Rahul Yedida

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University

Raleigh, NC

Ph.D. Computer Science

Aug 2019 - Jul 2024

o Advisor: Dr. Tim Menzies

o Dissertation: Guidelines for the Application of Neural Technologies in Software Analytics (or: How to Do More with Less in SE)

PES University

Bangalore, India

Aug 2015 - May 2019

B.E. Computer Science - Advisor: Dr. Snehanshu Saha

EMPLOYMENT

LexisNexis Legal & Professional

Raleigh, NC

Senior Data Scientist I

May 2024 - Present

- Performance improvements: Improved customer-facing product runtime by 24.8% and reduced peak memory usage duration by 21.3%.
- Drafting improvements: Helped improve complaint drafting results by 115% and motion drafting by 28.4% of usefulness.
- Workflow improvement: Led initiative to use Bayesian optimization for prompt tuning.
- o **Technology:** Python, Litestar, React, TypeScript, Tailwind

Amazon

New York, NY / Bellevue, WA

Software Dev Engineer Intern • Implemented profile locks for Prime Video on Echo Show devices.

o **Technology:** React Native, TypeScript

Software Dev Engineer Intern

May 2022 - Jul 2022

May 2023 - Aug 2023

- o Developed a full-stack system to publish announcements in scorecards used by delivery service partners (DSPs).
- o Technology: React/Redux, TypeScript, Redux Saga, DynamoDB, Java Spring

North Carolina State University

Raleigh, NC

PhD Student

Aug 2019 - Jul 2024

- State-of-the-art hyper-parameter optimization: Proposed a novel hyper-parameter optimization method that outperforms prior work and is 200-700% faster.
- Better, faster deep learning for SE: Improved defect prediction by up to 123% (F-1 score), code smell detection by up to 30% (AUC), issue lifetime prediction by up to 76% (accuracy), automated microservice partitioning by up to 285% (modularity)
- o Semi-supervised learning: Achieved state-of-the-art results (up to 100% improvement in AUC) on static code warnings analysis using 10% of the labels.
- Teaching: Teaching assistant for 830 students in total, over 5 semesters, for CSC 230 (C and Software Tools), CSC 510 (Software Engineering), and CSC 591/791 (Automated Software Engineering)

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

See full list on Google Scholar.

- 1. Yedida, R., & Menzies, T. (2025). Is Hyper-Parameter Optimization Different for Software Analytics? Accepted to IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering.
- 2. Baldassarre, M. T., Ernst, N., Hermann, B., Menzies, T., & Yedida, R. (2023). (Re)use of Research Results (is Rampant). Communications of the ACM, 66(2), 75-81.
- 3. Yedida, R., Kang, H. J., Tu, K., Lo, D., & Menzies, T. (2023). How to Find Actionable Static Analysis Warnings: A Case Study with FindBugs. IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, (01), 1-17.

- 4. **Yedida, R.**, Krishna, R., Kalia, A., Menzies, T., Xiao, J., & Vukovic, M. (2023). An Expert System for Redesigning Software for Cloud Applications. *Expert Systems with Applications*.
- 5. **Yedida, R.**, Menzies, T. (2022). How to Improve Deep Learning for Software Analytics (a case study with code smell detection). In 2022 IEEE/ACM 19th International Conference on Mining Software Repositories (MSR). IEEE, 2022.
- 6. **Yedida, R.**, & Menzies, T. (2021). On the Value of Oversampling for Deep Learning in Software Defect Prediction. *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, doi:* 10.1109/TSE.2021.3079841
- 7. Agrawal, A., Yang, X., Agrawal, R., Yedida, R., Shen, X., & Menzies, T. (2021). Simpler Hyperparameter Optimization for Software Analytics: Why, How, When?. *IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, doi:* 10.1109/TSE.2021.3073242
- 8. Yang, X., Chen, J., **Yedida, R.**, Yu, Z., & Menzies, T. (2021). Learning to recognize actionable static code warnings (is intrinsically easy). *Empirical Software Engineering*, 26(3), 1-24.
- 9. **Yedida, R.**, Krishna, R., Kalia, A., Menzies, T., Xiao, J., & Vukovic, M. (2021). Lessons learned from hyper-parameter tuning for microservice candidate identification. *Proceedings of the thirty-sixth IEEE/ACM International Conference on Automated Software Engineering (ASE)*
- 10. **Yedida, R.**, & Saha, S. (2021). Beginning with Machine Learning: A Comprehensive Primer. *The European Physical Journal Special Topics*, 230(10), 2363-2444.
- 11. Saha, S., Nagaraj, N., Mathur, A., **Yedida, R.**, & Sneha, H. R. (2020). Evolution of novel activation functions in neural network training for astronomy data: habitability classification of exoplanets. *The European Physical Journal Special Topics*, 229(16), 2629-2738.
- 12. **Yedida, R.**, Saha, S., & Prashanth, T. (2020). LipschitzLR: Using theoretically computed adaptive learning rates for fast convergence. *Applied Intelligence*, 1-19.
- 13. Sridhar, S., Saha, S., Shaikh, A., **Yedida, R.**, & Saha, S. (2020, July). Parsimonious Computing: A Minority Training Regime for Effective Prediction in Large Microarray Expression Data Sets. In 2020 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN) (pp. 1-8). IEEE.
- 14. Khaidem, L., **Yedida, R.**, & Theophilus, A. J. (2019, November). Optimizing Inter-nationality of Journals: A Classical Gradient Approach Revisited via Swarm Intelligence. In *International Conference on Modeling, Machine Learning and Astronomy (pp. 3-14)*. Springer, Singapore.

Funding

\$5,000, Google Cloud Academic Research Grant, Feb 2022

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Guest Editor, IEEE Software Special Issue on The Impact of AI on Productivity and Code 2025; Automated Software Engineering (Journal) 2025; EMSE Special Issue on Replications and Negative Results (RENE) 2025

Co-Chair, Workshop on Replications and Negative Results (RENE) at ASE 2024

PC Member, ICSE 2026; AAAI 2025; AI Foundation Models and Software Engineering (FORGE) 2024; ICSME Artifact Evaluation Track, 2021-2023; ASE Artifact Evaluation Track, 2022; International Conference on Modeling, Machine Learning, and Astronomy (MMLA), 2019

Reviewer, ICML 2024-2025; ICLR 2024-2025; NCAA 2023-2025; TMLR 2024; Neural Processing Letters 2023-2024; Artificial Intelligence Review 2023; NeurIPS 2023; Journal of Big Data, 2023; ASE 2023; EMSE 2021; IEEE SSCI 2020

Honors and Awards

Oct 2022 - Present - Google Cloud Champion Innovator - Cloud AI/ML

Feb 2022 - Google Cloud Research Innovator

INVITED TALKS

 $\bf Feb~2024,~"Improving~deep~learning~performance~using~theoretical~ML"$ at BITS Pilani, KK Birla Goa Campus, India

SKILLS

Languages: Python, TypeScript, Java, C++, Gleam

Frameworks: Flask, Keras, PyTorch, Node.js, React

Databases: MySQL, MongoDB, DynamoDB

Cloud: Google Compute Engine, S3, Google Cloud Storage, EC2