

Sandeep Mishra

Ph.D Student, University of Texas at Austin

Advisor: **Prof. Alan C. Bovik**

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🏠 [Webpage](#)

Research Interests: Image/Video Quality Assessment and Enhancement, Self-Supervised Learning, Efficient Learning

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

Graduate Student Researcher - Electrical and Computer Engineering

2021 - Present

Cumulative GPA: 4/4

Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India

B.Tech(E & ECE) + M.Tech Dual Degree in Visual Information & Embedded Systems

2014 - 2019

Minor in Computer Science & Technology

PUBLICATION

Re-IQA : Unsupervised Learning for Image Quality Assessment in the Wild [↗](#)

Sandeep Mishra, Avinab Saha, Alan C. Bovik

Under Review - 2023

RecSal : Deep Recursive Supervision for Visual Saliency Prediction [↗](#)

Sandeep Mishra and Oindrila Saha

British Machine Vision Conference (BMVC), 2020

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- **Rethinking Image Quality Assessment** UT Austin
PI: Alan C. Bovik 2021 - Present
 - ▷ Designed a Mixture of Experts approach to learn complementary distortion-aware features and content-aware features for Image Quality Assessment.
 - ▷ Re-used MoCo-v2 training paradigm for learning unsupervised content-aware features using ImageNet dataset.
 - ▷ Modified the MoCo paradigm with a novel image augmentation scheme to facilitate learning of quality-aware features.
 - ▷ Proposed a novel Intra-Pair Image Swapping and an overlapping-area based cropping scheme to generate better samples of 'similar-quality' and 'different-quality' pairs.
 - ▷ Demonstrated the significant impact of content on the subjective quality of 'Images in the Wild' scenario and the impact of distortion-aware features on the subjective quality of synthetically distorted images.
- **LIVE-ShareChat UGC database and Video Quality Evaluation** UT Austin, ShareChat
PI: Alan C. Bovik 2021 - Present
 - ▷ Designed and conducted a study to capture human opinion scores for video quality assessment of ShareChat reels.
 - ▷ Mean opinion scores were calculated after post-processing of the raw data collected from 48 subjects over 600 videos.
 - ▷ Trained the novel Re-IQA framework with image-frames from over 20K ShareChat videos to learn quality aware features.
 - ▷ Paired the Re-IQA quality-aware encoder with a LSTM head for temporal processing of video frames.
 - ▷ Single-handedly beats all state of the art methods for video quality prediction on LIVE-ShareChat UGC database.
- **Biologically Inspired Saliency Prediction** IIT Kharagpur
Independent Project, BMVC'20 2019 - 2020
 - ▷ Proposed optimising a different loss per output map & a multi-decoder model to exploit all levels of features.
 - ▷ Extracted temporal and sequential metadata from existing datasets to provide extra supervision for saliency detection.
 - ▷ Designed recursive blocks to provide bio-inspired supervision with temporally/spatially sequenced metadata.
 - ▷ Outperformed previous SOTA methods with 50-80% fewer parameters, while also performing consistently well across all evaluation metrics unlike prior art methods.
 - ▷ First position among all published work in the [LSUN-Saliency Prediction Challenge \(CVPR'17\)](#) [↗](#)
- **Joint embedding space for Image and Text analysis** IIT Kharagpur
Master Thesis, Guide: Prof. Debashis Sen 2018 - 2019
 - ▷ Designed an encoder network to extract a feature vector representation of an image.
 - ▷ Generated feature vector representation for a caption of the same image using LSTMs.

- ▷ Proposed various ranking methods to compute a similarity score between the vectors generated and trained the networks using these scores as loss function.

Fuzzy Bayesian surprise model for Human Attention

IIT Kharagpur

Bachelor Thesis, Guide: Prof. Debashis Sen

2017 - 2018

- ▷ Compute saliency maps for each frame of a video input based on features like color, intensity and motion.
- ▷ Formulated the surprise for each frame w.r.t. its previous frames using a fuzzy Bayesian probabilistic model.
- ▷ Developed a winner-take-all criteria on surprise map to select the point of maximum attention.
- ▷ Performed an extensive comparison of the above method with SOTA w.r.t. the ground truth/eye tracking data.

INDUSTRIAL EXPERIENCE

SRIB - Samsung R&D Institute Bangalore

Bangalore, India

Lead Research Engineer, Visual Intelligence Group (VIG)

2019 - 2021

AI Gallery Zoom

- ▷ Designed a low complexity ($\approx 2K$ parameters) CNN based Image Super-Resolution software pipeline.
- ▷ Trained three different networks configurations and developed classification and detection modules to handle different sources of images in Gallery to produce artifact free super-resolved images under all scenarios.
- ▷ Commercialized in more than 10 latest Samsung Mid-Tier mobile phones and flagship mobile devices in 2021.
- ▷ Awarded **Samsung Citizen Award** and **Spot Award** for remarkable contribution and successful commercialization.

AI Video Super Resolution

- ▷ Developed a Video SR solution (on top of optical zoom of 4x) for Samsung smartphones.
- ▷ Implemented unsupervised Cycle-GAN for transferring wide-lens images to Tele-lens domain (self captured).
- ▷ SR networks when trained on this synthetic data produced outputs with highly enhanced details, sharpness and reduced noise levels as compared to the existing solutions (using conventional datasets) without introducing any artifacts.
- ▷ Awarded **Spot Award** for remarkable contribution in validating PoC and achieving high quality Super-Resolution on videos captured through Tele-Lens.

SRIB - Samsung R&D Institute Bangalore

Bangalore, India

Research Intern, Visual Intelligence Group (VIG)

Summer 2018

- ▷ Developed a deep CNN based 3D Human Pose estimation model using a single RGB camera without a depth sensor.
- ▷ Implemented VNect decoder along with MobileNetV2 encoder and ResNet50 encoder and evaluated their performance.
- ▷ Achieved real time applications with a significantly small sized model that could be implemented on a mobile device.

Mentor Graphics, a Siemens Business

Noida, India

Software Intern, Veloce Emulation Platform - Testing team

Summer 2017

- ▷ Observed performance variation caused by Out-Of-the-Blue Calls to pin point the exact reason for the variation.
- ▷ Developed a test-bench for searching a particular data in a Flexmem from the HVL(Software) side.
- ▷ Developed a method to perform GUI dump checks for Veloce v1704 to compare results of a simulation with its Gold files.
- ▷ Tested the new CRD writer API for any relevant bugs before its release in the upcoming versions of Veloce.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Honored with **Samsung Citizen Award** and **Spot Award** for excellent technical contribution in Samsung for the year 2020
- Secured All India Rank **487** in **JEE ADVANCED-2014** (secured **99.7 percentile**)
- Secured All India Rank **158** in **JEE MAINS-2014** conducted by CBSE (secured **99.99 percentile**)
- Secured All India Rank **102** in **Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahana Yojana-2013** conducted by IISc, Bangalore and received scholarship for the same from Department of Science and Technology, Government of India
- Received **National Talent Search Examination** Scholarship from Ministry of Human Resource Development, India

RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Teaching Assistantship:** Department of Electronics and Electrical Communication Engg., IIT Kharagpur

- ▷ Introduction to Electronics Lab: *Prof. Chetna Singhal & Prof. Shailendra Kumar Varshney* 2018
- ▷ Image Processing Lab: *Prof. Sudipta Mukhopadhyay* 2019

- Mentored a 4 week web development course organized by EduSpectrum for freshmen of IIT Kharagpur 2016
- Awarded the Best NSS Volunteer (National Service Scheme, under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, India) for excellent service towards education and development in villages near IIT Kharagpur 2014-16