Venkata S Govindarajan

HE/HIM
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS,
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

venkat@venkatasg.net
venkatasg.net
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

WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon Alexa Applied Scientist Intern — Summer 2021
Unsupervised Drift detection – NLP, NLU — Virtual
Implemented an unsupervised method for detecting data drift in NLU models, and validated the approach on simulated and real-world drift. Received return internship offer for summer 2022.

PAPERS

Govindarajan, V. S., B. T. 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*.

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: European Language Resources Association.

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. Warholic, K. Erk & J. J. Li. 2020b. Help! Need Advice on Identifying Advice. 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.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Linguistic Intergroup Bias — 2020-
Research Project – Computational Semantics & Pragmatics — UT Austin
Advisor: Prof. David Beaver, Prof. Junyi Jessy Li

Advice in Online Forums — 2019-20
Research Project – Computational Semantics & Discourse — UT Austin
Advisor: Prof. Junyi Jessy Li

Decomposing Generalization — 2018-19
MS Thesis – Computational Semantics — University of Rochester
Advisor: Prof. Aaron Steven White

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

UT Austin
- Machine Learning Toolbox for Text Analysis — Spring 2021
- Analyzing Linguistic Data and Programming for Linguists — Spring 2020
- Introduction to Computational Linguistics — Fall 2019

University of Rochester
- Introduction to Computational Linguistics — Fall 2018

IIT Madras
- Data Structures and Algorithms for Biology — Fall 2016

SKILLS

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(native), Tamil(native), Hindi(intermediate)

APPS

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

Texas Linguistics Society(TLS) 2021 Organizing Committee.

AWARDS

COLA Supplemental Graduate School Fellowship	Spring 2020
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