# Nishant Rai

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# EDUCATION

Sep '19 - Jun '21 Apr '17 M.S. - COMPUTER SCIENCE (FOCUS IN A.I.)
B.Tech - COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Stanford University
IIT Kanpur

N/A 9.9/10.0

# **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Secured Department Rank 1 among 110 students in the Department of Computer Science, IIT Kanpur
- Received the Academic Excellence Award for exceptional academic performance in all academic sessions at IIT Kanpur
- Received A\* grade in 12 courses (Awarded for Outstanding Performance in a course)
- Received Charpak Research Scholarship '15 and MITACS Globalink Award '16
- Awarded Gold medal for being one of the Six Awardees selected for IMO training camp, after clearing INMO '13
- Awarded Gold medal for being selected for IPhO training camp, after clearing INPhO '13

# WORK EXPERIENCE

RUBRIK INC.

JUL '17 - JUN '19

Bangalore, India

Member of Technical Staff

- Worked with the team managing Cerebro: the layer responsible for ingestion, propagation and management of Rubrik's data
- Designed and implemented modifications to enhance Rubrik's data upload and bandwidth framework
- Conceptualised, designed and implemented improvements to the central data management module
- · Coordinated, formulated and built Rubrik's primary SLA framework for Polaris to completion from scratch

# **INTERNSHIPS**

**FYUSION INC.**San Francisco, U.S.

JUN '19 - SEP '19

Research Engineering Intern

- Developed and evaluated approaches to infer 3D structure from 2D images in an unsupervised manner
- · Use multi-view cues along with category-specific mesh hypotheses to reason about the underlying structure

#### TWO ROADS TRADING

May '17 - Jul '17

Bangalore, India

Trading Intern

- Mentored by Rakesh Kumar, Lead Trader and M.R. Adithya, Mid-Term Trader for developing Gap based trading strategies
- · Designed and implemented the data pipeline along with the backtesting framework for quick verification of alphas.

C.A.R.I.S. LAB May '16 - Jul '16

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Research Intern

- Developed applications for prediction of single-arm reaching motion by humans to create smooth human-robot interactions
- Designed and implemented algorithms for aligning points clouds received from multiple Kinects.

XEROX RESEARCH

Nov '15 - DEC '15

Xerox Research Center India, Bangalore, India

Research Intern

• Mentored by Om Deshmukh, Head Researcher, Multimedia Analytics and Sumit Negi, Principal Researcher for developing and evaluating algorithms for Multi View Clustering using Non Negative Matrix factorization.

I.N.R.I.A. MAY '15 - JUL '15

French Institute for Research in Computer Science, Rocquencourt, France

Research Intern

- Mentored by Laurent Viennot, Senior Researcher and Adrian Kosowski, Researcher for finding alternate paths in giantroad networks according to various criterias
- Mentored by Adrian Kosowski for finding good local features which are suitable predictors for global features

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

AdaScan: Adaptive Scan Pooling in Deep Convolutional Neural Networks for Human Action Recognition in Videos

CVPR 17

Nishant Rai\*, Amlan Kar\*, Karan Sikka, Gaurav Sharma

Poster

BI-MODAL REGRESSION FOR APPARENT TRAIT ANALYSIS

ICPR '16

ChaLearn Joint Contest on Multimedia Challenges beyond Visual Analysis Nishant Rai

Oral - Workshop

PARTIAL MULTI-VIEW CLUSTERING USING GRAPH REGULARIZED NMF

ICPR '16

Nishant Rai, Sumit Negi, Santanu Chaudhury, Om Deshmukh

Oral

# **SELECTED PROJECTS**

#### ADAPTIVE SCAN POOLING FOR HUMAN ACTION RECOGNITION

AUG '16 - APR '17

- Project aimed at Human Action Recognition through Deep CNNs by proposing a novel method for temporally pooling video frames.
- Our approach learns to pool discriminative and informative frames in a single temporal scan of the video.

#### **AUTOML: AUTOMATED MACHINE LEARNING**

Jan '18 - Mar '18

- Project for challenge hosted for Chalearn AutoML, PAKDD '18 workshop. Secured 4<sup>th</sup> place amongst 200+ teams.
- Experimented with multiple learning algorithms, hyper-parameter selection and ensemble creation strategies.

#### CHALEARN: APPARENT PERSONALITY ANALYSIS THROUGH VIDEOS

JUN '16 - JUL '16

- Project for challenge hosted for ChaLearn Looking at People, ECCV '16 workshop. Secured 6<sup>th</sup> place amongst 85 teams.
- Experimented with multiple audio and visual feature based models including Background-Context and Facial feature models.

## DEEP LEARNING FOR VISUAL QUESTION ANSWERING:

Mar 16 - Apr 16

- Project aimed at constructing Neural Network-based models for Answering Open-ended questions about images.
- Multiple methods used for combining the visual and audio features, and their effect on the performance was studied. The entire network (except the CNN for image features) is trained End-to-End.

# OTHER PROJECTS

VISUAL STORY TELLING
REINFORCEMENT LEARNING FOR GAMES
COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
REAL-TIME VEHICLE RECOGNITION
ADA COMPILER

REAL-TIME VEHICLE RECOGNITION
ADA COMPILER
COMPUTER NETWORKS Im
MULTI-SENSE WORD EMBEDDINGS
NACHOS OPERATING SYSTEM
MULTI-MODAL EMOTION RECOGNITION
GEOMETRIC DATA STRUCTURES

SENTIMENT ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL MEDIA
MINOR PROJECTS Othello, Batt

Create narrative descriptive stories given a sequence of images
RL strategies for games and multi agent interactions
Online course management platform for profs. and students
Classify Vehicles and extract info from License Plates
End-to-End Compiler for a subset of ADA in the x86 Architecture
Implemented a basic HTTP server, Proxy server, STCP layer and Router
Unsupervised computation of Multi-Sense Embeddings

Extend the NachOS operating system

Emotion detection using Multiple modalities

Data Structures to efficiently answer Geometric Queries

Interface to analyze social sentiment for brands

Othello, BattleShip AI Bot, Captcha Decoder, Multi-Label Question Classification Intra-Cluster Distance Minimization, Document Classification

# **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Programming Languages: Software and Utilities:

C, C++, Python, Scala, Golang, Java, Matlab, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, GNU Octave OpenCV, Git, Kinect SDK, GNUPLot, Verilog, LATEX, AUTOCAD Inventor

### POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Jul'16 - Apr'17 Jan'15 - Apr'16 Aug'14 - Mar'15 Tutor, Introduction to Computing - ESC101A Member, Core Team Academics, Counseling Service

Senior Executive, Public Relations, Techkriti '15, IIT Kanpur

Apr'14 - Apr'15 | Secretary, Programming Club Jun'14 - Apr'15 | Academic Mentor (MTH101/3

Academic Mentor (MTH101/102) and Student Guide, Counselling Service

# ACHIEVEMENTS IN PROGRAMMING

- Secured 1st place in Microsoft CodeHunt amongst individuals from over the country. Selected for finals in China.
- Secured 13<sup>th</sup> place in IOPC amongst 900+ teams from over the world held during Techkriti'15.
- Secured 1st place in the event Chaos (Esoteric Programming Contest) held during Techkriti '15
- Secured 18<sup>th</sup> place in in Morgan Stanley Codeathon 2014 amongst 1000+ individuals from over the country.
- Secured 8<sup>th</sup> place in **ZS Associates Data Science Challenge** amongst **300+** students from over the country.
- Secured 1st place in the Auquan Trading Contest '17 amongst 100+ individuals from over the country.
- Secured 26<sup>th</sup> place in ACM ICPC Onsite Contest '14 amongst 250+ teams from over the country.

# **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

- Panelist in discussion on "Beyond Al and Robots: What is left for Humans?" held at IIT Kanpur.
- Secured 1<sup>st</sup> place in Reviews Lifestyle event in Spectrum '14 (Inter-Hostel Competition).
- Secured 1<sup>st</sup> place in Tennis (Singles) in Freshers' Inferno '13 (Inter-Hostel Sports Competition).