

# VENKATA S GOVINDARAJAN

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN | DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS | HE/HIM

✉ [VENKAT@VENKATASG.NET](mailto:VENKAT@VENKATASG.NET) • [VENKATASG.NET](https://VENKATASG.NET) • [VENKATASG](https://github.com/VENKATASG)

## EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin 2019–  
*PhD Computational Linguistics*

University of Rochester 2017–2019  
*MS Computational Linguistics*

Thesis: Decomposing Generalization | Advisor: Prof. Aaron Steven White

Indian Institute of Technology Madras 2012–2017  
*Dual Degree(B.Tech & M.Tech) Biological Engineering*

Thesis: Direction Maps in the Whisker Barrel Cortex | Advisor: Prof. Srinivasa Chakravarthy

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Computational Semantics & Pragmatics, Natural Language Processing, Cognitive Science,  
Philosophy of Language, Computational Social Science

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon Alexa Applied Scientist Intern Summer 2021  
*Unsupervised Drift detection – NLP, NLU* Virtual

- Implemented an unsupervised method for detecting dataset drift in NLU models.
- Validated the approach on simulated and real-world drift.

## PAPERS

Govindarajan, V. S., B. T. Chen, R. Warholc, 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*.

White, A. S., E. Stengel-Eskin, S. Vashishtha, V. S. Govindarajan, et al. 2020. [The Universal Decompositional Semantics Dataset and Decomp Toolkit](#). In *Proceedings of The 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference*, 5698–5707. Marseille, France.

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* 7. 501–517.

## TALKS

Govindarajan, V. S., B. T. Chen, R. Warholc, K. Erk & J. J. Li. 2020b. [Help! Need Advice on Identifying Advice](#). To be presented at *The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*. Virtual. Nov 16-20 2020.

Govindarajan, V., B. V. Durme & A. S. White. 2020. [Decomposing Generalization: Models of Generic, Habitual, and Episodic Statements](#). Presented at *The 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics*. Virtual. July 5-10 2020.

## TEACHING

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### *Teaching Assistant*

Machine Learning Toolbox for Text Analysis	Spring 2021
Analyzing Linguistic Data and Programming for Linguists	Spring 2020
Introduction to Computational Linguistics	Fall 2019
Introduction to Computational Linguistics	Fall 2018
Data Structures and Algorithms for Biology	Fall 2016

## SKILLS

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**Programming Languages** Python, Swift, R, MATLAB, LISP, Javascript, C, C++

**Tools & Frameworks** pyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Huggingface Transformers, SciPy, Pandas, nltk, Docker,  $\LaTeX$ , Jupyter, Unix, SwiftUI, Combine, CoreML

**Languages** English(fluent), Tamil(fluent), Hindi(intermediate)

## APPS

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**DeTeXt**: An open source app for iPhone, iPad and Mac that predicts the best LaTeX commands corresponding to hand-drawn symbols using deep neural networks. Built using SwiftUI, Combine, PencilKit and CoreML.

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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Texas Linguistics Society(TLS) 2021 Organizing Committee.

## AWARDS

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Silver medal at International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM)	Fall 2016
Indian Biological Engineering Competition (iBEC) grant for INR 1,000,000	Fall 2016
National BIRAC-IdeaThon on Antimicrobial Resistance Finalist	Fall 2016
Second runner up in 3M-CII Young Innovators Challenge	Spring 2015