Data Scientist, Research Statistician dsaha@cs.umd.edu | saharaja.github.io

DEBJANI SAHA

EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Aug. 2017 – May 2020

M.S., Computer Science | Advisor: Dr. Michelle L. Mazurek

New York University Tandon School of Engineering, New York, NY

Sept. 2016 – May 2017

Additional computer science coursework (discrete math, algorithms)

New York University, New York, NY

Sept. 2009 – May 2013

B.S., Neural Science, Magna Cum Laude | Joint Minor, Computer Science & Mathematics | Pre-Medicine Track

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Data Scientist

Jul. 2020 – present

Ruxton Advisors, LLC; Sub-contractor for the Social Security Administration (SSA)

Baltimore, MD

- Developing machine learning (ML) models for the SSA to predict likelihood of re-employment for Title II and XVI (disability) beneficiaries; using these models to inform future re-employment outreach efforts
- Building a software package utilizing ensemble ML methods to impute missing data in the Occupational Requirements Survey (ORS) administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Graduate Research Assistant

Sept. 2018 – Aug. 2020

Maryland Cybersecurity Center, UMD

College Park, MD

- User study (interviews) interrogating attitudes towards privacy and security concerns in commercial genetic testing
- User study (surveys) evaluating lay comprehension of mathematical definitions of fairness used in machine learning

Bioinformatics Specialist / Consultant

Nov. 2015 – Dec. 2019

The Rockefeller University / Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

New York, NY

- Built custom pipelines for analyzing gene expression data (microarrays, RNA sequencing) in immunological contexts
- Worked to determine the effects of perturbations (e.g., infection, vaccination, and therapy) on human gene expression

Research Associate

Oct. 2013 - Oct. 2015

Lieber Institute for Brain Development, JHMI

Baltimore, MD

- Built pipeline to automate extraction and analysis of data from functional neuroimaging (fMRI) studies
- Worked to identify brain regions linked to both cognitive deficits in schizophrenia (SZ) and genetic inheritance

SELECTED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Saha, D., [and 4 others], & Mazurek, M.L. User attitudes on commercial genetic testing. Proceedings of 5th IEEE European Symposium on Security and Privacy (EuroS&P) 2020. Virtual Conference. [Paper]
- Saha, D., [and 4 others], & Tschantz, M.C. Measuring Non-Expert Comprehension of Machine Learning Fairness Metrics. 37th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2020. Virtual Conference. [Paper]
- Saha, D., [and 4 others], & Tschantz, M.C. Human comprehension of fairness in machine learning. Proceedings of the 3rd AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES) 2020. New York, NY. [Abstract] [ArXiv paper]

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Seifert, L.L., Si, C., Saha, D., [and 12 others], & Dittmann, M. The ETS transcription factor ELF1 regulates a broadly antiviral program distinct from the type I interferon response. PLOS Pathogens 2019, 15(11): e1007634. [Article]
- Wu, X., Thi, V.L.D., Huang, Y., Billerbeck, E., **Saha, D.**, [and 13 others], & Rice, C.M. Intrinsic immunity shapes viral resistance of stem cells. Cell 2018, 172(3): 423-438. [Article]
- Kaplan, C.M., Saha, D., [and 5 others], & Tan, H. Estimating changing contexts in schizophrenia. Brain 2016, 139(7): 2082-2095. [Article]

SELECTED SKILLS

• **Programming** R, Matlab, Python, Perl, Java, Linux, shell scripting (esp. Bash), LaTeX, [R] Markdown

Specialized software Tableau, Qualtrics, MaxQDA

Qualitative methods
Survey and interview design, user studies, grounded theory

• **Human subjects research** Behavioral and biomedical settings, Institutional Review Board (IRB) procedures

• Scientific communication Technical writing, literature research and review, data visualization

Languages
Fluent in English, Bengali, basic German and Hindi; literate in English and German

HONORS & OTHER EXPERIENCE

- Member, Phi Beta Kappa Society
- Martial arts (Taekwondo, Shotokan karate, BJJ) two black belts with sixteen years of experience