# Nirbhay Modhe

CONTACT

Doctoral Graduate (Ph. D. in Computer Science), advised by Prof. Dhruv Batra College of Computing, Georgia Tech Homepage: nirbhayjm.github.io

**EDUCATION** 

Georgia Tech, Ph. D. in Computer Science

2017-2022

"Leveraging Value-awareness for Online and Offline Model-based Reinforcement Learning"

**IIT Kanpur**, B. Tech in Computer Science, CGPA: 9.7/10

2013-2017

PUBLICATIONS Nirbhay Modhe, Qiaozi Gao, Govind Thattai, Dhruv Batra, Ashwin Kalyan, Gaurav Sukhatme. Exploiting Generalization in Offline Reinforcement Learning via Uncertainty Filtering on-going

> Nirbhay Modhe. Harish Kamath, Dhruv Batra, Ashwin Kalyan. Model-Advantage and Value-Aware Models for Model-Based Reinforcement Learning: Bridging the Gap in Theory and Practice pre-print ( arXiv ♂ )

> Nirbhay Modhe\*, Harish Kamath\*, Dhruv Batra, Ashwin Kalyan. Bridging Worlds in Reinforcement Learning with Model-Advantage 4th Lifelong Machine Learning Workshop at ICML 2020 ( **PDF** ♂ )

> Nirbhay Modhe, Prithvijit Chattopadhyay, Mohit Sharma, Abhishek Das, Devi Parikh, Dhruv Batra, Ramakrishna Vedantam. IR-VIC: Unsupervised Discovery of Sub-goals for Transfer in RL International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Yokohoma, Japan, 2020 (IJCAI20 ♂, arXiv ♂)

> Vikas Jain\*, Nirbhay Modhe\*, Piyush Rai. Scalable Generative Models for Multi-label Learning with Missing Labels. International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), 2017 (PDF ♂ )

### **EXPERIENCE**

Amazon Alexa AI, Gaurav Sukhatme May 23, 2022 - August 19th, 2022 Exploiting Generalization in Offline RL via Uncertainty Filtering.

- Motivated by exploiting the generalisation capabilities of learnt models, we propose a novel strategy for finding states far from the seen data distribution in offline RL while also having low epistemic uncertainty.
- We demonstrate that perturbing seen states in the direction of increasing and decreasing estimated value, along with uncertainty filtering, significantly improves performance on several offline RL tasks and benchmarks.

#### SRI International, Giedrius Burachas

Summer 2018

Stochastic Video Prediction for Navigation

 Applied disentangled representations for stochastic video prediction in a virtual Unity3D environment and the KITTI dataset.

### University of Texas at Dallas, Prof. Vincent Na

Summer 2016

Event Coreference Resolution

• Explored the use of recurrent neural networks for event coreference resolution

### **OPEN** SOURCE

# VisDial-RL in PyTorch, Prof. Dhruv Batra batra-mlp-lab/visdial-rl ♂

July 2018

• Lead the open source project for implementing VisDial RL - Learning Cooperative Visual Dialog Agents using Deep Reinforcement Learning by Das and Kottur et. al., 2017, in PyTorch. (Github ♂)

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Teaching Assistant, Deep Learning, Georgia Tech

- Served as TA for CS 7643/4803 in Fall 2018 and Fall 2019.
- Gave an introductory lecture on dynamic programming methods for solving MDPs and an introduction to Reinforcement Learning in Fall 2019. (RL slides pdf 🖸)

## Tutor, Fundamentals of Computing (ESC101), IIT Kanpur

- Taught in weekly tutorial classes for ESC101 in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017.

#### **REVIEWING**

Served as a reviewer for ECCV 2018, CVPR 2019, ICLR 2019, ICLR 2020, AAAI 2020, NeurIPS 2020, ICML 2021, ICLR 2021, NeurIPS 2021, ICLR 2022.

### ACADEMIC ACCOLADES

- Received **Academic Excellence Award** twice for outstanding academic performance (awarded to top 7% students in the institute) from 2013-15
- Received an A\* grade in 8 courses (awarded to top 1-2% students in a course)
- Secured All India Rank 414 (among 150,000 students) in JEE Advanced 2013
- Secured All India Rank 313 (among  $5{,}000{,}000$  students) in JEE Mains 2013

# TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages: Python, Shell, C, C++, R, Matlab/Octave Software & Tools: PyTorch, TensorFlow, LATEX, Git