

# Namrata Nadagouda

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Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=WPOYaFAAAAAAJ&hl=en>

## OVERVIEW

- Research on developing methods for learning data efficient models based on active learning, human-in-the-loop learning and learning from human feedback/preferences
- Worked on applications such as preference learning, localization, metric learning, and classification, and worked with images and sequential/time series data
- Have a well rounded knowledge of ML theory and practice including both traditional ML and deep learning models
- Experience with Python, MATLAB, PyTorch, Jupyter notebooks, Microsoft Azure

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Electrical & Computer Engineering** May 2026 (Expected)  
Digital Signal Processing and Machine Learning

*Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA*

*Advisor: Prof. Mark Davenport*

**M.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering** December 2020  
Digital Signal Processing and Machine Learning

*Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA*

**B.Tech. Electrical & Electronics Engineering** May 2017  
Digital Signal Processing and Digital System Design

*National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, India*

## PUBLICATIONS

**N. Nadagouda** and M. Davenport, “Active query synthesis for preference learning”, *In preparation*. Preliminary results presented at Women in Machine Learning (WiML) Workshop, co-located with *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, December 2023.

**N. Nadagouda**, A. Xu and M. Davenport, “Active metric learning and classification using similarity queries”, in *Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, August 2023. Also presented at Human in the Loop Learning Workshop, *Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)*, December 2022.

A. McRae, A. Xu, J. Jin, **N. Nadagouda**, N. Ahad, P. Guan, S. Karnik and M. Davenport, “Delta Distancing: A Lifting Approach to Localizing Items From User Comparisons”, in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, May 2022.

**N. Nadagouda** and M. Davenport, “Switched Hawkes Processes”, in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, June 2021.

G. Canal, M. Connor, J. Jin, **N. Nadagouda**, M. O’Shaughnessy, C. Rozell and M. Davenport, “The Picasso Algorithm for Bayesian Localization Via Paired Comparisons in a Union of Subspaces Model”, in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, May 2020.

ABSTRACTS	N. Ahad, <b>N. Nadagouda</b> , E. Dyer and M. Davenport, “Active learning for time instant classification”, at Data-centric Machine Learning Research Workshop, <i>International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)</i> , July 2023.	
	Y. Teng, A. Mamuye, E. Mo, K. Zhu, R. Walker, <b>N. Nadagouda</b> and M. Davenport, “Range-Only Simultaneous Localization and Mapping using Paired Comparisons”, at <i>IEEE Annual Conf. on RFID</i> , April 2021.	
	<b>N. Nadagouda</b> and M. Davenport, “Switched Hawkes Processes”, at <i>Workshop on Recent Developments on Mathematical/Statistical approaches in Data Science (MS-DAS)</i> , June 2019.	
ARTICLES	<b>N. Nadagouda</b> , “Journey of a researcher: Finding pleasure in the pathless woods”, <i>American Ceramic Society Bulletin</i> , Student Perspectives, June/July 2020.	
WORK EXPERIENCE	<b>Applied Scientist Intern</b>	Summer 2024
	<i>ML Science Team, Samsara, San Francisco, CA</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked on active learning based traffic sign detection model using trip still images from dashcams</li> <li>• Built the infrastructure to actively select images for labeling using a pre-trained distilled model and fine-tune the model using the labels obtained</li> <li>• Also, involved data preparation which comprised of text prompt based collection of data using a CLIP based similarity search tool and labeling using Labelbox</li> <li>• Conducted initial experiments with varying batch sizes of acquired data and the findings were handed off to the team for further investigation</li> </ul>	
	<b>Intern</b>	Summer 2018
	<i>Hedge Fund Start-up, Atlanta, GA</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked on data management and data pre-processing of stock trade data stored in SQL databases.</li> <li>• Also, involved performance evaluation of trading algorithms on Microsoft Azure platform</li> </ul>	
	<b>Research Intern, Microarchitecture Research Lab</b>	Fall 2016
	<i>Intel India - Intel Labs, Bangalore, India</i>	
	<b>Research Intern</b>	Summer 2016
	<i>Department of Electrical Communication Engineering Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India</i>	
TALKS	<b>Active query synthesis for preference learning</b>	
	<i>ML@GT Student Conference, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA</i>	2025
	<b>Active query synthesis for preference learning</b>	
	<i>AWM Workshop at SIAM Annual Meeting, Montreal, Canada</i>	2025
	<b>Active learning for traffic sign detection</b>	
	<i>Samsara, San Francisco, CA</i>	2024

	<b>Building data efficient models using active learning and similarity comparisons</b> <i>Thesis presentation at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA</i>	2022
	<b>Switched Hawkes Processes</b> <i>Student Seminar at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA</i>	2019
<b>AWARDS</b>		
<b>Hackathon</b>	2nd place, Presentations <i>ML@GT Student Conference</i> Georgia Tech	September 2025
<b>Registration and Travel Awards</b>	AWM Workshop at SIAM Annual Meeting <i>Travel Funding</i>	July 2025
	NeurIPS <i>Conference Volunteer Financial Assistance</i> <i>WiML Travel Funding</i>	December 2023
	Women in Data Science and Mathematics Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics <i>Workshop Financial Assistance</i> <i>GT Career Development Funding</i>	August 2023
	UAI <i>Conference Funding</i>	August 2023
	ICML <i>GT SGA Conference Funding</i> <i>CoE Professional Development Funding</i> <i>WiML Funding</i>	August 2023
	NeurIPS <i>GT SGA Conference Funding</i> <i>CoE Professional Development Funding</i>	December 2022
	Deep Learning Theory Workshop and Summer School Simons Institute <i>Workshop Financial Assistance</i>	August 2022
	The Mathematics of Machine Learning Women and Math Program Institute for Advanced Study <i>Workshop Financial Assistance</i>	May 2022
	Recent Developments on Mathematical/Statistical approaches in Data Science University of Texas, Dallas <i>Workshop Financial Assistance</i>	June 2019
<b>Hackathon</b>	Winner, Technical Track, Hacklytics Data Science at Georgia Tech	February 2019

<b>Academic Awards and Scholarships</b>	NITK Institute Gold Medal	2017
	1986 Batch Gold Medal	2017
	Prof. M. R. Shenoy Memorial Prize	2017
	Prof. K. M. Hebbar Gold Medal	2017
	NITK Surathkal Merit Scholarship	2013 - 2017
<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>Reviewer</b> , WiML Workshop at NeurIPS	2025
	<b>Judge</b> , AWM Poster Session at SIAM Annual Meeting	2025
	<b>Mentor</b> , AWM Workshop at SIAM Annual Meeting	2025
	<b>Reviewer</b> , Workshop Proposals for NeurIPS	2025
	<b>Reviewer</b> , WiML Workshop at NeurIPS	2024
	<b>Reviewer/Volunteer</b> , WiML workshop at NeurIPS	2023
	<b>Volunteer</b> , NeurIPS Conference	2023
	<b>Volunteer</b> , UAI Conference	2023
	<b>Volunteer</b> , WiML Workshop at ICML	2023
	<b>Member</b> , GT Mural Team	2022
	<b>Reviewer</b> , AISTATS Conference	2021
	<b>Reviewer</b> , GT President's Undergraduate Research Award	2021 - 2022
	<b>Panelist</b> , GT ECE ORS Graduate Panel	2020
	<b>Volunteer</b> , GT ECE Prospective PhD student visit	2019 - 2022
	<b>Teaching Volunteer</b> , Shiksha, ACM NITK Student Chapter	2016
	<b>Student Representative</b> , NITK Student Council	2013 - 2014
<b>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Mentor for undergraduate students</b>	
	Yue Teng	2020 - 2022
	Amran Mamuye, Eunsan Mo, Kerui Zhu, Robert Walker	2020 - 2021
	Guided the above students to work on a research project focused on simultaneous localization and mapping using paired comparisons of distances.	
	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b>	Spring 2021
	Georgia Tech ECE 6270 - Convex Optimization	
	<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	June 2019
	Hands-on-Tech Georgia Tech Day Camp - Machine Learning	
	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b>	Spring 2019
	Georgia Tech CS 4641 - Machine Learning	
	<b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b>	Fall 2018
	Georgia Tech ECE 8843/ISYE 8843/CS 8803/BMED 8813 - Mathematical Foundations of Machine Learning	
<b>RESEARCH EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>Active query generation</b>	Fall 2022 - present
	Working on developing a method for generating queries actively for preference learning. Queries are pairwise comparisons of the form – <i>Which among a pair of items, A and B does a user prefer?</i> The user's preferences are estimated using a Bayesian framework iteratively by acquiring responses to the queries.	
	<b>Active learning for time series data</b>	Summer 2023
	Working on developing a method for classifying individual instants of time series data. The data consists of features which repeat at regular intervals and the existence of these correlations poses a unique challenge for active label selection.	
	<b>Unified framework for active learning</b>	Fall 2019 - Spring 2023

Developed a unified query framework for active learning based on nearest neighbor queries. This method can be applied to any problem which involves learning a representation of the dataset that reflects the underlying similarity. Demonstrated the performance of the method for active metric learning and active image classification using deep neural networks.

**Active similarity learning and manifold graphs** Fall 2019 - Spring 2023  
Implemented active image classification strategies for semi-supervised classification on CIFAR-100 and DomainNet datasets. This project was funded by the *DARPA LwLL – Learning with Less labels* program.

**Preference learning** Fall 2019 - Summer 2022  
The problem consists of estimating a user’s preferences over a set of items. We use the *ideal point* model to localize a user in an embedding of items. Worked on a variety of problems involving localizing new items and users.

**Switched Hawkes Processes** Fall 2018 - Summer 2019  
Developed the Switched Hawkes Process which can be used to model systems in which the parameters of the process dynamically change depending on some (known) external state. We propose a simple maximum likelihood estimation approach and apply our model to a real-world traffic sensor dataset to study traffic patterns during different configurations of the traffic lights at an intersection.