Vikram Voleti

Research Scientist at 🖵 Stability AI; PhD candidate at Mila; former Research Intern at 🗲 Google, 🔯 Unity, 🚫 Meta

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□ vikram.voleti@gmail.com

g Google Scholar

in LinkedIn

Expertise

Deep learning for image, video, 3D: expert at machine learning research and development; experienced in leading multiple projects collaborating with international partners in industry and academia. **Projects** include:

- Video prediction/generation using denoising diffusion models [1], deriving non-isotropic diffusion models [2]
- Text to 3D using dreamfusion, NeRF, DMTet; 3D human pose estimation and inverse kinematics [3]
- Image generation using normalizing flows [4][9]; video generation using Neural ODEs [13], GANs [15][16]
- Contributed to projects on 4D generation, simulation [10], fairness/uncertainty [5], federated learning [6]

EDUCATION

Mila, University of Montreal, Canada

Sep 2018 - present (Aug 2023)

Ph.D. in Computer Science — *Supervisor*: Prof. Christopher Pal Conditional generative models for image, 3D animation, video [1][2][3][9][13]

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, India
Dual Degree (B.Tech. (Honours) + M.Tech.) in Electrical Engineering
with Master's specialization in Instrumentation and Signal Processing [17]

2009 - 2014

Work Experience Stability AI, Canada (Remote) — Research Scientist

Apr 2023 - present

• Leading AI research and development on generating 3D objects, images, videos from text

Meta (formerly Facebook), Menlo Park, USA — Research Intern

Aug 2022 - Feb 2023

Team: AI for Metaverse (AI4RL); Supervisors: Dr. Yashar Mehdad, Dr. Barlas Oguz

- Led the technology development for generating 3D objects, videos from text; dreamfusion, NeRF
- Applied expertise at neural graphics for 3D rendering; implemented hands-on in PyTorch
- International AI team; technology transitioned into a Meta end product, and adopted by other Meta teams

Unity Technologies, Montreal, Canada — (MITACS) Research Intern Oct 2021 - Aug 2022

Team: Deep Pose, Unity Labs; Supervisor: Dr. Boris Oreshkin

- Built AI-assisted animation workflow for user-editable 3D characters; trained novel 3D human pose prior
- Published at SIGGRAPH Asia [3], incorporated technology into a Unity product

🧲 Google, Mountain View, USA — Research Intern

Sep-Dec 2019

Team: Google AI Perception; Supervisors: Dr. Bryan Seybold, Dr. Sourish Chaudhuri

- Investigated the scope of deep semi-supervised learning for active speaker detection in video
- Hands-on implementation in TensorFlow; collaborated with TPU team for coding Neural ODE in Jax/Flax

IIIT Hyderabad, India — Research Fellow; Supervisor: Prof. C. V. Jawahar May 2017 - Aug 2018

- $\bullet\,$ Synthesized educational videos in regional Indian languages by generating lips from audio
- Developed automated pipeline to create large-scale audio-video dataset
- Full paper published at ICASSP 2019 [15], short paper published at CVPR 2018 Workshop [16]

GreyOrange Robotics, Gurugram, India — Image Processing Engineer Feb 2016 - May 2017

- $\bullet \ \ {\rm Developed \ computer \ vision \ solutions \ for \ embedded \ robotics \ in \ real \ time \ in \ C++/Python }$
- Solely responsible for code development, testing of video processing module, camera drivers, server

Mirbus, Bengaluru, India — Associate Engineer

Jul 2014 - Feb 2016

• Avionics software development following standard avionics coding guidelines (DO-178B)

Droppeggional

Blue Lion Labs, Canada — AI Advisor

Oct 2020 - present

Professional Experience

OTHER

- $\bullet\,$ Provide technical guidance and mentorship on the design and development of AI/ML systems
- Mentored co-op students and interns, published research papers from work led by them [6][8]

NextAI, Canada — AI Scientist-in-Residence

Apr-Sep 2019, Mar-Sep 2020

• Provided scientific and technical support to start-ups selected in yearly co-hort of NextAI accelerator

Playment, Bengaluru, India — Computer Vision Consultant

Jan-Jun 2018

• Provided technical guidance on semantic segmentation models for autonomous driving

TalentSprint, Hyderabad, India — Mentor, Foundations of AI & ML (inaugural program) Jan-May 2018
 Designed and delivered tutorials on machine learning, and provided mentorship to industry professionals

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Awards	Outstanding Reviewer at CVPR 2021 Microsoft Diversity Award for Doctoral Research, \$6,000 MITACS Accelerate Research Internship, \$30,000 University of Montreal entrance scholarship, \$37,000 HIT Hyderabad merit scholarship for summer school, \$1,000	May 2021 Dec 2020 Oct 2020 Sep 2018 Jul 2017	
SERVICE	OWCV 2021 (Canadian Computer Vision workshop), Canada Fe	b-Oct 2021 b-Apr 2021 ct-Dec 2020	
	Reviewer — Journal on Computer Vision and Image Understanding, CVPR 2022, ACML 2021, NeurIPS 2021, ICCV 2021, CVPR 2021 (<i>Outstanding Reviewer</i>), ICLR 2020, NeurIPS 2020, ICML 2020, NeurIPS 2019, CCAI @ ICLR 2020, CCAI @ NeurIPS 2019, LLD @ ICLR 2019		
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada — Guest Lecturer • Representation Learning (IFT 6135) by Prof. Aishwarya Agrawal	Nov 2022	
	University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada — Teaching Assistant • Fundamentals of Machine Learning (IFT 6390) by Prof. Ioannis Mitliagkas	o-Dec 2020	
	Summer Symposium on AI Research, India — Guest Speaker	Jul~2020	
	 University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada — Teaching Assistant Fundamentals of Machine Learning (IFT 6390) by Prof. Ioannis Mitliagkas 	Sep 2019	
	IVADO/Mila Deep Learning School, Montreal, Canada — Teaching Assistant	Sep 2019	
	AI for Social Good Summer Lab, Montreal, Canada — Lecturer	May 2019	
	TalentSprint, Hyderabad, India — Mentor, Foundations of AI & ML (inaugural program) Jana ● Designed and presented tutorials on machine learning, and mentored industry professionals	-May 2018	
Past Internships	 KU Leuven, Belgium — Supervisor: Prof. Ingrid Verbauwhede, ESAT Sur ◆ Designed and implemented carry-free arithmetic operations in Verilog; simulated circuits in X 	nmer 2013	
	 IIT Kharagpur, India — Supervisor: Prof. Aurobinda Routray, Electrical Engineering Made a gesture recognition program in MATLAB using Hidden Markov Models 	nmer 2012	
	 Imperial College, UK — Supervisor: Prof. Peter Cheung, Electrical & Electronics Circuits and Systems Research Group; measured intra-die power variation in sub-nm FPGAs 	nmer 2011	
SKILLS	C/C++, CUDA, HTML/CSS, Javascript, Jax, Keras, LATEX, MATLAB, OpenCV, OS X, Python, PyTorch, R, Shell, SLURM, Tensorflow, Ubuntu, Verilog, Windows		
	Deep learning, computer vision, machine learning, research and development, generative mode score-based diffusion models, normalizing flows, Neural ODEs, GANs, Transformers, large-scale trageneration, video prediction, 3D pose estimation, 3D rendering, text-to-image, text-to-3D, text-to-4	ining, image	
TALKS	• "Diffusion models for solving video tasks" — INRIA, France [slides]	Feb 2023	
	• "MCVD: Masked Conditional Video Diffusion" — NeurIPS 2022, New Orleans, USA [slides]	Dec~2022	
	 "SMPL-IK: Learned Morphology-Aware Inverse Kinematics for AI Driven Artistic Workflows" — SIGGRAPH Asia, Daegu, South Korea [slides, video] 	Dec 2022	
	\bullet "Normalizing flows" — Learning Representations (course), University of Montreal, Canada	Nov~2022	
	• "Score-based Denoising Diffusion Models - a tutorial" — Mila, Canada [slides, video]	Sep 2022	
	• "Solving Video Tasks using Denoising Diffusion Models" — Samsung Toronto, Canada [slides]	Aug 2022	
	• "MCVD: Masked Conditional Video Diffusion" — Mila, Canada	May 2022	
	"Denoising Diffusion GANs" — Mila, Canada [slides] "Theiring GANs has Calain a ODEs" — Mila Canada [slides]	Feb 2022	
	 "Training GANs by Solving ODEs" — Mila, Canada [slides] "Score based Congrative Models with SDEs" — Mila, Canada [slides] 	Apr 2021	
	 "Score-based Generative Models with SDEs" — Mila, Canada [slides] "Continuous Normalizing Flows" — Mila, Canada [slides] 	Feb 2021 Sep 2020	
	 "Continuous Normanzing Flows — Mila, Canada [sildes] "GANs: the story so far" — Summer Symposium on AI Research, India [slides, video] 	Sep 2020 Jul 2020	
	• "A brief tutorial on Neural ODEs" — Mila, Canada [slides, video]	Jul 2020	
	"Mathematics of Neural ODEs" — University of Guelph, Canada [slides]	Apr 2020	
	• "Simple Video Generation using Neural ODEs" — IIIT Hyderabad, India [slides]	Jan 2020	
	• Tutorial on "GANs" — AI for Social Good Summer Lab, Montreal	May 2019	
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• "BigGAN" — Mila, University of Montreal, Canada [slides]	
• "Image de-fencing using RGB-D data" — MPI Informatics, Saarbrücken, Germany [slides]	
• "Intuition behind LSTMs" — IIIT Hyderabad, India [slides]	Feb 2018
• Tutorial on "Back-propagation" — IIIT-Hyderabad, India [slides]	
• "Mathematics of back-propagation" — GreyOrange Robotics, India [slides]	

Thesis Projects

Supervisor: Prof. Chris Pal, Polytechnique Montreal, Canada

Doctoral thesis — "Conditional Generative Modeling for Image, 3D Animation, and Video" [1] [2] [3] [9] [13] 2023

- Image generation using Multi-Resolution Continuous Normalizing Flows, Non-Isotropic Denoising Diffusion
- $\bullet\,$ 3D animation using neural inverse kinematics with 3D human pose prior
- Video prediction using Neural ODEs, video prediction/generation/interpolation using Masked Conditional Video Diffusion models

Supervisor: Prof. Rajiv Sahay, Electrical Engineering, IIT Kharagpur, India

Master's thesis — "De-fencing of Images using RGB-D Data" [17]

2014

- Elimination of fence-like occlusions, and inpainting of images using RGB-D data
- Nominated for Best Project Award among three departments, research work published at ICAPR 2015

Bachelor's thesis — "Identification of Bilabial Lip Closures in Audio and Video"

2013

• Measurement of synchronization between audio and video using bilabial cues in both modes

Research Papers

(Select)

- [1] NeurIPS 2022 - "MCVD: Masked Conditional Video Diffusion for Prediction, Generation, and Interpolation", V. Voleti, A. Jolicoeur-Martineau, C. Pal [arXiv]
- [2] NeurIPS 2022 Workshop - "Score-based Denoising Diffusion with Non-Isotropic Gaussian Noise Models", V. Voleti, C. Pal, A. Oberman [arXiv]
- $SIGGRAPH\ Asia\ 2022$ "SMPL-IK: Learned Morphology-Aware Inverse Kinematics for AI-Driven Artistic [3] Workflows", V. Voleti, B. N. Oreshkin, F. Bocquelet, F. G. Harvey, L. Ménard, C. Pal [arXiv]
- Submitted to a journal "Multi-Resolution Continuous Normalizing Flows", V. Voleti, C. Finlay, A. [4]Oberman, C. Pal [arXiv]
- [5] ICLR 2022 - "FairCal: Fairness Calibration for Face Verification", T. Salvador, S. Cairns, V. Voleti, N. Marshall, A. Oberman [arXiv]
- CVIS 2022 (Oral) "Plankton-FL: Exploration of Federated Learning for Privacy-Preserving Training of [6] Deep Neural Networks for Phytoplankton Classification", D. Zhang, V. Voleti, A. Wong, J. Deglint
- Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence (journal) "Generative Models of Brain Dynamics", M. Ramezanian-Panahi, G. Abrevaya, JC. Gagnon-Audet, V. Voleti, I. Rish, G. Dumas [arXiv]
- [8] FSS at AAAI 2022 - "Towards Generating Large Synthetic Phytoplankton Datasets for Efficient Monitoring of Harmful Algal Blooms", N. Bamra, V. Voleti, A. Wong, J. Deglint [arXiv]
- ICML 2021 Workshop "Improving Continuous Normalizing Flows using a Multi-Resolution Framework", V. Voleti, C. Finlay, A. Oberman, C. Pal
- ICLR 2021 "gradSim: Differentiable simulation for system identification and visuomotor control", K. M. Jatavallabhula, M. Macklin, F. Golemo, V. Voleti, L. Petrini, M. Weiss, B. Considine, J. Parent-Lévesque, K. Xie, K. Erleben, L. Paull, F. Shkurti, D. Nowrouzezahrai, S. Fidler [arXiv]
- MLSys 2021 "Accounting for Variance in Machine Learning Benchmarks", X. Bouthillier, P. Delaunay, M. Bronzi, A. Trofimov, B. Nichyporuk, J. Szeto, N. Sepah, E. Raff, K. Madan, V. Voleti, S. E. Kahou, V. Michalski, D. Serdyuk, T. Arbel, C. Pal, G. Varoquaux, P. Vincent [arXiv]
- ICML 2020 "Learning to Combine Top-Down and Bottom-Up Signals in RNNs with Attention over Modules", S. Mittal, A. Lamb, A. Goyal, V. Voleti, M. Shanahan, G. Lajoie, M. Mozer, Y. Bengio [arXiv]
- NeurIPS 2019 Workshop "Simple Video Generation using Neural ODEs", V. Voleti, D. Kanaa, S. E. Kahou, C. Pal [arXiv]
- ICML 2019 Workshop "Comparing Normalization in Conditional Computation Tasks", V. Michalski, V. Voleti, S. E. Kahou, A. Oritz, P. Vincent, C. Pal, D. Precup [arXiv]
- ICASSP 2019 "Cross-Language Speech Dependent Lip-Synchronization", V. Voleti, A. Jha, V. P. Namboodiri, C. V. Jawahar [pdf]
- CVPR 2018 Workshop "Lip-Synchronization for Dubbed Instructional Videos", V. Voleti, A. Jha, V. P. Namboodiri, C. V. Jawahar (FIVER) [pdf]
- ICAPR 2015 "A Multimodal Approach for Image De-fencing and Depth Inpainting", S. Jonna, V. Voleti, R. R. Sahay, and M. S. Kankanhalli [pdf, IEEE]

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