Soumen Kumar Mondal

Center for Machine Intelligence and Data Science (CMInDS)

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

Specialization: Artificial Intelligence and Data Science

Email-ID: mondalsoumen00@gmail.com or soumenkm@iitb.ac.in

M.S. by Research DOB: 12/08/1996 Mobile: +918759240557

Male

Website: https://soumenkm.github.io

Qualification	Specialization	Institute	Year	CPI/% (R)
MS by Research	Artificial Intelligence & Data Science	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	2023 - 2026	$9.81 (1^{st})$
MTech	Structural Engineering	Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	2018 - 2020	$9.30 (4^{th})$
BTech	Civil Engineering	Jadavpur University, Kolkata	2014 - 2018	$8.74 (6^{th})$
12^{th} Standard	Science (PCM), Languages	Haldia High School (West Bengal Board)	2012 - 2014	$89.60 (1^{st})$
10 th Standard	Science, Arts, Languages	Haldia High School (West Bengal Board)	2011 - 2012	86.85 (2 nd)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programming & Scripting Languages: Python, C, C++, MATLAB
- Tools and Technologies: PyTorch, HuggingFace, NumPy, Pandas, TensorFlow, Scikit-Learn, LaTeX, Git, Linux

M.S. BY RESEARCH

- Improving Alignment and Control in Multilingual LLMs via Preference Optimization and Reinforcement Learning (M.S. Thesis, Advisor: Prof. Preethi Jyothi, CSE, IIT Bombay) (Spring 2025 Present)
 - This work focuses on enhancing the alignment of multilingual LLMs, particularly for low-resource languages, by leveraging preference optimization and reinforcement learning techniques—such as PPO, RLHF, DPO, SimPO, and CPO—to enable advanced model editing, steering, and arithmetic capabilities.
 - Code: https://github.com/soumenkm/ModelEditing (Currently Private)
- Improving Downstream Task Performance in Multi-lingual LLMs by Intervening Language Specific Neurons (M.S. Thesis, Advisor: Prof. Preethi Jyothi, CSE, IIT Bombay) (Autumn 2024)
 - This work investigates language-specific neurons in multilingual LLMs, employing methods like LAPE and activation probability techniques to enhance cross-lingual transfer, but finds that targeted interventions yield limited improvements. The paper "Language-specific Neurons Do Not Facilitate Cross-Lingual Transfer" has been accepted (oral) at NAACL 2025 and is available on arXiv at https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.17456.
 - o Code: https://github.com/soumenkm/LangSpecificNeurons
- IIT Bombay Amazon Collaboration: Localizing Text Across Domains Using RARR Attribution Technique (M.S. R&D Project, Advisor: Prof. Preethi Jyothi, CSE, IIT Bombay) (Grade: 10, Spring 2024)
 - o Investigated generalizing text generation for localization across domains, e.g., "Show me CNN news" → "Show me NDTV news," using the RARR attribution technique. Developed the benchmark to evaluate LLMs' ability to perform localization, leading to the paper "LoFTI: Localization and Factuality Transfer to Indian Locales" (arXiv: https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.11833, received meta review of 4/5, to be accepted at ACL 2025.)
 - Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/RnD_Project
- Cross-lingual Factual Knowledge Transfer in Multi-lingual Language Models

(M.S. Seminar, Advisor: Prof. Preethi Jyothi, CSE, IIT Bombay)

(Grade: 10, Spring 2024)

- o Inspected the representation of facts in mBERT for cross-lingual knowledge transfer using probeless method.
- Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/TracingRootFacts

MACHINE LEARNING COURSE PROJECTS

• FairPO: Robust Preference Optimization for Fair Multi-Label Learning

(Course Project, Optimisation for ML, Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, CSE, IIT Bombay)

(Spring 2025)

- FairPO—a novel multi-label classification or attribute generation framework inspired by GRPO partitions labels into privileged and non-privileged groups and uses a DPO/SimPO/CPO preference loss to boost fairness which tunes true-positive vs. confusing negatives in the privileged set while keeping baseline accuracy on the rest.
- Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/FairPO (Currently Private)
- Vision Transformer (ViT) Model Fine-Tuning with MillionAID Dataset using LoRA

(Course Project, Advanced Deep Learning for CV, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE, IIT Bombay)

(Autumn 2024)

- o Implemented LoRA from scratch to fine-tune a DINOv2 pretrained ViT model on the MillionAID dataset.
- o Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/IITB-GNR650-ADLCV/tree/main/CodingProject

• Learning to Classify Images under Noisy Labels using Turtle

(Course Project, Advanced Deep Learning for CV, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE, IIT Bombay)

(Autumn 2024)

- o Tackled label noise learning by combining majority voting (CLIP+DINO trained ViT) with fine-tuning on 90% denoised labels, achieving 88% accuracy on the CIFAR-100 test set despite 40% noisy labels in the training data.
- Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/IITB-GNR650-ADLCV/tree/main/Project1

• Zero Shot Learning (ZSL) for image classification on AwA2 dataset

(Course Project, Advanced Deep Learning for CV, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE, IIT Bombay)

(Autumn 2024)

- o Implemented ZSL using ViT, FastText and NN classifier with class normalization, achieving 40% test accuracy on the AwA2 dataset (50:50 train-test split) which is fundamentally more challenging than conventional 80:20 split.
- Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/IITB-GNR650-ADLCV/tree/main/Project2

Fine Grained Image Classification on CUB Dataset using EfficientNet

(Course Project, Deep Learning for CV, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE, IIT Bombay)

(Spring 2024)

- Achieved **75% test accuracy** with only 4.2M parameters, optimizing the accuracy-parameter trade-off for the task.
- o Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/GNR-638-Deep-CV/tree/main/mini-project1

Deep Learning based System to Estimate the Calorie Content in Food from Images

(Course Project, Foundations of Machine Learning, Prof. Sunita Sarawagi, CSE, IIT Bombay)

(Autumn 2023)

- Built a calorie estimation system using YOLOv8 for food detection and GrabCut for segmentation, achieving 7.6% mean absolute error across 19 food classes.
- Code and Report: https://github.com/soumenkm/CS725-FML-Project

MACHINE LEARNING "FROM SCRATCH" PROJECTS

- Build GPT2 and BERT from Scratch: Implemented multi-head self-attention, MLP blocks, and a multi-GPU trainer for pre-training, LoRA fine-tuning, and instruction tuning. Code: https://github.com/soumenkm/Build-LLM-fro m-scratch, https://github.com/soumenkm/Build-BERT-from-scratch (Autumn 2024)
- Build Diffusion Model (DDPM) from Scratch: Implemented forward, reverse, sampling processes and trained on CelebHQ dataset. Code: https://github.com/soumenkm/Diffusion-Model-from-Scratch (Autumn 2024)
- Build FFNN from Scratch: Developed forward, backpropagation and minibatch SGD training loop using NumPy for training a FFNN. Code: https://github.com/soumenkm/ML-Algorithms/tree/main/FFNN (*Autumn* 2023)

WORK EXPERIENCE

• General Electric (GE Vernova), Bengaluru

(Aug 2020 - July 2023)

(2022)

System Value Optimisation Engineer (2022-2023): Developed Python modules for fatigue simulation optimization. Edison Engineering Development Program (2020-2022): Built Python modules to mitigate fatigue and extreme loads.

MAJOR COURSES AT IIT BOMBAY

• CS 769: Optimisation for Machine Learning, Prof. Ganesh Ramakrishnan, CSE (Dept. Elec.)	(Grade: 10, Spring 2025)
• GNR 602: Advanced Satellite Image Processing, Prof. BK Mohan, CSRE (Dept. Elec.)	(Grade: 10, Spring 2025)
• BB 610: Biomedical Micro-systems, Prof. Rohit Srivastava, Bio-Science (Institute Elec.)	(Grade: 10, Spring 2025)
• GNR 650: Advanced Deep Learning for CV, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE (Dept. Elec.)	(Grade: 10, Autumn 2024)
CS 601: Algorithms and Complexity, Prof. Akash Kumar, CSE (Core)	(Grade: 10, Autumn 2024)
• SC 607: Convex Optimisation, Prof. Avishek Ghosh, SysCon (Core)	(Grade: 10, Spring 2024)
• GNR 638: Deep Learning for Computer Vision, Prof. Biplab Banerjee, CSRE (Dept. Elec.)	(Grade: 10, Spring 2024)
CS 725: Foundations of Machine Learning, Prof. Sunita Sarawagi, CSE (Core)	(Grade: 10, Autumn 2023)
• EE 635: Applied Linear Algebra, Prof. Dwaipayan Mukherjee, EE (Core)	(Grade: 9, Autumn 2023)
• IE 621: Introduction to Probability & Stochastic Process I, Prof. KSM Rao, IEOR (Core)	(Grade: 9, Autumn 2023)

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

• Teaching Assistant, IIT Bombay

o CS 725: Foundations of Machine Learning (Autumn 2024) (Spring 2024)

DS 303: Introduction to Machine Learning

ACHIEVEMENTS

• Received the Institute Academic Prize for best academic performance (for securing rank 1) at IIT Bombay. (2024)

Received a GE spotlight impact award for reducing cost of business operation at GE Vernova.

 Won the Innovate 2021 AI/ML challenge organized by GE Vernova. (2021)

HOBBIES

• Reading novels, Listening to music, Watching movies and TV series, Playing Cricket, Chess and Badminton.