to quantify periods of strong denitrification in the polar stratospheres.
 - Presented research paper at the Texas Junior Academy of Science at Texas A&M (2nd place awards in Earth/Space Sciences).

Education

- 2012–2015 **B.S.E., Computer Science Engineering**, *University of Michigan*.
- GPA: 3.673, Summa Cum Laude
 - Relevant coursework: Machine Learning, Graph Mining at Scale, Operating Systems, Database Management Systems, Theoretical Statistics, Matrix Algebra
 - co-re-founded MSAIL (Michigan Student AI Lab): led weekly applied machine learning tutorials for undergraduate students covering classical methods for regression, classification, and clustering culminating in neural networks.
 - Member of HKN (Eta Kappa Nu) and IEEE-ACM
- 2008–2012 **High School**, *Greenhill School*.
- GPA: 3.747
 - Kilmer Award for Excellence in Science (top science student)
 - Book awards for most outstanding student: Vector Calculus & Differential Equations, AP Calculus BC, AP Chemistry, AP Physics C
 - Started science capstone program where students now regularly work with professors from local universities.
 - Member of Math Club, Science Olympiad, and Policy Debate teams.

References

Nines

- Matthew Lungren
- David Stavens

Clarifai

- Matthew Zeiler
- David Eigen

University of Michigan

- Honglak Lee