Prashant Kumar

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Research Interest

- Topological Deep Learning, Representation Learning, Point Clouds
- Generative Modelling for images
- Machine Learning on Graphs (Basic)
- Integrating Large Language models with tabular data, SQL

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages: C++, Python
- Skills: Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Graph Neural Networks (Basic)
- Tools: PyTorch, Git(Basic), NumPy, SciPy, Scikit-learn, Pandas, SQL, Databases

Education

| Examination | | Institute | Year | CPI/% |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Ph.D.(pursuing) | Computer Science & Engineering | IIT Delhi | 2020-Present | 9 |
| M.Tech | Computer Science & Engineering | IIT Guwahati | 2015-17 | 8.34 |
| B.Tech | Computer Science & Engineering | AKGEC, UPTU | 2008-12 | 77 |
| Intermediate | Science | St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Lko | 2008 | 92 |
| High School | Science | St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Lko | 2006 | 88 |

Publications

GLiDR: Topologically Regularized Graph Generative Network for Sparse LiDAR Point Clouds [pdf]
 Prashant Kumar*, Kshitij Bhat, Vedang Nadkarni, Prem Kumar Kalra

(Accepted at CVPR - 2024)

(Advisor: Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra (IIT Delhi)

MOVES: Movable v/s non-movable LiDAR Scene segmentation in segmentation label free settings [pdf]
 Prashant Kumar*, Onkar Susladkar, Dhruv Makwana, Prem Kumar Kalra, Anurag Mittal (Submitted to Pattern Recognition)

(Advisor: Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra) (IIT Delhi)

- Differentiable SLAM Helps Deep Learning-based LiDAR Perception Tasks [pdf]
 Prashant Kumar*, Dheeraj Vattikonda, Dhruv Makwana, Vedang Nadkarni, Erqun Dong, Sabyasachi Sahoo (Published at British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC) 2023)
- DSLR: Dynamic to Static Lidar Scan Reconstruction using an Adversarially Trained Autoencder[pdf] Prashant Kumar*, Sabyasachi Sahoo*, Vanshil Shah, Vineetha Kondameedi, Abhinav Jain, Akshaj Verma, Chiranjib Bhattacharyya, Vinay V.

(Published at AAAI - 2021)

(Advisor: Prof. Chiranjib Bhattacharyya (IISc Bengaluru), Dr. Vinay V (Chennai Mathematical Institite)

Work Experience

• Research Associate, IISc Bengaluru

Apr 2019 - Sep 2020

Research Associate: Robert Bosch Centre for Cyber Physical Systems, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Worked on LiDAR point clouds and adversarial machine learning for robust SLAM in constrained settings.

• Envestnet Yodlee

Jul 2017 - Mar 2019

Member Technical Staff: Docker and Product API team.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Automated sampling and importance weighing of positive and negatives nodes using code LLMs for Contrastive Learning on Graphs

(Advisor: Dr. Sayan Ranu, IIT Delhi, 2024 - Ongoing)

- o Use of code LLMs for self-supervised learning on Graphs.
- Sample positives and negatives for nodes via code LLMs using heuristics.
- o Encode positives and negatives using k-hop matrices and use closed loop feedback for LLMs.

• User-persona identification for e-commerce using graphs

(Advisor: Dr. Sayan Ranu, IIT Delhi, 2024 - Ongoing)

- Unsupervised persona identification for e-commerce platforms.
- o Use of Bipartite user-product interaction (UPI) heterogeneous graphs and hyper-graphs.
- LLMs for pretrained embeddings and label generation.
- Hypergraphs to identify overlapping user subsets for unsupervised persona identification.

0-dimensional Persistent Homolgy(PH) based topological regularization of point clouds (Advisor: Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra, IIT Delhi, 2023)

- o Sparse LiDAR sacrifices detail for efficiency, but still captures the overall shape of static structures.
- We use a graph generative network, GIIDR with topological regularization.
- o GLiDR addresses sparsity by adding points along a persistent homology backbone.
- Achieved superior performance and static augmentation across datasets using 32x sparser scans.

• Segmentation label generation of movable and moving object without training labels

(Advisor: Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra, IIT Delhi, 2022-23)

- Unpredictable motion based objects are dangerous for autonomy.
- Proposed a solution to segment such objects without needing manual labels.
- Developed a GAN with contrastive pair discriminator to uncover static regions behind occlusions.
- o New static LiDAR structures help SLAM and also help to identifying movable objects.

• Exploring differentiable SLAM for deep learning

(Personal Project)

- Investigated differentiable SLAM for end-to-end deep learning models in LiDAR applications.
- Integrate differentiable SLAM into per-point prediction tasks using a self-supervised strategy.
- o Demonstrated improved performance on ground level estimation and generative modelling tasks.

• Occluded static scene generation using adversarial training

(Advisor: Prof. Chiranjib Bhattacharyyaa (IISc Bengaluru) and Dr. Vinay V. (CMI Chennai), 2019-20)

- o Generate an accurate perception of occluded static surroundings from dynamic LiDAR.
- Develop a novel adversarial model using pair discriminator. Used label flipping to achieve static scans.
- o New generated static points resemble closely to original static points and help in robust navigation.

• Estimation of Lithological Properties from Seismic Data and Well Logs

(Advisor: Dr. Rashmi Dutta Baruah, IIT Guwahati, 2016 - 17)

- o Identify lithological properties of earth's crust using data from seismic surveys and well logs.
- o Developed a method using unsupervised pretraining to predict the existence of oil at a given location.

Achievements

- Outstanding Teaching Assistanship Award: Introduction to Computer Science.
- ACM IARCS(USD 1000) and Google Travel Grant(USD 3000) for CVPR 2024.

Mentorship Experience

- Mentored Minor project on Scene Graphs of an undergraduate student Aadya Agarwal, IIT Delhi.
- Mentored two students Kshitij Bhat (IIT Indore), Vedang Nadkarni (BITS Pilani) on a research project at IIT Delhi.

- Mentored two students Dhruv Makwana (GTU Gujarat), Onkar Susladkar (VIIT Pune) on two research projects at IIT Delhi.
- Mentored a student Vanshil Shah, at IISc Bengaluru on a research project at IISc Bengaluru.

Key Courses

- Optimization Methods
- Multivariate Statistical Analysis
- Data Structures
- Design and Analysis of Algorithms
- Discrete Mathematics
- Linear Algebra

- Probability
- Machine Learning
- Deep Learning
- Computational Geometry
- Graph Neural Networks

References

- Prof. Anurag Mittal anumittal@cse.iitd.ac.in
 Professor, CSE Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- Prof. Prem Kumar Kalra pkalra@cse.iitd.ac.in
 Professor and Head Of Department, CSE Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- Prof. Chiranjib Bhattacharyya chiru@iisc.ac.in
 Professor, CSA Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore