Vin Bhaskara

AI Research Engineer | Vector AI Scholar | Kaggle Expert | IIT Silver Medalist | Prev: Samsung AI

WORK EXPERIENCE

E-mail: vin.bhaskara@gmail.com, Webpage: vinbhaskara.github.io Phone: ±1-647-619-5887, Citizenship: Canadian

7+ years of full-time experience in applied AI

Senior Research Engineer, Foundation Models and LLMs

Borealis AI (RBC Research Institute), Montréal

Deep Learning for Capital Markets and Credit Modeling

Aug 2022 – Present

- Led R&D on Foundation Models and agentic RAG-based LLMs, leveraging RBC's proprietary financial data for credit modeling and capital markets applications, including Repo, Equity Derivatives, and US Treasuries trading desks
- Improved Credit Models generating \$10M+ CAD in annual revenue across 13M customers, while enhancing fairness by mitigating bias across gender, race, and other sensitive attributes

Research Engineer, Computer Vision

Samsung AI Centre, Toronto

Deep Learning for Image Enhancement and Synthesis

Feb 2020 – Jun 2022

• Led projects in Multi-frame Alignment for **Burst Photography** using Neural Implicit Models, and **Self-Supervised Learning** for **blind image denoising (low-light night mode)** and **super-resolution (digital zoom)** on Samsung Galaxy mobile phone cameras

Software Engineer 2, Big Data and Machine Learning Machine Learning for Malware Detection

Broadcom Inc. (formerly Symantec), India

Jul 2016 – Jul 2018

- Co-led the development of an **XGBoost** model in production on **Norton Anti-Virus** by leveraging Symantec's **Big Data** telemetry of file attributes, which reduced **over 60%** of previously missed malware detections
- Led research on proactive protection against malware by modeling Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) over a distributed image representation of dynamic file behavior (Preprint: arXiv:stat.ML/1807.07525)

EDUCATION

M.Sc. in **Applied Computing**, Department of Computer Science, 4.0/4.0 (**A+**) **University of Toronto**, Downtown Toronto, Canada

Sep 2018 - Dec 2019

- Received the Vector Institute Scholarship in Artificial Intelligence (VSAI) valued at \$17,500 awarded to 66 scholars in Ontario
- Thesis: "Robust Single-Shot Object Detection for Computer Vision" (Supervisors: Dr. Alex Levinshtein and Prof. Allan Jepson)

B.Tech. in Engineering Physics with Minor in Electronics Engineering, Department Rank 1 Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, India

Jul 2012 – Jun 2016

- Institute Silver Medalist for the best academic performance in the department among the graduating class of 2016 at IIT Guwahati
- Primary author of a highly cited paper on Quantum Entanglement and visiting scholar at the Institute for Quantum Computing (IQC), University of Waterloo, Canada

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Citations: 285, h-index: 8 on Google Scholar as of Mar 2025

- 1. **V.S. Bhaskara***, T.A. Armstrong*, A. Jepson, A. Levinshtein. "GraN-GAN: Piecewise Gradient Normalization for Generative Adversarial Networks," <u>WACV 2022 Conference</u> (2022 IEEE Winter Conference on Applications in Computer Vision) Jan 2022
- 2. **V.S. Bhaskara***, H. Wang*, A. Levinshtein*, S. Tsogkas, A. Jepson. "Efficient Super-Resolution Using MobileNetV3," <u>ECCV 2020 Workshop</u> (2020 European Conference on Computer Vision Workshop)

Jan 2021

3. V.S. Bhaskara*, S.N. Swain*, P.K. Panigrahi. "Generalized Entanglement Measure for Continuous-Variable Systems," *Physical Review A (PRA) 105, 052441 (2022)*, American Physical Society

May 2022

- V.S. Bhaskara, P.K. Panigrahi. "Generalized concurrence measure for faithful quantification of multiparticle pure state entanglement using Lagrange's identity and wedge product," *Quantum Inf. Process.* 16 (5), 118, Springer

 Mar 2017
- 6. C.M. Haapamaki, J. Flannery, G. Bappi, R. Al-Maruf, **V.S. Bhaskara**, O. Alshehri, T. Yoon, M. Bajcsy. "Mesoscale cavities in hollow-core waveguides for quantum optics with atomic ensembles," <u>Nanophotonics 5 (1)</u>, De Gruyter Journal Sep 2016 (* Denotes equal contribution)

PATENTS

1. H. Wang, X. Sun, **V.S. Bhaskara**, S. Tsogkas, A. Jepson, A. Levinshtein. "Unsupervised Super-Resolution Training Data Construction," Samsung AI Centre Toronto, *US Patent* 12,210,587 (Granted)

PREPRINTS

- 2. V.S. Bhaskara, S. Desai. "Exploiting uncertainty of loss landscape for stochastic optimization," arXiv:cs.LG/1905.13200 May 2019
- V.S. Bhaskara, Y. Fu, S. Gowda. "Risk Prediction in the General Internal Medicine Ward at St. Michael's Hospital," dx.doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.27695.55205

Apr 2019

V.S. Bhaskara, D. Bhattacharyya. "Emulating malware authors for proactive protection using GANs over a distributed image visualization of dynamic file behavior," <u>arXiv:stat.ML/1807.07525</u>

Jul 2018

RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

Research Intern, Computer Vision

Samsung AI Centre, Toronto

Supervised by Dr. Alex Levinshtein and Prof. Allan Jepson (University of Toronto)

May 2019 – Dec 2019

· Improving object detection in cluttered scenes using part-based auxiliary targets with single-stage methods for on-device inference

Research Visitor, Machine Learning for Health

St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto

Supervised by Prof. Marzyeh Ghassemi (University of Toronto)

Feb 2019 – Apr 2019

- · Utilizing patient data from the General Internal Medicine ward to assess a patient's risk of ICU transfer or death early
- Proposed a **data-driven regularization layer** that improved generalization and interpretability of predictions by incorporating **ICD-10 diagnosis codes** into the model (without requiring them during inference)

Undergrad Research Assistant, Nano-Photonics

Institute for Quantum Computing (IQC), Waterloo

Supervised by Prof. Michal Bajcsy (University of Waterloo)

May 2015 – Jul 2015

· Evaluating novel hollow-core photonic-crystal fibre designs by simulating EM wave propagation for on-chip photonic transistors

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Top 5% (201st of 4,436 teams) in a solo submission, earning a Kaggle Silver Medal for predicting Nasdaq stock price movements on real market data from Optiver
- "Samsung Research America Rockstar" peer-to-peer recognition award

2021

• Selected for **AI Residency Program** at **Google X**, Mountain View (did not accept the offer)

- 2019
- Symantec WOW (Winning Our Way) Level 1 & Level 3 company-wide recognition awards for "exceptional performance through focused collaboration with teams"
- Kaggle 'Competitions Expert' ranking for being placed 835 out of 69,593 competing data scientists

2017

- Shortlisted among 25 students selected internationally for USEQIP 2015 Summer School at the Institute for Quantum Computing and the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics in Waterloo, Canada
- National Initiative on Undergraduate Science (NIUS) scholarship awarded by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) for pursuing research at leading physics labs in India for the year

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Scripting/Languages: Python, C++, Java, C, Unix Shell
- Databases: SQL (RDBMS), NoSQL, Big Data on Hadoop (Hive, Oozie, HDFS, MapReduce)
- Packages: PyTorch, HuggingFace Transformers, XGBoost, Pandas, MLFlow, Weights & Biases

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Academic Reviewer for ICML 2025, CVPR 2025/2023, ICCV 2023, WACV 2023 2023 Present
- Mentor to Graduate Students at Mila (Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institute)

2022 - 23

- Mentor to Undergrad Students at the Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto
- 2022 Present
- Research Supervision to undergraduate student teams through the "Let's Solve It" program of Borealis AI

2022 – Present

REFERENCES

- Dr. Alex Levinshtein, Research Director at Samsung AI Centre Toronto
- Prof. Allan Jepson, Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto (Previously VP/Chief Scientist at Samsung AI Centre Toronto)