SUGUMAN BANSAL (she/her/hers)

Assistant Professor

School of Computer Science Georgia Institute of Technology

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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor in SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Jan. 23 - Present

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA

NSF/CRA Computing Innovation Postdoc. in Computer and Information Sc.

July. 20 - Aug. 22

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Mentor: Prof. Rajeev Alur

EDUCATION

PhD in COMPUTER SCIENCE, Rice University, Houston, TX

Sept. 16 - June 20

Thesis: Automata-Based Quantitative Verification

Advisor: Prof. Moshe Y. Vardi

MS in COMPUTER SCIENCE, Rice University, Houston, TX

Aug. 14 - Sept. 16

Thesis: Algorithmic Analysis of Regular Repeated Games

Advisor: Prof. Swarat Chaudhuri

BSc (with Honors) in MATHEMATICS and COMPUTER SCIENCE

Chennai Mathematical Institute (CMI), Chennai, India

Aug. 11 - May 14

ALL PUBLICATIONS

Underlined names: Papers by students that I advise

[Under Submission] Inductive Framework for Generalization in Reinforcement Learning for Specifications Vignesh Subramanian, Rohit Kushwah, Suguman Bansal, Subajit Roy [GenPlan 23] NeurIPS 2023 Workshop on Generalization in Planning

[Under Submission] Reinforcement Learning from Reachability Specifications: PAC Guarantees with Expected Conditional Distance

Jakub Svoboda, Suguman Bansal, Krishnendu Chatterjee

[Under Submission] DAG-Based Compositional Approaches for LTLf to DFA Conversions

Suguman Bansal, Yash Kankariya, Yong Li [AAAI 24 Poster] Student Poster in AAAI 2024

[ATVA 23] Model-Checking Strategies From Synthesis over Finite-Horizon Tasks

Suguman Bansal, Yong Li, Lucas M. Tabajara, Moshe Y. Vardi, and Andrew Wells
In Proc. of International Symposium on Automated Technology for Verification and Analysis (ATVA) 2023
Best Paper Award at ATVA 2023

[ACM SIGLOG News 23] Automata-Based Quantitative Reasoning

Suguman Bansal

[IJCAI 23] Multi-Agent Systems with Quantitative Satisficing Goals

Senthil Rajasekaran, Suguman Bansal, and Moshe Vardi

In Proc. of International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI) 2023

[CAV 22] Specification-Guided Learning of Nash Equilibria with High Social Welfare

Kishor Jothimurugan, Suguman Bansal, Osbert Bastani, and Rajeev Alur

In Proc. of International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification (CAV) 2022

[AAAI 22] On Synthesis from Satisficing and Temporal Goals

Suguman Bansal, Lydia Kavraki, Moshe Y. Vardi, and Andrew Wells

In Proc. of AAAI Conference on AI (AAAI) 2022

[Henzinger-60] A Framework for Transforming Specifications in Reinforcement Learning

Rajeev Alur, Suguman Bansal, Osbert Bastani, and Kishor Jothimurugan

In Proc. of Principles of System Design 2022

[SAS 22] Specification-Guided Reinforcement Learning

Suguman Bansal

In Proc. of Static Analysis Symposium (SAS) 2022

Keynote Speaker Address

[VSTTE 22] Compositional Safety LTL Synthesis

Suguman Bansal, Giuseppe De Giacomo, Antonio Di Stasio, Yong Li, Moshe Vardi, and Shufang Zhu In Proc. of International Conference on Verified Software: Theories, Tools, and Experiments (VSTTE) 2022

[LMCS 22] Comparator Automata in Quantitative Verification

Suguman Bansal, Swarat Chaudhuri, and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Journal of Logical Methods in Computer Science (LMCS) 2022

[NeurlPS 21] Compositional Reinforcement Learning from Logical Specifications

Kishor Jothimurugan, Suguman Bansal, Osbert Bastani, and Rajeev Alur

In Proc. of Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2021

[CAV 21] Adapting Behaviors via Reactive Synthesis

Gal Araman, Suguman Bansal, Dror Fried, Lucas M. Tabajara, Moshe Y. Vardi, and Gera Wiess

In Proc. of International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification (CAV) 2021

[TACAS 21] On Satisficing in Quantitative Games

Suguman Bansal, Krishnendu Chatterjee, and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Proc. of Int. Conf. on Tools and Algorithms for the Construction and Analysis of Systems (TACAS) 2021

[AAAI 20] Hybrid Compositional Reasoning for Reactive Synthesis from Finite-Horizon Specifications

Suguman Bansal, Yong Li, Lucas M. Tabajara, and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Proc. of AAAI Conference on AI (AAAI) 2020

[POPL 20] Synthesis of Coordination Programs from Linear Temporal Specifications

Suguman Bansal, Kedar S. Namjoshi, and Yaniv Sa'ar

In Proc. of the ACM on Programming Languages (POPL), 2020

[CAV 19] Safety and Co-safety Comparator Automata for Discounted-Sum Inclusion

Suguman Bansal and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Proc. of International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification (CAV) 2019

[CAV 18] Automata vs Linear-Programming Discounted-Sum Inclusion

Suguman Bansal, Swarat Chaudhuri, and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Proc. of International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification (CAV) 2018

[CAV 18] Synthesis of Asynchronous Reactive Programs from Temporal Specifications

Suguman Bansal, Kedar S. Namjoshi, and Yaniv Sa'ar

In Proc. of International Conference on Computer-Aided Verification (CAV) 2018

[FoSSaCS 18] Comparator Automata in Quantitative Verification

Suguman Bansal, Swarat Chaudhuri, and Moshe Y. Vardi

In Proc. of Int. Conf. on Foundations of Software Science and Computation Structures (FoSSaCS) 2018

TUTORIALS

[AAAI 23] Specification-Guided Reinforcement Learning

Co-presented with Rajeev Alur, Osbert Bastani, and Kishor Jothimurugan at AAAI 23

OPEN SOURCE TOOLS

Lisa | Github Link

Reactive synthesis for finite-horizon tasks and efficient DFA generation from logical formulas 3rd place in LTLf Track of SYNTCOMP 2023 [Results]

DiRL | Github Link

Compositional reinforcement learning from temporal specifications

ADVISING

PhD Students

[1] Vignesh Subramanian (Georgia Tech)

Aug. 23 - Present

Master Students

[2] Kaushik Arcot (Georgia Tech)

Jan 24 - Present

[3] Ramneet Singh (IIT Delhi)

April 23 - Present

[4] Siddharth Meenachi Sundaram (Georgia Tech)

Jan 24 - Present

Undergraduate Students

[5] Sahaj Purohit (Georgia Tech)

Jan 24 - Present

Alumni

[6] Yash Kankariya (Georgia Tech)

April 23 - Dec 23

Georgia Tech's President's Undergraduate Research Award (PURA) for Fall 2023

TEACHING

CS 8803. Logic in Computer Science

Fall 23, Georgia Tech

Overall Course Effectiveness 4.4/5, Overall Lecturer Effectiveness 4.7/5

CS 4510. Automata and Complexity

Spring 23, Georgia Tech (Honors) Overall Course Effectiveness 4.7/5, Overall Lecturer Effectiveness 4.7/5

Student Testimonials

- (From a handwritten note dated Nov 1, 2023) "Looking back, I remember the automata class quite fondly ... To be honest, at first I resented the structure of the class, with mandatory attendance and no devices. It felt a bit patronizing, like a return to high school to pass the time (I think I can finally admit to this now). I don't know if you noticed, but I would write notes on a sheet of paper. I still have them, and they make me smile when I look at them. I don't have the bandwidth to attend many classes, usually 1-2 per semester these days, but I have to admit being compelled to go to class helps with learning the material."
- (From GaTech's teaching evaluations) "The best part, according to me, is that the instructor encourages participation. We spent as much time on a topic as was required to get the entire class up to speed, not what was allocated."
- (From GaTech's teaching evaluations) "The amount of engagement in the class as well. Very open 2way discussion between the professor and students. This made the course intellectually stimulating."

FUNDING

IIT-Bombay/GaTech Collaboration

Jan. 24 - Dec. 24

PI: S. Akshay, Suguman Bansal, **INR 1000000** (∼ **USD 12000**)

CRA/NSF Computing Innovation Fellow Award

Sept. 20 - Aug. 22

PI: Rajeev Alur, USD 240,910

AWARDS

Best Paper Award, ATVA 2023 2023 **Thank-a-Teacher Certificate** Fall 2023 GaTech's official certificate presented by individual students to show their appreciation to a teacher MIT EECS Rising Star 2021, 2018 CRA Computing Innovation (CI) Fellow 2020 Awarded by the CRA and NSF for postdoctoral research 2019 **Future Faculty Fellow** Awarded by the School of Engineering, Rice University Rice Engineering Alumni Graduate Grant 2017 Awarded by the Rice Engineering Alumni to one graduate student each year Gold Medal at the ACM Student Research Competition at POPL 2016 2016 2015 Andrew Ladd Graduate Fellowship Awarded by the Rice CS Department and Ken Kennedy Institute for excellence in CS 2011 - 2014 CMI Undergraduate Scholarship

KVPY Science Fellowship (Govt. of India)

Awarded by CMI to undergraduate students for excellence in academics

2008

Awarded by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Govt. of India, for excellence in Basic Sciences

Travel grants

AAAI Scholarship (2020), SIGPLAN PAC Travel Grant POPL (2020), CAV Student Travel Fellowship (2019), Rice Dean's Travel Award (2019), WiL SIGLOG/VCLA Travel Award (2019, declined), MIT EECS Rising Stars Travel Grant (2018), NSF-CAV/VMW Travel Grant (2015, 2018), ETAPS Student Scholarship (2018), Google Student Research Summit Travel Grant (2017), LMW-LICS Scholarship (2017, declined), CRA-W Grad Cohort Graduate Grant (2017), ACM SRC (POPL) Travel Grant (2016), MSR Faculty Summit Travel Grant (2016), Off The Beaten Track Travel Grant (2016), MSR Summer School Travel Grant (2012)

HONORS

HONORS	
Keynote Speaker at 29th Symposium of Static Analysis (SAS) 2022	Dec. 22
Invited to Dagstuhl Seminar on Automated Synthesis: Functional, Reactive and Beyon	nd April 24
Invited to Dagstuhl Seminar on Scalable Analysis of Probabilistic Models and Program	ns June 23
Invited to Simons Institute for program on Real-Time Decision Making	Spring 18
Invited to Google Student Research Summit 2017	Sept. 17
Invited to Dagstuhl Seminar on Game Theory, Al, Logic and Algorithms	March 17
Invited to MSR Faculty Summit 2016	July 16
RESEARCH VISITS	
National University of Singapore Visiting Faculty Host: Prof. Umang Mathur	May 23
NOKIA Bell Labs, Murray Hill, New Jersey, USA Research Intern Mentor: Dr. Kedar S. Namjoshi	June 18 - July 18
Simons Institute, University of California - Berkeley, California, USA Visiting Graduate Student Spring 2018 program on Real-Time Decision Making	March 18 - May 18
NOKIA Bell Labs, Murray Hill, New Jersey, USA Research Intern Mentors: Dr. Kedar S. Namjoshi and Dr. Michael Emmi	June 17 - Aug. 17
RESEARCH TALKS	
Model Checking Finite-Horizon Properties	
PLSE Seminar, National University of Singapore (NUS)	May 23
Formal Reasoning in Reinforcement Learning: A Boon or Bane	
[INVITED] Center of Signal Processing (CSIP), GaTech	Oct. 2023
EECS, UC Berekeley	April 23
[KEYNOTE] Static Analysis Symposium (SAS) 2022	Dec. 22
Reinforcement Learning from Logical Specifications	
Dagstuhl Seminar on Scalable Analysis of Probabilistic Models and Programs	June 23
Department of Computer Science - IIT Delhi	Oct. 22
[INVITED] Workshop on Open Problems in Learning and Verification of Neural Networ	rks Aug. 22

Specification-Guided Policy Synthesis

Jan. 22 - April 22

Sept. 17

[INVITED] Carnegie Mellon University, CISPA Saarland, ETH Zurich, Georgia Institute of Technology, IST Austria, Max Plank Institute - SWS, National University of Singapore, New York University, Pennsylvania State University, Purdue University, Tufts University, TU Graz, University of Illinois - Chicago, University of Southern California, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo (ECE), Washington University at St. Louis, Yale University

Reactive Synthesis from	Quantitative Constraints	: An Automata Approach

[INVITED] IARCS Verification Seminar Series	Oct. 21
[INVITED] Workshop on Continuity, Computability, Constructivity: From Logic to Algorithms	Sep. 21
Compositional Reinforcement Learning from Logical Specifications	
[INVITED] Sapienza University of Rome	June 21
Reactive Synthesis for Coordination	
[INVITED] Simons Institute (UC Berkeley): Workshop on Synthesis of Models and Systems	March 21
On Satisficing in Quantitative Games	
Hebrew University	June 21
[INVITED] Formal Methods Seminar, Ben Gurion University	March 21
Designing Intelligent Machines Via Reactive Synthesis	
[INVITED] Machine Learning Seminar Series, Rice University	March 20
[INVITED] ICES, University of Texas at Austin	Feb. 20
Nokia Bell Labs, Murray Hill	Feb. 20
Department of Computer Science - IIT Delhi	April 19
School of Computing, National University of Singapore	April 19
Automata-Based Quantitative Reasoning	
[INVITED] Department of Computer Science, University of Pennsylvania	Jan. 20
Verification Seminar Series, University of Oxford	Nov. 19
[INVITED] RiSE Seminar, IST Austria	April 18
Comparators for Quantitative Verification	
University of California, Berkeley	April 18
Student Spotlight, Winter School in CS and Eng.on Formal Methods, IIAS, Jerusalem	Dec. 17
[INVITED] Saarland University	March 17
[INVITED] Dagstuhl Seminar on Game Theory in Al, Logic and Algorithms,	March 17
Asynchronous synthesis: The Ugly, the Bad and the ?	
Application Platforms and Software Systems Group, Nokia Bell Labs, Murray Hill	July 17
Reasoning About Incentive Compatibility	

[INVITED] Google Student Research Summit, YouTube Headquarters, San Bruno

Conference and Workshop Presentations

AAAI-SSS 2023, ATVA 2023, Highlights of Logic, Games, and Automata 2023, AAAI 2022, NeurIPS 2021, Highlights of Logic, Games, and Automata 2021, SYNT 2021, TACAS 2021, Highlights of Logic, Games, and Automata 2020, AAAI 2020, POPL 2020, CAV 2019, SYNT 2019, CAV 2018 (a), CAV 2018 (b), FoSSaCS 2018, Off the Beaten Track 2016, ACM Student Research Competition at POPL 2016

SERVICE

RESEARCH COMMUNITY

NSF Panel 2023

Organizing Committee

Co-Chair. AAAI Spring Symposium Series 2023: On the Effectiveness of Temporal Logics on Finite Traces

Co-Organizer. Verification Mentoring Workshop @ CAV 2021

Program Committee

2024. AAAI 2024, CAV 2024, POPL 2024, TACAS 2024

2023. AAAI 2023, CAV 2023, CONCUR 2023, ESOP 2023, Highlights of Automata, Logic, and Games 2023, Nasa FM 2023, NeurIPS 2023

2022. GandALF 2022, SYNT 2022

2021. IJCAI 2021, LAMAS&SR 2021, SPLASH SRC 2021, SYNT 2021

Thesis Committee

Ritam Raha (University of Antwerp, University of Bordeaux). PhD. August 2023 Thesis title: Verification of Complex Systems against Learnt Specifications

Guy Hefetz (ITC Herzila). Masters. April 2020

Thesis title: Discounted-sum automata with multiple discount factors

Journal Reviewer

2023 LMCS

2022. Foundations and Trends in TCS, Henzinger-60

2021. ACM ToCL, FMSD, JACM, LMCS

2020. Acta Informatica

Conference Reviewer

2023. FoSSaCS 2023, L4DC 2023 **2021.** FMCAD 2021, FOCS 2021 **2020.** CONCUR 2020, ICALP 2020, IJCAI 2020 **2019.** ISAAC 2019 **2018.** FSTTCS 2018, LPAR 2018 **2017.** CP 2017, TACAS 2017 **2016.** IJCAI 2016

Artifact Evaluation Committee 2021. CAV 2021, SAS 2021