Purnata Ghosal

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Personal Profile

I am a PhD Scholar at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, currently in my sixth year. I am interested in Complexity Theory in general. During my PhD, I have worked in Algebraic Complexity Theory, the study of computational problems on polynomials. I have been passionate about research from the latter years of my undergraduate degree, because of which I pursued small projects in and outside my institute. Currently, I am looking forward to opportunities for working in academic research.

Education

2014-Now PhD in Computer Science - Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

CGPA - 8.47/10

2010-2014 Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) - Indian Institute of Engineering, Science and Technology, Shibpur

Passed with 82.71% marks.

2008-2010 High School Education (CBSE) - DAV Model School, Durgapur

Passed All-India Senior Secondary Certificate Examination with 95.8% marks.

Projects

July 2014 - Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
Present PhD (Algebraic Complexity Theory)

I am studying arithmetic circuits, which are models of computation for polynomials over a field. I am interested in identity testing of special classes of multilinear circuits, and showing lower bounds against classes of arithmetic circuits both in the classical sense and parameterized by degree of the polynomial. I recently submitted my PhD thesis titled *On Lower Bounds and PIT for Parameterized Algebraic Models*.

Jul 2013 - Indian Institute of Engineering, Science and Technology, Shibpur

May 2014 B.E Final Year Project

Comparative study of the optimal nature of final solutions obtained by using a Genetic Algorithm on the outputs of four classifier algorithms (C4.5, CN2, RISE and PRISM) on a collection of datasets versus using a reward-punishment weight assignment on the candidate solutions.

May - Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

Jun 2013 Summer Intern

Implemented the adaptively improved Douglas-Peucker Algorithm for polygonal approximation of gray-scale images and compared the output with a Digital Geometric method for polygonal approximation on the same image set.

Nov 2012- Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics

Feb 2013 Winter Intern

I classified cosmic ray data into gamma and hadron particles using a phenomenological method (i.e properties of the particles). The data was interpreted using the ROOT Framework (a C/C++ interpretor based framework) and TMVA (Toolkit for Multi Variate Analysis) Framework was used for classification.

Publications

- On Constant Depth Circuits Parameterized by Degree: Identity Testing and Depth Reduction by Purnata Ghosal, Om Prakash, B. V. Raghavendra Rao appeared in the proceedings of the International Computing and Combinatorics Conference (COCOON) 2017, pages 250-261.
- *On Proving Parameterized Size Lower Bounds for Multilinear Algebraic Models* by Purnata Ghosal, B. V. Raghavendra Rao appeared in the proceedings of the International Computing and Combinatorics Conference (COCOON) 2019, pages 178-192.
- *A note on parameterized polynomial identity testing using hitting set generators* by Purnata Ghosal, B. V. Raghavendra Rao appeared in Information Processing Letters, Volume 151.
- *On Lower Bounds and PIT for Parameterized Algebraic Models*, PhD Thesis by Purnata Ghosal (submitted for the completion of the MS-PhD Dual Degree Programme at IIT Madras).

Talks

Mar 2016 On Derandomizing Algorithms that Err Extremely Rarely

Authors: Oded Goldreich, Avi Wigderson

Presented the paper as a Complexity Theory Meet (Cotmeet) seminar at IIT Madras.

Aug 2017 On Constant Depth Circuits Parameterized by Degree: Identity Testing and Depth Reduction

Authors: Purnata Ghosal, Om Prakash, B. V. Raghavendra Rao

Presented at the Computing and Combinatorics Conference (COCOON) 2017.

Aug 2018 Separating Monotone VP and VNP

Author: Amir Yehudayoff

Presented the paper as a Complexity Theory Meet (Cotmeet) seminar at IIT Madras.

Jan, Mar 2019 Parameterized Lower Bounds on Multilinear Algebraic Models

Authors: Purnata Ghosal, B. V. Raghavendra Rao

Presented as a Complexity Seminar at Saarland University and later at the Workshop on Algebraic Complexity Theory (WACT) 2019.

Aug 2019 Lower Bounds for sums of powers of low degree univariates

Authors: Neeraj Kayal, Pascal Koiran, Timothée Pecatte, Chandan Saha

Presented the paper as a Complexity Theory Meet (Cotmeet) seminar at IIT Madras.

Coursework and Teaching

Courses: The following are courses that I took part in, at IIT Madras. Grades are on a scale of 10:

Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms 9
Mathematical Concepts for Computer Science 9
Algorithmic Algebra 9
Advanced Theory of Computation 7
Advanced Complexity Theory 8
Modern Techniques in Theory of Computation 8
Advanced Algorithms 8
Probability and Computing 9
I have also audited a course on Representation Theory.

Teaching: I was a Teaching Assistant for the following courses:

Computational Engineering

Languages, Machines and Computation

Fundamentals of Data Science

Advanced Data Structures and Algorithms

Pseudorandomness

Logic and Combinatorics in Computer Science

Randomized Algorithms Computability and Complexity

Software Skills and Other Achievements

Software

- Proficient in programming in C, C++, Python 2.7, Java
- Oracle Certified Web Component Developer (J2EE 5, JSTL 1.0, Struts Framework 1.2.9)
- Comfortable with scripting in ETFX, Comfortable with Windows and Linux environments

Scholastic Achievements

- Recipient of National Talent Search Scholarship by qualifying NTS Examination conducted by NCERT, Government of India.
- Participated in an Oracle Certified JAVA (J2EE 5) Web Component Developing course conducted by NIIT and completed a web development project using Struts 1.2.9 framework, JSTL 1.0.