Venkata S Govindarajan

HE/HIM/HIS
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS,
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PERSONAL STATEMENT

I am a Ph.D. candidate in Computational Linguistics at UT Austin (graduating Spring 2024) studying interpersonal biases in language use online. I have 5+ years of experience with large-scale data analysis and modeling, supervised and unsupervised machine learning methods, and modern NLP including large language models.

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin — 2019–2024
Ph.D. Computational Linguistics — GPA:3.92/4

University of Rochester — 2017–2019
M.S. Computational Linguistics — GPA:3.75/4

Indian Institute of Technology Madras — 2012–2017
B.Tech & M.Tech Biological Engineering — GPA:8.68/10

WORK EXPERIENCE

The New York Times — Summer 2023
Data Scientist Intern
Implemented an unsupervised method for detecting data drift in NLU models, and validated the approach on simulated and customer data. Received return internship offer for summer 2022.

Amazon — Summer 2021
Alexa Applied Scientist Intern
Implemented an unsupervised method for detecting data drift in NLU models, and validated the approach on simulated and customer data. Received return internship offer for summer 2022.

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Govindarajan, V. S., K. Atwell, B. Sinno, M. Alikhani, D. I. Beaver & J. J. Li. 2023a. How people talk about each other: Modeling Generalized Intergroup Bias and Emotion To appear in *Proceedings of the 17th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL)*. Croatia: Association for Computational Linguistics.

Govindarajan, V. S., B. Chen, R. Warholic, K. Erk & J. J. Li. 2020a. Help! Need Advice on Identifying Advice. In *Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 5295–5306. Online: Association for Computational Linguistics.

Govindarajan, V., B. V. Durme & A. S. White. 2019. Decomposing Generalization: Models of Generic , Habitual, and Episodic Statements. *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics (TACL)* 7. 501–517.

SKILLS

Programming Languages Python, Swift, Javascript, R, SQL, MATLAB, LISP, C, C++
Tools & Frameworks pyTorch, Transformers, Tensorflow, Keras, scikit-learn, statsmodels, SciPy, Pandas, SwiftUI, CoreML
Languages English (native), Tamil (native), Hindi (intermediate)

RELEVANT GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Machine Learning • Statistical Speech and Language Processing • Logical Foundations of AI • Natural Language Processing • Neural Networks and Linguistic Structure

PERSONAL PROJECTS

DeTeXt: I built an open source app for iOS, iPadOS and macOS that predicts the best LaTeX commands corresponding to hand-drawn symbols using deep neural networks. Built using SwiftUI, Combine, PencilKit and CoreML, the app has 4000+ installs.

AWARDS

NASSLI Student Grant (800 USD)	Summer 2022
COLA Supplemental Graduate School Fellowship (5000 USD)	Spring 2020
Silver medal at International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM)	Fall 2016
Indian Biological Engineering Competition (iBEC) grant (15,000 USD)	Fall 2016
National BIRAC-IdeaThon on Antimicrobial Resistance Finalist	Fall 2016
Second runner up in 3M-CII Young Innovators Challenge	Spring 2015

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Primary Reviewer at ACL 2023, SIGDIAL 2022.
Co-organizer of Texas South by Semantics Workshop 2022 & 2023 with Samuel Cantor.
Texas Linguistics Society(TLS) Conference 2022 & 2021 Organizing Committee.