

SNEH PANDYA

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EDUCATION

Northeastern University

2021-Present

Ph.D., Physics

Member of Graduate Student Council

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2017-2021

B.S., Physics, Minors in Mathematics & Astronomy

GPA: 3.79/4.00

Member of Sigma Nu Fraternity

SELECTED RESEARCH

Junior Researcher, NSF IAIFI

January 2022 - Present

Prof. Fabian Ruehle

Boston, MA

- Member of Summer School Organization Committee and Outreach Committee
- Studying neural network scaling laws.

Research Assistant, High Energy Theory Group

March 2021 - September 2021

Prof. Yonatahn Kahn

Urbana, IL

- Executed numerical simulations using PyTorch to analyze the statistics of preactivations in a neural network to see how the choice of initialization distribution of neurons affects the network output.

Research Assistant, Galaxy & Black Hole Astrophysics Group

March 2019 - May 2021

Prof. Xin Liu

Urbana, IL

- Developed effective machine learning algorithms and feature engineering pipeline to weigh supermassive black holes using observational data from the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.

Research Assistant, Nuclear Physics Group

June 2020 - September 2020

Prof. Douglas Beck

Urbana, IL

- Investigated magnetic field interactions for spin and higher number particulate systems in the context of quantum “squeezed” states to retrieve the dynamics for arbitrary spin particles.

PUBLICATIONS

S. Pandya*, J. Lin*, D. Pratap, X. Liu, M. Kind. AGNet: Weighing Black Holes with Machine Learning. Neurips 2020 Machine Learning for the Physical Sciences. arXiv:2011.15095

S. Pandya*, J. Lin*, D. Pratap, X. Liu, M. Kind, V. Kindratenko. AGNet: Weighing Black Holes with Deep Learning. Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society. arXiv:2108.07749

SCHOOLS & WORKSHOPS

IAIFI PhD Summer School and Workshop

August 2022

Princeton Deep Learning Theory Summer School

July 2021

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Mathematical Physics Days, <i>Oral Presentation (Invited)</i> Video)	2021
Illinois Astrofest, <i>Poster (1st Place)</i>	2021
Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) Workshop, <i>Poster</i> (Video, Poster)	2020
Illinois Undergraduate Research Symposium, <i>Poster</i> (Video, Poster, Press)	2020

WORK

SPIN Intern & NSF REU Fellow August 2019 - May 2021
National Center for Supercomputing Applications Urbana, IL

- Utilized HAL supercomputing cluster to accelerate neural network training time, execute data simulation pipeline to expand training data set, and create informative visualizations for a general audience.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Fellowship Award 2021
National Center for Supercomputing Applications Urbana, IL

- \$1500 awarded to undergraduate students showing outstanding contributions during the Summer 2020 REU Inclusion program. The Fiddler Fellowship award is part of a \$2 million-dollar endowment from Jerry Fiddler and Melissa Alden to the University of Illinois in support of student and faculty interdisciplinary research initiatives through the Illinois' Emerging Digital Research and Education in Arts Media (eDream) Institute at NCSA.

SERVICE & TEACHING

Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2022
Reviewer for NeurIPS-AI4Science workshop

International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2022
Reviewer for the ICML-AI4Science workshop

Department of Physics 2021-2022
Northeastern University Boston, MA

- Teaching assistant, PHYS 1148 Physics for Life Sciences Lab
- Teaching assistant, Physics for Engineering Discussion
- Teaching assistant, PHYS 1152 Physics for Engineering Lab

Youth Outreach

I gave several lectures to physics students at high schools in Illinois on career paths in physics and the intersection of artificial intelligence and physics research.

RELEVANT ADVANCED COURSEWORK

Statistical Field Theory (Tong)
General Relativity (Carroll)
Complex Analysis
Applied Statistics with R
Cosmology (Sparke & Gallagher)

SKILLS

Programming: Python (PyTorch, sklearn, Pandas, AstroPy), RStudio

Software: Mathematica, GitHub, LaTeX

Other: photographer, concert-goer, washed-up tennis player, intramural table tennis athlete