Arindam Paul

Contact Information

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Interests

Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Natural Language Processing

Programming Skills

Languages: Python (Familiar with MATLAB, R)

ML: Scikit-Learn, H2O, XGBoost/LightGBM/CatBoost (Familiar with Gensim, NLTK)

Deep Learning: Keras/Tensorflow (Familiar with PyTorch/FastAI, HuggingFace)

Model Explainability: Shapley, LIME, imodels, interpretML

Data Analytics: Pandas, Numpy, Dash, Plotly, Seaborn, Matplotlib

Web Development : HTML/Markdown (Familiar with CSS, JavaScript)

Education

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Ph.D., Computer Science, Sep 2019
Advisors: Prof. Alok Choudhary, Prof. Ankit Agrawal

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Master of Science, Computer Science, Sep 2014

Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani, Rajasthan India

Master of Engineering (Hons.), Software Systems, May 2012

Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani, Rajasthan India

Bachelor of Engineering (Hons.), Chemical Engineering, Dec 2009

Professional Experience

American Family Insurance, Greater Boston, Massachusetts

- User-Based Insurance (in collaboration with major US automaker) :
  - ◇ Developed generalized linear and additive models for usage-based auto insurance based on telematics features
  - ◇ Performed benchmarking using neural network and gradient boosting modeling
- Claims-Channeling System:
  - ◇ Co-Designed a multi-input, multi-label claims channeling system to route claims to relevant domain experts using the information (tabular + text) present in the claim which harnesses an insurance based language model using transfer learning to process the text data and thereby increase the accuracy of various downstream tasks
  - ◇ Performed an ablation study based on different models, input/output type and day information to select the best models which get feed into a web based user interface
- Financial Forecasting
  - ◇ Developed long and mid-term financial forecasting of KPIs using an ensemble ESRNN+SARIMA
  - ◇ Designed a niche Monte Carlo - based time series confidence interval using 100+ scenarios
  - ◇ Deployed a dashboard using flask which gets updated monthly
- Motor Vehicle Violation:
  - ◇ Developed an ML decision system for predicting motor vehicle violation risk

- ◇ Explored ordinal models using tree and neural networks including creating a custom ordinal loss function

- Leadership/Outreach:
  - ◇ Collaborate with UW-Madison professors as part of Amfam Data Science Institute
  - ◇ Mentored rotational associate data scientists
  - ◇ Invited panelist for company-wide data privacy week for discussions on fairness, privacy, bias in a multicultural inter-connected world

Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Data Science Intern **Jun '18 - Aug '18**

- Developed distributed image to text conversion algorithms for detecting responses from scanned questionnaires
- Designed a noise reduction algorithm to denoise scanned and photocopied questionnaires

Boeing Cybersecurity, Sunnyvale, California

Summer Research Intern **Jun '13 - Sep '13**

- Understanding Collaboration Among Online Advertising and Analytics Services
- Observed multiple 3rd-party services sharing user's information with each other
- Investigated how these services use means to obfuscate parameter sharing

Research Experience

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois USA

Research Assistant **Fall '12 - Summer'19**

Ensemble Nets on Mixed Representations for Chemical Property Prediction (Keras) **Sep '18 - Feb '19**

- Created CheMixNet - a deep neural network that combines molecular fingerprints to develop a generalized architecture for chemical property prediction
- Designed SINet - a deep network that combines two different textual representations SMILES and InChI for predicting chemical properties
- Expanded SINet for transfer learning tasks from a 2.3 million dataset to a smaller 350 compound dataset
- Developed ChemsembleNet - a deep network that combines different textual, molecular fingerprints and molecular graph representations of molecules to achieve better results than individual representations

Predictive Modeling for Additive Manufacturing (Tensorflow, Keras) **Nov '16 -**

- Developed iterative bootstrap tree algorithms for temperature prediction in additive manufacturing processes
- Designed Recurrent Neural Network models to predict point-wise temperature information for accelerating additive manufacturing simulations

Solar Cell Efficiency Prediction using Molecular Fingerprints (Tensorflow, Scikit Learn) **Mar '16 - June '19**

- Designed Deep Neural Network and Random Forest models for predicting power conversion efficiency of solar cells using chemical fingerprints, and achieved mean square percentage error between 1.5-2 %
- Designed an online application for material scientists to get an estimation of power efficiency

Very Deep Neural Networks for Predicting Formation Stability (Tensorflow) **Mar '16 - Sept '17**

- Constructed Neural Network Models with 18-25 layers to predict formation energy of a chemical com-

pound
- Attained 20 % higher accuracy than the state-of-the-art models using Random Forests that would allow domain scientists to explore millions of possible compounds

Ensemble Learning-based Guided Optimization for Aircraft Design(MATLAB, Python)**Oct '15 -Dec'17**

- Created intelligent sampling algorithms to explore the constrained search space for candidate microstructures
- Developed Feature Ranking-based Technique for Search Space Reduction of Constrained Non-Convex Optimization
- Achieved 100x candidate microstructures compared to state-of-the-art methods that can accelerate the design-to-experiment life-cycle

Convolutional Neural Nets for Thematic Image Classification in Pinterest(Torch) **Oct '15 - Sep '16**

- Harnessed Association Rule Mining for thematic label curation
- Developed ConvNet Models for hierarchical classification that led to automated image categorization based on themes

Classification of Anonymous Posts using Recurrent Neural Networks (Tensorflow) **Jan '15 - May '16**

- Generated vectorizer models using Word2vec trained on crowd-sourced (Urban Dictionary) & psycholingual (LIWC) dictionaries (Gensim)
- Attained prediction accuracy of 79.8 % and 78.1 % using LSTMs and ensemble models respectively

Facebook Confessions & Yik Yak **Jun '14- Dec '14**

- Studied question asking about sensitive topics in anonymous forums
- Designed a system to automatically identify and classify taboo posts in anonymous forums with good accuracy

Learning from Ads:Reverse-engineering demographics and interests **Feb '13-May '14**

- Created synthetic user profiles with different demographic and interest features and collecting ad traffic
- Created a model by using cross-validation which can predict user features from resulting data-set and ground-truth
- Application of the model to cellular web-data to predict user's demographics and interests on-the-fly

Graduate Researcher **Spring '10 - Spring '12**

Preventing Sybil attacks in P2P systems using Psychometric Tests **Fall '09 - Spring '11**

- Suggested a novel approach to use Psychometric Tests (Luscher Color Test and Myers Briggs Type Indicator Test) to evaluate psychometric index of users
- Cluster nodes with similar scores and in case of a particularly high-frequency zone, we treat these nodes as suspicious and further use CAPTCHAs to remove false positives.

Software Quality Evaluation using Fuzzy Multi-Criteria Approach **Spring '10- Spring '11**

- Employed fuzzy ratings and weights to software attributes and proposed a comprehensive model for calculating overall software quality based on ISO/IEC 9126 model.
- Tested on multiple university softwares and one industrial application.

Teaching Experience

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois USA

Teaching Assistant **Winter '14 -**

Assisted the instructor in teaching the following undergraduate level courses. Duties included sharing of responsibilities for lectures, exams, homework assignments, grades, and office hours.

- EECS 510 Social Media Mining, Spring '17, '18 & '19
- EECS 214 Data Structures and Data Management, Fall 2015
- EECS 110 Introduction to Computer Programming (Python) , Winter & Spring 2014, Winter 2015

Guest Lecturer **Spring '16**

EECS 510 Social Media Mining

- Impact of "likes" and "reactions" on social media
- Anonymity in Social Media
- Crawling and scraping the web

Instructor **Summer '16**

MGLC Transferable Skills Workshop on Machine Learning

Attended by McCormick Graduate students and faculty

- What and Why of Machine Learning ?
- Algorithms
- Application
- Introduction to Deep Learning

BITS Pilani, Rajasthan, India

Teaching Assistant **Jan - May '12**

Assisted the instructor in teaching the following undergraduate level courses. Duties included sharing of responsibilities for exams, homework assignments, grades and leading computer lab exercises.

- CS/IS 332 Introduction to Database Systems and Application, Spring 2012.

Publications: Journals

A.Dimri, **A.Paul**, D.Girish, P.Lee, S.Afra and A. Jakubowski. "**A Multi-input Multi-label Claims Channeling System Using Insurance-Based Language Models**", *Expert Systems With Applications, 2022*

K.Ness, **A. Paul**, L. Sun and Z. Zhang. "**Towards a generic physics-based machine learning model for geometry invariant thermal history prediction in additive manufacturing**", *Journal of Materials Processing Technology, 2022 - Special Issue on AI in Advanced Manufacturing*

Z.Yang, Y. Mao, D. Jha, **A. Paul**, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal. "**Generative Adversarial Networks and Mixture Density Networks based Inverse Modeling for Microstructural Materials Design**", *Science Advances (under review)*

R.Richards, and **A. Paul**. "**An Attention-driven LSTM Network for High Throughput Virtual Screening of Organic Photovoltaic Candidate Molecules**", *Solar Energy, 2021*

A. Paul, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal. "**Harnessing Psycho-lingual and Crowd-Sourced Dictionaries for Predicting Taboos in Written Emotional Disclosure in Anonymous Confession Boards**", *Journal of Health Informatics Research, 2021*

A. Paul, A. Furmanchuk, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal. "**Property Prediction of Organic Donor Molecules for Photovoltaic Applications using Extremely Randomized Trees**", *Journal of Molecular Informatics, 2019*

A. Paul, P. Acar, W. Liao, A. Choudhary, V.Sundararaghavan and A. Agrawal. "**Microstructure Optimization with Constrained Design Objectives using Machine Learning-Based Feedback-Aware Data-Generation**", *Journal of Computational Materials Science, Apr 2019*

D.Jha, L.Ward, **A. Paul**, W. Liao, A. Agrawal, A. Choudhary and C. Wolverton."**ElemNet: Deep Learning the Chemistry of Materials From Only Elemental Composition**", *Nature Scientific Reports, Nov 2018*

M.Mozaffar, **A. Paul**, R. Al-Bahrani, S. Wolff, A. Choudhary, A. Agrawal, K. Ehmann and J.Cao."**Data-Driven Prediction of the High-Dimensional Thermal History in Directed Energy Deposition Processes via Recurrent Neural Networks**", *Manufacturing Letters, Sep 2018*

A. Paul, P. Acar, R.Liu, W. Liao, A. Choudhary,V.Sundararaghavan and A. Agrawal. "**Data Sampling Schemes for Microstructure Design with Vibrational Tuning Constraints**", *Journal of American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Mar 2018*

K Haribabu, C.Hota and **A. Paul** "**GAUR: A Method to Detect Sybil Groups in Peer-to-Peer Overlays**", *International Journal of Grid and Utility Computing, 2012*

J.S. Challa, **A.Paul**, Y.Dada, V.Nerella, P.R. Srivastava and A.P.Singh "**Integrated Software Quality Evaluation: A Fuzzy Multi-Criteria Approach**", *Journal of Information Processing Systems (JIPS): Korean Information Processing Society, 2011.*

Publications: Conferences

A. Paul, M. Mozaffar, Z. Yang, W. Liao, A. Choudhary, J.Cao and A. Agrawal."**A real-time iterative approach for temperature profile prediction in additive manufacturing processes**", *6th IEEE International Conference on Data Science and Advanced Analytics (DSAA), 2019*

A. Paul, D.Jha, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal."**Transfer Learning Using Ensemble Neural Nets for Organic Solar Cell Screening**", *International Joint Conference on Neural Networks, 2019*

Z.Yang, D. Jha, **A. Paul**, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal. "**A General Framework Combining Generative Adversarial Networks and Mixture Density Networks for Inverse Modeling in Microstructural Materials Design**", *NIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Engineering Modeling, Simulation and Design, 2020*

A. Paul, D.Jha, R. Al-Bahrani, W. Liao, A. Choudhary and A. Agrawal."**CheMixNet: Mixed DNN Architectures for Predicting Chemical Properties using Multiple Molecular Representations**", *NIPS Workshop on Machine Learning for Molecules and Materials, 2018*

R. Liu, D. Palsetia, **A. Paul**, R. Al-Bahrani, D. Jha, W. Liao, A. Agrawal, and A. Choudhary. "**Pinter-Net: A Thematic Label Curation Tool for Large Image Datasets**", *Proceedings of the Workshop on Open Science in Big Data at IEEE Bigdata Conference, 2016.*

A. Paul, A. Agrawal, W. Liao, and A. Choudhary. "**AnonyMine: Mining anonymous social media posts using psycho-lingual and crowd-sourced dictionaries**", *Proceedings of the Workshop on Issues of Sentiment Discovery and Opinion Mining at 22nd Annual ACM Conference on Knowledge Discovery*

and Data Mining, 2016.

J.Birnholtz, N.A.R. Merola, and **A. Paul**. "**Is it Weird to Still Be a Virgin?:? Anonymous, Locally Targeted Questions on Facebook Confession Boards**", *Proceedings of the 33rd Annual ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM, 2015.*

A. Paul, Varuni G., J.S. Challa, and Y. Sharma "**HADCLEAN: A Hybrid Approach for Data Cleaning Techniques in Data Warehouses**", *Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Information Retrieval and Knowledge Management(CAMP),Kuala Lumpur, March,2012*

J.S. Challa, **A.Paul**, Y. Dada, V. Nerella, and P.R. Srivastava "**Quantification of Software Quality Parameters using Fuzzy Multi-Criteria Approach,**" *Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Process Automation Control and Computing (PACC) 2011, Coimbatore, July, 2011*

K Haribabu, **A.Paul**, and C. Hota "**Detecting Sybils in Peer-to-Peer Overlays using Psychometric Analysis Methods,**", *Proceedings of the 25th IEEE International Conference on Advanced Information Networking and Applications(AINA), Singapore, March 2011*

Awards & Honors

- McCormick Dean's Commendation Fellowship, during 6th year of PhD (2017-2018)
- Predictive Science and Engineering Design Fellowship, during 5th year of PhD (2016-2017)
- Segal Design Cluster Fellowship, during 3rd year of PhD (2014-2015)
- Walter P. Murphy Fellowship, during 1st year of PhD (2012-2013)
- BITS Pilani Merit-cum-Need Scholarship during undergraduate study
- Among 10 doctoral students across Northwestern selected for summer-long Research Communication Workshop, 2016
- All India Rank 1 in BITS HDSAT (admission test for graduate programs at BITS) in Software Systems
- All India Rank 64 & State Rank 9 in National Science Olympiad among more than half million participants during freshmen year of high-school

Leadership

- President and Treasurer, Northwestern Toastmasters Club (2015-16, 2016-17)
- President and Founding Member, Northwestern Creative Writing Club
- President, Northwestern University Cricket Club
- Co-Facilitator, Northwestern Dialogue Group
- Mentor, Brave Initiatives (http://www.braveinitiatives.com/)

Selected Course & Side Projects

- Developed a Sentiment Analysis Tool to find the most interesting or controversial events at the 2014 Golden Globe Awards from user-Tweets (Python) **Spring '14**
- Developed a web application to track a portfolio of a user's stocks. Used data mining techniques to analyze and predict stock and portfolio performance using historical data. (Perl, SQL) **Fall '12**
- Developed a real-time tool starts an alarm when a designated bus is 'x' (customizable) min away from the closest bus stop by scraping CTA bus tracker webpage (Python). **Fall '14**.