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## **EDUCATION**

## Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee

B. Tech in ECE; CGPA: 8.554/10.000 (First Division with Distinction)

Roorkee, India July 2016 - July 2020

Email: saihimal.allu@gmail.com

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

Hyderabad, India

Supervised by Dr CV Jawahar and Dr Vinay Namboodiri

July 2020 - Present

• Studying the problem of catastrophic forgetting in multilingual neural machine translation systems.

# Undergraduate thesis

Shanghai, China / Roorkee, India

Supervised by Dr Hongtao Lu and Dr Debashis Ghosh

July 2019 - May 2020

- Undergraduate thesis; partly carried out at Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU).
- Worked on the problem of Continual Learning in neural networks with a special focus on the task-agnostic setting.
- o Provided an empirical basis for reported findings that a class of approaches (regularization based methods) in isolation were insufficient to mitigate catastrophic forgetting in neural networks.

## Research Project

Roorkee, India

Supervised by Dr Partha Pratim Roy

September 2018 - December 2018

- Worked on the problem of text detection from images especially irregular text inclined at an angle.
- Designed an approach to learn a more general quadrilateral shape instead of a regular rectangular bounding box by introducing parameters to offset the co-ordinates of a rectangular bounding box.
- Designed experiments to test this idea against the then state of the art approaches in text detection.

## Research Project

Roorkee, India

Supervised by Dr Biplab Banerjee

December 2017 - February 2018

- o Designed and conducted experiments on various architectures that were based on the idea of Siamese
- Conducted an extensive literature survey on the problem of Computer Stereo Vision.

#### Internships

## American Express

Bengaluru, India

Machine Learing Engineer

May 2019 - July 2019

- Improved the inference time of the fraud detection system by proposing a CNN based alternative to the in-house RNN based model.
- Proposed changes to the data preprocessing routines which led to a significant improvement in the system's results over the previously established in-house benchmarks.
- Implemented a CNN using the principles established in Neural Ordinary Differential Equations; established the initial benchmarks for this model to motivate further internal research.

## BCMI Lab, SJTU

Shanghai, China

Supervised by Dr Lu Hongtao

May 2018 - July 2018

- o Performed a comprehensive comparative study on two-stage and one-stage object detectors.
- Put together an implementation of Mask R-CNN in an effort to recreate the results reported in the paper.

#### Publications

• Exploring Pair-Wise NMT for Indian Languages Sai Himal Allu, ASVS Kartheek, S Sridhar, Zeeshan Khan, Aman Singhal, Vinay Namboodiri, CV Jawahar ICON 2020: Short Paper

#### WAT 2020

## /link/

- Proposed an approach which utilized encoder pre-training and fine-tuning routines to train a multilingual neural machine translation model.
- On the leaderboard, the approach was ranked second on the English-Telugu task and fourth on the English-Odia task.

#### Habitat-Lab Fork

## /link/

- Habitat-Lab is a modular high-level library maintained by Facebook Research for end-to-end development in Embodied AI.
- Worked on implementing a Behavioral Cloning baseline in an effort to support bench-marking of future Embodied AI algorithms.

#### Mask R-CNN

# /link/

- o Implemented and open sourced a version of Mask R-CNN built using PyTorch.
- Was a part of GitHub Trending when released to the public.
- As of February 8, 2021 the project has 924 stars and 170 forks.

## ExpertNet-PyTorch

## [link]

- Implemented and open-sourced the ideas presented in the CVPR 2017 paper "Expert-gate: Lifelong learning with a network of experts".
- Designed and conducted experiments to enable testing these ideas on a lower scale (in terms of the size of the datasets used and computational resources required).

## MaS-PyTorch

## /link/

- o Implemented and open-sourced the ideas presented in the ECCV 2018 paper "Memory Aware Synapses: Learning what (not) to forget)".
- Minimized the redundancies present in the author's implementation.

#### Course Project: Computer Architecture

#### /link

- Developed an implementation of a 24 bit RISC processor in Verilog.
- Used a self-developed Instruction Set Architecture.
- Optimized performance by implementing necessary pipelining protocols.

## Course Project: Digital Image Processing

## [link] [report] [slides]

- Implemented and open sourced the ideas presented in the paper "When sparsity meets low-rankness: Transform learning with non-local low-rank constraint for image restoration" in Python.
- Developed an experimental procedure to prove the solution to the optimization problem framed by the authors.

## Optical Character Recognition for the submission of forms

#### /link/

 Part of a team responsible for the development of a CNN based application to optimize campus delivery services.

## Steps: Smart India Hackathon

## /link/

 Developed the chatbot for a proposed platform enabling direct interaction between startup founders and investors.

# RELEVANT COURSES (INCLUDING ONLINE)

- Computer Networks: Part of coursework at IIT Roorkee
- Computer Architecture: Part of coursework at IIT Roorkee
- Object Oriented Programming: Part of coursework at IIT Roorkee
- Data Structures: Part of coursework at IIT Roorkee
- Digital Image Processing: Part of coursework at IIT Roorkee
- CS231n: CNNs for Visual Recognition; Stanford course by Dr Andrej Karpathy
- Reinforcement Learning: UCL course by Dr Dave Silver
- deeplearning.ai: Coursera courses by Dr Andrew Ng

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Undergraduate thesis: One of the two students selected from the ECE department to conduct our thesis abroad.
- ComedK 2016: Ranked 3 among a pool of more than ten thousand applicants for the examination.
- JEE Advanced 2016: Ranked 1247 among a pool of hundred thousand applicants for the examination.
- Smart India Hackathon: The team made it to the final round alongside 250 other teams selected nation-wide.

# PROGRAMMING SKILLS

• Languages: Python, C/C++, Verilog

Technologies: PyTorch, JAX, Keras, Tensorflow, Git, Linux

# Volunteer Work and Extra-curriculars

- National Service Scheme (NSS), IIT Roorkee: Organized and participated in bi-annual blood donation camps hosted by NSS, IIT Roorkee.
- Cinematic Section, IIT Roorkee: Wrote and supervised scripts for several productions of the Cinematic Section at IIT Roorkee.
- WatchOut, IIT Roorkee: Worked as a junior editor for the official campus magazine of IIT Roorkee.

#### References

Dr Debhasis GhoshDr Hongtao LuDr Vinay NamboodiriProfessorProfessorAssociate ProfessorECE Dept, IIT RoorkeeCS Dept, SJTUCS Dept, IIT Kanpurdebashis.ghosh@ece.iitr.ac.inlu-ht@cs.sjtu.edu.cnvinaypn@iitk.ac.in