

# Tathagat Verma

Master's in Computer Science at Stanford University

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## EDUCATION

**Stanford University**, Stanford, USA

Sep 2022 - May 2024 (expected)

*Master of Science in Computer Science, Specialization - Artificial Intelligence*

GPA - **4.0/4.0**

**Indian Institute of Technology Bombay**, Mumbai, India

Jul 2018 - Dec 2021

*Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering with Honors*

CPI - **9.64/10**

## SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- Secured **All India Rank 53** in **JEE Advanced** out of 200,000 candidates 2018
- Secured **All India Rank 34** in **JEE Main** out of 1.2 million candidates 2018
- Recipient of the **Quadeye Excellence Scholarship**, awarded on the basis of academic achievements 2021
- Amongst top **30** in India selected for the **International Astronomy Olympiad** Selection Camp 2018
- Amongst top **35** in India selected for the **International Mathematical Olympiad Training Camp** 2017
- Awarded **Advanced Performer (AP)** grade in **3** courses for exceptional performance 2018-21
- Amongst top 300 students selected for the **Indian National Physics and Chemistry Olympiads** 2018
- Recipient of the **Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY)** fellowship by **Govt. of India** 2017

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Title: **VarScene: A Deep Generative Model for Realistic Scene Graph Synthesis** [\[paper\]](#)  
Authors: **Tathagat Verma**, Abir De, Yateesh Agrawal, Vishwa Vinay, Soumen Chakrabarti  
Conference: International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Object Importance Classification and Natural Language Explanation Generation**

Autumn 2022

Guides: [Prof. Mykel Kochenderfer](#), [Jiachen Li](#) | Research Assistantship

SISL, Stanford University

- Developed a deep learning model for importance classification and explanation generation in autonomous driving
- Utilized **CNN**, **Graph Neural Networks** and **attention** based **GRU** for image feature extraction, learning inter-object relationships and natural language generation respectively for the joint task in **PyTorch**

**VarScene: A Deep Generative Model for Realistic Scene Graph Synthesis**

Autumn 2021

Guides: [Prof. Soumen Chakrabarti](#), [Prof. Abir De](#) | R&D Project

InfoLab, IIT Bombay

- Developed a deep generative model for novel scene graph synthesis using **VAE** and **Graph Neural Networks**
- Designed a goal oriented decoder for minimizing the maximum mean discrepancy between graph distributions
- Developed code in **PyTorch** and used the Visual Genome and Visual Relationship Detection datasets
- Significantly outperformed baselines on the Fréchet Inception Distances (**FID**), Inception Scores (**IS**) and achieved better results on the Shortest Path, Weisfeller Lehman and Neighborhood Subgraph Pairwise Distance kernels

**Deep Learning for Medical Image Quality Enhancement**

Spring 2021, Autumn 2021

Guide: [Prof. Suyash Awate](#) | R&D Project, Bachelor's Thesis Project

IIT Bombay

- Enhanced the quality of MRI images with sub-sampling and Gaussian noise in the frequency domain and PET images with Poisson noise in the sinogram domain under the weakly-supervised regime
- Trained models using the **RED-CNN** and **UNet** architectures with Bayesian learning in **PyTorch**
- Utilized intermediate VGG-16 layers for **style based losses** and Fourier and Wavelet transform loss functions

## INTERNSHIPS

**Student Venture Partner**

Summer 2022

[Venture Highway LLP](#) | Guides: [Aviral Bhatnagar](#), [Akul Jindal](#)

Bengaluru, India

- Gained exposure to sourcing and evaluating **seed stage startups** and interacted with many founders

**Image Functionality in the Whiteboard Android Application**

Summer 2021

[Microsoft India \(R&D\) Pvt. Ltd.](#) | Software Engineer Intern

Noida, India

- Integrated **Microsoft Lens SDK** into Whiteboard Android, to support image and OCR tools provided by Lens
- Worked in **Java Android** backend, building the bridge to send images from native Android to the web application
- Developed code in **React** for the web application, making the UI component for triggering image workflow

## Attribute Value Extraction from Product Descriptions

Summer 2020

*Coupa Software India Pvt. Ltd. | Data Science Intern*

Pune, India

- Developed unsupervised and semi-supervised methods for extracting attribute values from product descriptions
- Implemented an **RNN** model for sequence tagging using **CRF**, **BiLSTM** and attention mechanisms
- Optimized hyper parameters using **Bayesian Optimization**, reducing time required for tuning the model
- Automated taxonomy creation by clustering on co-occurrence graphs using the **Chinese Whispers Algorithm**

## Business Monitoring and Alerting Systems

Summer 2019

*Delta Exchange | Software Engineer Intern*

Mumbai, India

- Made real time predictions for prices of multiple Crypto Derivative contracts by implementing ARIMA model
- Developed a dashboard using **Django** to monitor Business Performances, now being used on a daily basis
- Used **MySQL** database along with APIs and **WebSockets** of various exchanges for obtaining real time data

## TECHNICAL PROJECTS

### Blockchain Simulation and Applications

Autumn 2021

*Guide: Prof. Vinay Ribeiro | Blockchains, Cryptocurrencies and Smart Contracts*

Course Project

- Implemented a peer-to-peer cryptocurrency network simulation in **C++** following the **Bitcoin** protocols
- Simulated selfish and stubborn mining attacks, analyzing the effects of hash power and network connectivity
- Developed a decentralized payment application on top of **Ethereum** in Solidity, utilizing smart contracts

### Adversarial Attacks and Robust Deep Learning Models

Spring 2021

*Guide: Prof. Sunita Sarawagi | Advanced Machine Learning*

Course Project

- Implemented the  $L_2$  attack,  $L_\infty$  attack with first and second order norms and the  $L_0$  Pointwise attack
- Trained 3 robust models using the methods; Analysis by Synthesis, Stability training and Adversarial training
- Developed code in **Keras**, doing a comparative study using the MNIST dataset on all models & across all attacks

### Foreshadow Attack and its Variants

Spring 2021

*Guide: Prof. Bernard Menezes | Advanced Network Security and Cryptography*

Course Project

- Studied the **Foreshadow** attack and its impact on **Intel SGX** and **VM** systems due to speculative execution
- Simulated the proof-of-concept attack on **Linux** kernel with **x86** processor in the absence of Intel TSX

### Route Optimization Algorithm

Winter 2019

*Inter IIT Technical Meet*

IIT Roorkee

- Proposed solution for the Vehicle Scheduling Problem in the setting of buses, winning **gold** medal among 20 teams
- Reduced the problem to multiple instances of the Travelling Salesman Problem(**TSP**) using  $k$ -means clustering
- Generated routes while taking real time traffic into account using **Google Maps APIs** in Python

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

<b>Programming</b>	C++, Python, C, Java, Bash, Solidity, Racket, SQL, MATLAB
<b>Packages</b>	PyTorch, TensorFlow, Keras, NLTK, SciPy, Pandas, Statsmodels, NumPy
<b>Software</b>	Git, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, AutoCAD, SOLIDWORKS, Android Studio
<b>Web Development</b>	HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Django, Bootstrap

## LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

### Institute Student Mentor

Jun 2021 - Jun 2022

*Student Mentorship Program*

IIT Bombay

- Mentoring **12 freshmen**, helping them adjust to the institute environment, focusing on their holistic development
- Amongst 130 out of over 300 applicants selected through a rigorous procedure of interviews and peer reviews

### Senior Department Academic Mentor

Jun 2020 - May 2022

*Computer Science and Engineering Department*

IIT Bombay

- Mentoring **6 sophomores** of CSE department to assist them in navigating department specific curriculum
- Working in a supportive, facilitative and developmental role for the student community in general as a mentor

### Teaching Assistant

- **Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning** | [Webpage](#) Stanford University, Jan 2023 - Mar 2023
- **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning** | [Prof. Ganesh R](#) IIT Bombay, Jul 2021 - Nov 2021
- **Data Structures and Algorithms** | [Prof. Sharat C](#) IIT Bombay, Jan 2021 - May 2021
- **Logic for Computer Science** | [Prof. Krishna S](#) IIT Bombay, Jul 2020 - Nov 2020

Responsible for conducting doubt sessions, preparing problem sets, programming labs and grading examinations

### Organiser in Corporate Relations

Nov 2018 - Mar 2019

*Entrepreneurship Cell*

IIT Bombay

- Responsible for speaker handling and handling overall logistics in multiple events
- Part of the execution team for **The Panel Discussion** at Entrepreneurship Summit, 2019

## OTHER PROJECTS

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### E-Commerce Recommender System

Spring 2021

Guide: [Prof. Umesh Bellur](#) | Database Management

Course Project

- Built an E-Commerce recommendation website using **Neo4j** graph database and **Node.js** runtime environment
- Included the features of user history, trending products and text similarity metrics to generate recommendations

### Compiler for C-like Language

Spring 2021

Guide: [Prof. Uday Khedker](#) | Implementation of Programming Languages

Course Project

- Built compiler for a C-like language, constructing Three Address Code and Register Transfer Language incrementally
- Implemented the scanner in **lex**, parser in **yacc** and conversion of abstract syntax tree to TAC and RTL in C++

### Portal for Selecting and Evaluating Teaching Assistants

Autumn 2019

Undergraduate Academic Council

IIT Bombay

- Revamped the selection portal for Teaching Assistants being used in the Institute by faculty and students
- Developed a **full-stack** application with backend in Django, MySQL DB and frontend with HTML and JavaScript

### Splitwise Clone Web Application

Autumn 2019

Guide: [Prof. Amitabha Sanyal](#) | Software Systems Lab

Course Project

- Built a **Django** web app to automate addition and splitting of bills among stakeholders, similar to **Splitwise App**
- Designed a database in **MySQL** for efficiently implementing features like settling up expenses from all groups
- Provided statistical insights on the type of expenditures made by users, using **JavaScript** and **Highcharts**

## EXTRACURRICULAR

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- Won **gold** medal in Route Optimization Competition at the **Inter IIT Technical Meet, IIT Roorkee** 2019
- Represented IIT Bombay at the **34<sup>th</sup> Inter IIT Aquatics Meet, IIT Guwahati** 2018
- Awarded **second** position in **CoDecode** (coding competition) organized by Techfest, IIT Bombay 2020
- Covered a distance of **23.2 km** swimming continuously for **12 hours** at Swimathon, IIT Bombay 2019
- Awarded Certificate of Merit for **winning** the Inter Department Football Tournament IIT Bombay 2019
- Awarded Diploma Certificate for competing in the **Gothia Football Cup, Gothenburg, Sweden** 2011
- Completed 2 levels of graded examination in communication skills from **Trinity College London** 2013
- Phonathon: Pitched to 50 alumni the events conducted by Student Alumni Relations Cell, IIT Bombay 2019