Venkata S Govindarajan

HE/HIM/HIS
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STATEMENT OF INTEREST

I am a 4th year PhD candidate in Computational Linguistics at UT Austin studying interpersonal biases in language use online. My current work focuses on modeling semantic attributes of text that systematically vary with changing social dynamics in online conversations. Previously, I have studied how individuals perform pragmatic acts like giving advice online, as well as the diversity of generalizations available across predicates and arguments.
My goal for a summer internship at Abridge is to use my experience with language variation and generalization to work on research projects that can improve core products and technologies at the company like structured summarization, ultimately leading to a publishable paper.

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin — 2019–2024
PhD Computational Linguistics — GPA:3.9/4

University of Rochester — 2017–2019
MS Computational Linguistics — GPA:3.75/4

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

WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon – Alexa Applied Scientist Intern — Summer 2021
Natural Language Processing & Understanding — 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.

SELECT PAPERS

Govindarajan, V. S., K. Atwell, B. Sinno, M. Alikhani, D. I. Beaver & J. J. Li. 2022. Dimensions of Interpersonal Dynamics in Text: Group Membership and Fine-grained Interpersonal Emotion. *arXiv preprint*.

Govindarajan, V. S., B. T. Chen, R. Warholic, K. Erk & J. J. Li. 2020. Help! Need Advice on Identifying Advice. In *Proceedings of The 2020 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing(EMNLP)*.

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, MATLAB, LISP, C, C++

Tools & Frameworks pyTorch, Tensorflow, Keras, Transformers, SciPy, Pandas, nltk, SQL, Docker, LaTeX, Jupyter, Unix, 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

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