Shweta Prasad

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EDUCATION	Ashoka University, Sonipat, Haryana, India BSc. Hons. in Computer Science with a Biology minor Lab Affiliation: Neuroethology Lab, Ashoka University Cumulative GPA: 3.57 / 4.0	Aug 2018 – Aug 2022
	Neuromatch Academy, School of Computational Neuroscience Interactive Track student, mentored by Dr. Adrien Peyrache, McGill University, Canada	Jul 2020 – Jul 2020
	Hari Sri Vidya Nidhi School , Punkunnam, Thrissur, Kerala, India Grade XII - ISC - 94.25 %; Grade X - ICSE - 94.25 %	June 2012 – May 2016
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	 Neuroethology Lab, Ashoka University Supervisor: Dr. K. Bittu Rajaraman (Associate Professor, Depts. of Biology and Psychology) ■ Ongoing project: Mathematically modelling call pattern generation and recognition in bushcrickets using complex dynamical system models. ■ Independent study completed in topics in computational neuroscience with a focus on understanding spike sorting neural data, doing field work and assisting Ph.D students in designing behavioral experiments. 	Aug 2018 – Present
	 Neuromatch Academy Mentor: Dr. Adrien Peyrache, McGill University, Canada Completed group project: Decoding neural data from Steinmetz, et al., 2019, to predict erroneous decision making in trained mice. We made use of GLMs to predict whether the performance of trained mice that performed well in an 2-AUC experimental paradigm was affected by previous erroneous decisions. Results were inconclusive. 	Jul 2020 – Jul 2020
	 Single Molecule Biophysics, Haldar Lab, Ashoka University Supervisors: Dr. Shubhasis Haldar (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology) and Dr. Debayan Gupta (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science) Ongoing project: Building and improving covalent magnetic tweezers and associated software(s) for week-long studies of single molecules biophysics. (Currently on hold, due to COVID-19) 	Dec 2019 – Present
RESEARCH INTERESTS	 Attention in machine learning and as a neurophysical phenomenon Complex dynamical systems, networks, information in networks and neuroethology Central pattern generators: rhythmic pattern production and recognition Acoustic communication, audition and navigation in invertebrates Reinforcement learning, optimal control & decision theory, particularly in understanding sensorimotor control 	
AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS	 Dean's List: Spring Semester 2019 – Summer Semester 2019 For attaining a semester GPA of at least 3.65. 	
TEACHING	Algorithm Design and Analysis Undergraduate Teaching Assistant Course taught by Dr. Subhash Bhalla in Spring 2021.	Jan 2021 – 202104
LEADERSHIP ROLES	Student Representative, Department of Computer Science , Ashoka University Appointed by the Head of Department, Dept. of CS. I serve as primary coordinator of all communication between the department and the student body, and am responsible for outreach and organization within the student body.	Sep 2020 – Sep 2021
	Ministry of Academic Affairs , Student Government , Ashoka University Member of the Academic Advisory Board: The AAB is consulted by the MAA before policy decisions are made.	Sep 2020 – Sep 2021

Organized multiple stand-alone and collaborative on- campus events

Vistaar is the largest student-run organization at Ashoka. As President, I:

President, Vistaar - The Music Society, Ashoka University

■ Brought about policy changes with regards to University facilities dispensed via Vistaar.

Sep 2019 – Mar 2020

 Shifted focus to building an inclusive, collaborative atmosphere for growth of musical engagement on campus

Ministry of Community Well-being: Infirmary & Sexual Health Dept.,

Jul 2019 - Mar 2019

Student Government, Ashoka University

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

Women in Computing Society, Ashoka University

Aug 2018 – Present

Member of Events Team. WICS, Ashoka is a student led academic society that focuses on inculcating an inclusive and productive space for women and non-binary folk in CS. We work to bring

more women into CS and STEM.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Alumni Relations Office, Ashoka University

Mar 2021 – Present

Associate Manager

Efficiently manage databases and a web portal for alums. Strategic planning to increase alumni engagement.

DiverseNeuro: A Diversity Project

Jun 2020 – Present

Co-Founder and Researcher

A collaborative research venture between IISER Pune and Ashoka University;

Aims to study the international academic demographic in neuroscience in order to help inclusive policy-making.

The Neuroscience Outreach Network, Princeton, NJ, USA

Aug 2020 - 202101

Community Outreach and Content Coordinator

The goal of this project is to enable access to education in neuroscience to students in underserved communities, to tailor virtual or classroom lessons and materials for individual grade levels, from kindergarten to 12th grade and beyond, and provide lessons and materials to teachers, students and their caretakers in their native language (e.g., Spanish, Hindi, Russian, etc.).

Writer, Kalinga Magazine, Ashoka University Writer, Pehchaan Magazine, Ashoka University

Sep 2018 – Nov 2019

Jan 2019 – Apr 2019

CONFERENCES

ATTENDED

- No Garland Neuroscience, 2020 IISER Pune
- Animal Behavior Society Conference 2020
- JuliaCon 2020
- Insect Navigation Workshop 2020, U of Sussex
- ICMNS 2020
- Neuromatch 1.0, 2.0
- OCNS*2020 : Computational Neuroscience conference
- ViDA 2020: Virtual Dopamine Conference

LANGUAGES

English, Malayalam, Hindi

SKILLS

L^ATEX, XALATLAB, R, C/C++, Python, Java, GIMP, HTML, CSS, p5.js, Adobe Illustrator

INTERESTS

Illustration, writing, music, hiking, cycling, science communication.