Sudarsh Kunnavakkam

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Work Experience

Research Intern Sep 2023 — Present
Model Evaluation and Threat Research (METR) *Berkeley, CA*
- Worked on projects to evaluate the agentic time horizon of LLMs
- Co-lead engineer of a state of the art evaluation for Chain-of-Thought Faithfulness of Large Langauge Models
- Led team of contractors to red-team LLMs and write custom datasets

Undergraduate Research Intern Nov 2024 — Present
ShapiroLab at Caltech *Pasadena, CA*
- Building better BCIs by engineering towards 10ms response time ultrasound reporters
- Designed custom proteins with RFDiffusion, Alphafold, and ESM3 for 10x faster kinetics

Research Fellow Feb 2025 — May 2025
Supervised Program for Alignment Research *Remote*
- Implemented a complex, *continuous double auction* agent arena as a model environment for LLM collusion, accepted to *ICML 2025*

High School Research Intern Dec 2022 — Jun 2024
Lee Nano-Optics Lab at UC Irvine *Irvine, CA*
- Scaled 2D ITO fabrication from mm² to multi-cm² sizes and developed new transfer-matrix methods for ellipsometry and refractive index characterization. Published at a US Government Workshop.

Skills

Machine Learning (PyTorch, Jax, Transformers, Diffusion Models, Reinforcement Learning on LLMs, GRPO, PPO, Interpretability), Python, Rust, C++, Javascript, Full-stack Development, PCB Fabrication, Data Analysis, Signal Processing, Rust, 3D Modeling, Shop Experience, General Wet Lab, Electron Microscopy, AFM, Scanning Probe Microscopy

Education

California Institute of Technology Pasadena, CA
B.S. in Physics & Computer Science *In progress*

Selected Publications

1. A. Deng*, S. Von Arx*, B. Snodin, S. Kunnavakkam, T. Lanham, "CoT May Be Highly Informative Despite "Unfaithfulness"" by *METR*
2. K. Agarwal, V. Teo, J. Vaquez, S. Kunnavakkam, V. Srikanth, A. Liu, "Evaluating LLM Agent Collusion in Double Auctions" at *ICML 2025 Workshop on Multi-Agent Systems in the Era of Foundation Models* , Vancouver, Canada, July 2025.
3. C. J. Effarah*, T. Chen*, S. Kunnavakkam*, C. M. Gonzalez, H. W. Lee, "Liquid Metal Printed 2D ITO for Nanophotonic Applications," in *California-US Government Workshop on 2D Materials*, Irvine, California, USA, Sep 2023

Projects

METR: Faithfulness and Monitorability Eval 2025
- A thorough evaluation building on Anthropic's seminal work on chain-of-thought (CoT) faithfulness, with thorough redteaming throughout.

LLM Agent Collusion Arena 2025
- A continuous double auction system for agents, oversight, monitors, and other experimental conditions to test influence on collusion, accepted to *ICML 2025*

EM Simulator 2025
- Reverse mode differentiable FDFD simulators in Jax for inverse design, with fast FDFD and FDTD through diffusion & neural operators

Scanning Tunneling Microscope 2024
- Built working STM for $1,000 using open-source design

Awards

ARENA 6.0 Attendee 2025

Non-trivial Fellow 2024

Physics Brawl, top 10 US High School Teams 2024, 2023

USACO Silver 2023

AIME Qualifier 2023